FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 1 OF 18

FILE NUMBER : 62-43818

SUBJECT GERALD L. K. Smith

PART I

FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
REQUEST

SUBJECT GERALD L K. Smith

PAGES REVIEWED: 3994

PAGES RELEASED: 2979

NOTES: SECTIONS 1-5

NO DUPLICATION FEES FOR THIS PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 1

PAGES REVIEWED: 125

PAGES RELEASED: 59

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

807 U. S. Court House,
Foley Square,
New York, N. Y.

002414

FROM:

May 27, 1936

SPECIAL DELIVERY [redacted]

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

RE: [redacted]

REV. GERALD L. K. SMITH
Ascertain present address of each.

Dear Sir:

In conformity with instructions received on the evening of May 26, 1936 by telephone from Mr. Clyde Tolson, as a result of investigation conducted by Special Agent [redacted] today, the following information is submitted:

At the office of the Song Writers Protective Association, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, this city, it was ascertained that [redacted], and that he maintains no New York business address other than care of the Association; that [redacted] resides at [redacted] and that he likewise maintains no New York business address other than the Association aforementioned. These addresses are the ones furnished by you in your telephonic conversation had today with Mr. Tolson at the Bureau.

Concerning the Rev. Gerald L. K. Smith, an news clipping file was obtained at the Biographical D New York Times. Most of the clippings deal with tivities in the South, particularly in connection of Huey Long's "Share-Our-Wealth" movement after of the Senator. Dr. Smith was formerly Pastor Christian Church at Shreveport, La. On Febru ported as having entered suit at Washington, Washington Times Company for libel growing ment on the part of said newspaper, in whi "Huey Long's bodyguard and secretary".

RECORDED & INDEXED

An Associated Press news item p Times on November 3, 1935, quoted Dr. Smith a La., that he would be a candidate for Presiden

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 5/20/82 BY SP-8BT1 [illegible]

JUN 8 1936

62-43872-1

ALC b7C

to Director

tial Primary in Georgia next April. (1936).

The New York Times for January 27, 1935, reported the al in New York City of Dr. Smith and an interview had with him in room at the Hotel Warwick, 65 West 54th Street, at which time Smith said he was engaged in a "war against President Roosevelt". his interview he likewise stated:

"I'm the bal[illegible] of power in Georgia between Geo[illegible] and Talmadge".

He announced his intention [illegible] time, of returning to Washington on the following day, January [illegible] 1936.

The New York Ti[illegible] or May 23, 1936, reports a re-interview with Dr. Smith at [illegible] Hotel Warwick, New York City, said interview having been had on [illegible] day previous, May 22, 1936. A clipping out from the New York Times for May 23, 1936, detailing this last named interview, is enclosed herewith.

Subsequent inquiry without having revealed Agent [redacted] actual identity at the Hotel Warwick, developed information that Dr. Smith had check[illegible] out two days ago, but had requested that all mail received for h[illegible] be retained in view of his intended return, either the end of th[illegible] week or the early part of next week.

For your infor[illegible] Hotel Warwick is owned and controlled by William Randolph [illegible]

b7c

Very truly yours,

R. WHITLEY,
Special Agent in Charge.

1 encl.

002413

JEH:HCB

August 6, 1936.

Reverend Gerald L. K. Smith,
The Warwick Hotel,
New York City.

Dear Reverend Smith:

I wanted to confirm to you my verbal invitation to visit the headquarters of the Federal Bureau of Investigation when it is convenient for you to do so when you are next in Washington. Knowing of your interest in government and its administration of law enforcement, I believe you would find the work of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, such as you could see at its headquarters, of interest to you and it would be a pleasure to me for me to arrange to have you shown around and see some of the work which we are trying to do in the field of law enforcement.

With expressions of my very best wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Please on mailing list 8/10

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 8/20/82 BY SP2BTJ/MG

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-2

AUG 12 1936

002412

100-71525-2

JCN:klb

February 11, 1942

Honorable James J. Davis
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

I desire to acknowledge receipt of your communication of February 3, 1942, with which you forwarded an anonymous communication addressed to you by a Government employee and a mimeographed circular captioned, "The Undelivered Speech" dated January 24, 1942, which appears over the signature of Gerald L. K. Smith.

I want you to know that I do indeed appreciate your courtesy in bringing this material to my attention. The matter has been carefully noted and I have taken the liberty of referring copies of the enclosures of your communication to Honorable Wendell Berge, Assistant Attorney General, for his information and whatever consideration deemed appropriate.

With expressions of my highest esteem and best regards,

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY SP-1 [illegible]

NICATIONS SECTION
AILED 5
FEB 12 1942 ★
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

002411

62-[illegible]18-
100-71525-2

JCN:klb

February 11, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

WENDELL BERGE

Transmitted herewith for your information and whatever consideration deemed appropriate are copies of an anonymous communication addressed to Honorable James J. Davis, United States Senator, by a Government employee who signed himself as "A Voter", together with copies of the enclosure thereof a circular entitled, "The Undelivered Speech", which appears over the mimeographed signature of Gerald L. K. Smith.

The activities of Gerald L. K. Smith have been reported to Mr. Lawrence M. C. Smith, Chief, Special Defense Unit, under date of February 9, 1942.

The Detroit Office of this Bureau has been requested to continue the investigation of this individual and his group to determine whether or not it may be connected with any group that may be considered dangerous to the internal security of the United States.

I have informed the Senator of this reference.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY SP-[illegible]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
★ FEB 12 1942 ★
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEB 4 1942

002410

May 27, 1940

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Please send information about the work of Gerald L. K. Smith, Postoffice Box 459, Detroit, Michigan, concerning "petitions" to Congress for no foreign wars etc.

This man talks on the radio, station W J R Detroit, Michigan, Sunday P. M. (6 o'clock E. S. T.)

The books he has written "Too Much Roosevelt", and "Dangerous Enemies" and other pamphlets cosist of what truth? He states that he is chairman of the "Committee of a Million." Please give us complete information regarding this request.

Enclosed you will find a self addressed envelope.

Yours Sincerely,

[redacted]

[redacted]

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-3

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 JUN 1 1940
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/10/82 BY SP4 BDJ/pc

00409

JJS:BR

RECORDED [redacted]

62-43815-21 June 17, 1940

[redacted] b7c

Dear [redacted] b7c

Your communication dated May 27, 1940, has been received, and I wish to advise that it is not possible to furnish the information you desire.

I am returning herewith the stamped, self-addressed envelope which you so thoughtfully provided.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

8

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

Tolson
Nichols
A. Tamm
Boyd
Lodd
Gurley
Gim
Levin
Carson
Coffey
Mohr
Wilson
Quinn
Hughes
Tamm

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JUN 17 1940
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

6B

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Grand Rapids, Michigan
March 30, 1940

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Re: Subversive Activities

There is transmitted, herewith, a copy of a booklet entitled "Dangerous Enemies", the author of which is GERALD L. K. SMITH.

This booklet was received through the mail by a personal friend and is transmitted to the Bureau in order that it will be available in the event copies have not already been received.

Very truly yours,

Arthur Cornelius Jr.

ARTHUR CORNELIUS, JR.
Special Agent in Charge

AC:RAF
Enclosure

ENCLOSURE BEHIND FILE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4-20-80 BY SP4 [illegible]

RECORDED

62-43818-2X1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
4 APR 2 1940
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

41

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

56 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

_____

_____

☒ For your information: DELETED PER YOUR LTR OF 3/18/82. "DANGEROUS ENEMIES"

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-2X1

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

To The President
Mr. F. D. Roosevelt
Washington D.C.

June 30

39257

Subject:- 5th Columnists

62-43818-

RECORDED & INDEXED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 30 1940
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FILE

My Dear Mr President:

a few minutes ago I listened to the lecture of Gerald L.K. Smith over the radio from Detroit Mich. this man publicaly announced a few years ago that he was connected with a powerfull Fascist organization in the United States; whereupon Dr Townsend of Old Age Pension Plan Fame immediately Fired him as Director of his organization he would not have a facist in his organization. Now I find this same Gerald L.K. Smith Doing exactly what the facists want done among the american People. He claimes to over one Milion of followers (Dupes, most of them) I therefore believe this man to be one of the leaders if not the head leader of the Nazi Fascist activities in this Nation. I suggest that the government inspect all mail going to and from him and all of his activities and movements be carefully watched untill the evidence thus obtained puts him and some of his kind in the Hands of the Law. He is skillfully deceiving the public. Yours Truly

JUL 18 RECD

b7c

[redacted]

P.S. I am to Old for the army but I can still Scotch Snakes.

EWT:DMM August 27, 1940

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Sir;

I am enclosing herewith, copies of circulars received at this Bureau entitled "Dangerous Enemies," apparently published by one Gerald L. K. Smith, Box 459, Detroit, Michigan.

You are requested to have conducted a discreet investigation concerning these activities and advise the Bureau relative to the reputation of Gerald L. K. Smith.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

1 ENCL D

Enclosures

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY SP-8 BTS/mc

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Nathan
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ AUG 27 1940 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-43217-4
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
3 AUG 29 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

!! NOTICE !!

To Those Making Special Donations
For Radio Fund

I herewith enclose a copy of the book, "DANGEROUS ENEMIES," which I am presenting to you as promised over the radio.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS BOOK IS TO EXPOSE THE METHODS OF OPERATION EMPLOYED BY THE AGENTS OF THE "FIFTH COLUMN," WHICH ARE ATTEMPTING TO UNDERMINE OUR GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL DEFENSES FROM WITHIN.

During the period that this offer is effective, each person sending in a donation of $1.00 or more for the Radio Fund receives a copy of this book.

0.35 of your donation has been deposited to the credit of the Book Fund, and the remainder to the credit of the Radio Fund necessary to buy radio time, printed matter and pay the office help necessary to send out the thousands of pieces of literature which go all over America every day in response to those who write in following our broadcasts.

I will appreciate your comment concerning this book after you have read it.

Extra copies may be secured at reduced rates for distribution among your friends. This is one way that you can really help carry on this fight and spread the truth that America needs to know.

Sincerely yours,

Gerald L. K. Smith

Gerald L. K. Smith

GS:vjl

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/20/80 BY SP2 BTJ/MC

AUG 12 RECD

THE PURPOSE OF THIS BOOK IS TO

HELP

REAL PATRIOTS SPREAD THE *TRUTH* CONCERNING THE ENEMIES OF AMERICA

This book has not been published for profit, but as a handbook for crusaders. You have been wanting this information in print, now here it is. Why not order 10, 20, 50, 100, or even 1,000 extra copies and distribute among your friends.

When all America learns the truth contained in this book, our fight will be more than half won.

Additional copies may be secured at the following prices:

One Copy	$ .35
3 Copies	1.00
15 Copies	5.00
50 Copies	15.00
100 Copies	30.00
1,000 Copies	275.00

NOTE: — Orders for 3 or more books will be shipped C.O.D. upon request. Orders for less than 3 books must be accompanied with cash.

SPECIAL PRICES IN QUANTITIES FOR BOOK STORES, NEWS STANDS, DEALERS AND PATRIOTIC ORGANIZATIONS.

Address all orders for additional copies of the book entitled

"DANGEROUS ENEMIES"

— To —

GERALD L. K. SMITH

Author and Publisher

Box 459 Detroit, Michigan

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/20/82 BY S.P. Bonner

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7C with no segregable material available for release to you.

☒ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

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_____

☐ For your information: _____

_____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-57

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

EAT:JJW

September 14, 1940

9:20 A.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Gaston, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, called and advised that a few days ago a communication was sent to the Bureau concerning a statement made by one [redacted] about his relations with Reverend Gerald H. K. Smith. Mr. Gaston advised that the Treasury Department had neglected to keep a copy of this document and asked if he could be furnished with some. I told him that copies would be sent to him immediately.

Respectfully,

E. A. TAMM

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY SP-4 BJ/MC

CC: Mr. Clegg

RECORDED [redacted]

62-43818-5X
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
6 SEP 17 19..
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TOLSON
FINE

Done

Per conf. card 6 D
Gerald L. K. Smith

~~[illegible]~~ November 25, 1940

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
(Box 459, Detroit, Michigan)
Believed to be publisher of
"Dangerous Enemies"
ESPIONAGE

Dear Sir:

The Bureau desires that it be advised as to the exact status of this case at the present time.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/10/82 BY SP2 [illegible]

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-43818-6
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
6 NOV 26 19[illegible]
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ NOV 25 1940 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CARTER GLASS, VA., CHAIRMAN
KENNETH McKELLAR, TENN.
CARL HAYDEN, ARIZ.
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JAMES F. BYRNES, S. C.
MILLARD E. TYDINGS, MD.
RICHARD B. RUSSELL, GA.
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PATRICK McCARRAN, NEV.
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JOHN H. BANKHEAD, ALA.
JOSEPH C. O'MAHONEY, WYO.
HARRY S. TRUMAN, MO.
EDWARD R. BURKE, NEBR.
THEODORE FRANCIS GREEN, R. I.
FRANCIS T. MALONEY, CONN.
DENNIS CHAVEZ, N. MEX.

FREDERICK HALE, MAINE
GERALD P. NYE, N. DAK.
JOHN G. TOWNSEND, JR., DEL.
STYLES BRIDGES, N. H.
HENRY CABOT LODGE, JR., MASS.
RUFUS C. HOLMAN, OREG.
ROBERT A. TAFT, OHIO

EVERARD H. SMITH, CLERK
JOHN W. R. SMITH, ASST. CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

November 28, 1940

The Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

A constituent of mine writes that she has been an admirer of Gerald L. K. Smith for some time and would like to circulate petitions which he has originated. However, she has been informed that Mr. Smith is a member of the Communist Party and, if this is true, she naturally would not care to become involved.

I shall be greatly obliged if you will advise me in this matter so that I may inform my correspondent.

With thanks, I am

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Taft

ROBERT A. TAFT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/20/90 BY JABAT

RECORDED [redacted]

62-4[illegible]-7

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
6 NOV 29 194[illegible]
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FIVE

EA!

December 7, 1940

RECORDED 62-43818-7

Honorable Robert A. Taft
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

With reference to your letter of November 28, 1940, pertaining to Mr. Gerald L. K. Smith, I desire to advise you that there is nothing in the Bureau files to indicate that Smith is or has been a member of the Communist Party.

I trust that this information will be of some assistance to you in answering the inquiry made to you by one of your constituents.

With expressions of my highest esteem and best regards,

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/10/82 BY SP8BCS/Ar

DEC 7 5 59 PM '40
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Pennarth
Mr. Nathan
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurvin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ DEC 7 1940 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[redacted]

Dear Sir, JAN 13 1941 Jan 5, 1941

I heard a radio address this evening by a Mr Gerald L. K. Smith over W.J.R. Detroit. He is definitely and very vocally anti-British. He quoted Winston Churchill as having blamed the U.S. for the last war because of her meddling. The speaker did not quote verbatim - but do you think that Mr Churchill would ever in even a rash moment utter such a statement?

GERALD L.K. SMITH

He is the spokesman for some sort of a society of 1,000,000 writing for peace —

ack 1-18-41

62-43818-8

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 8/20/92 BY

RECORDED & INDEXED

Maybe I am barking up the wrong tree - but I don't appreciate hearing the truth twisted especially over the air.

FILE

For my own part

2.

I am a Canadian nurse working at the University Hospital here in Ann Arbor.

I hope that I haven't wasted your time.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

b7c

P.S.

He may be a legitimate free-thinker - or ?

[redacted]

b7c

JAN 13 11 02 AM '41
RECEIVED-CLERK
F B I
DEPT OF JUSTICE

FILES SECTION
FRONT OFFICE
JAN 13 5 35 PM '41
RECEIVED
F B I
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FILES DIVISION
RECEIVED
JAN 7 1 18 PM '41
F.B.I.
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECORDED 62-43818-8
EWY:VLA

January 18, 1941

[redacted] b7c

Dear [redacted] b7c

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated January 5, 1941.

Your courtesy and interest in bringing this information to my attention are indeed appreciated, and you may be assured your letter will receive appropriate consideration.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mc

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Pennerth
Mr. Nathan
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JAN 18 1941
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

EATK

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

DETROIT FILE NO. 62-1126

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	5/20/41	9/12,16,20, 23/40;1/23, 24/41	[redacted] b7c LR

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH	MISCELLANEOUS - Information Concerning

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

GERALD L. K. SMITH born Pardeeville, Wisconsin, 1898. Attended Butler Seminary, Indianapolis, Indiana, and was graduated from Valparaiso University. Preached at Footville, Wisconsin, Indianapolis, Indiana, and Shreveport, Louisiana. Associated with late HUEY P. LONG and attempted to succeed LONG in power. Organized Committee of 1,000,000 in New York. Also collaborated with Father CHARLES COUGHLIN and Dr. FRANCIS TOWNSEND. Had ambitions of becoming President of the United States. Presently resides in Detroit, Michigan and earns livelihood by speaking and radio talks, primarily condemning Communism. Has in past received some support and information from Ford Motor Company. Considered powerful public speaker. Referred to as a "Fascist," "fanatic" and "rabble rouser." Author of booklet, "Dangerous Enemies," and book entitled, "Too Much Roosevelt."

- C -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/4/82 BY SP2 [illegible]

REFERENCE: Bureau letter to Detroit Field Division dated August 27, 1940.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: John Burgess SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-9

JUN 5 19

MAY 22 1941

[redacted]

b7c

COPIES OF THIS REPORT

3 - Bureau
2 - New Orleans (information)
2 - New York (information)
2 - Detroit

[redacted]

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

(Detroit File 62-1126)

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan:

[redacted] of the Detroit Field Division, whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that he had determined that GERALD L. K. SMITH was born in Pardeeville, Wisconsin, on February 7 or 27, 1898; that he attended Butler Seminary at Indianapolis, Indiana and was later graduated from Valparaiso University with an A.B. degree. b7D

Later he secured a church at Footville, Wisconsin and thereafter was Pastor of the Seventh Street Christian Church at Indianapolis, Indiana and later was Pastor of the King's Highway Church at Shreveport, Louisiana.

It was at Shreveport, Louisiana that SMITH became a paid organizer for the "Share the Wealth Club" of HUEY P. LONG. It is stated that while in that capacity SMITH was a right-hand man of LONG and is known to have preached the funeral sermon of LONG. He is one of those "who insist that the spirit of his murdered friend has caused him to be a rabble rouser."

[redacted] further related that at various times SMITH has reported that he has been attacked by various individuals or gangs. However, it has been noted that these attacks always occurred just before SMITH was to make a public talk and it is the assumption of various persons that that is part of his ballyhoo. b7D

In1935 he sued the Washington Herald of New Orleans for libel, charging that he had lost his church when the paper accused him of being a bodyguard for LONG. This suit was later dropped.

After the death of LONG he tried to take over the reins of the LONG empire. However, the other LONG followers apparently did not agree to such power being placed in the hands of SMITH and [redacted] former Secretary to LONG, denied that SMITH had been slated to succeed LONG and the newspaper entitled "The Progress," stated flatly that SMITH had been slated to be dropped as an associate of LONG prior to LONG's death. b7C

(Detroit File 62-1126)

[redacted] further related that SMITH had been an advocate of Dr. FRANCIS TOWNSEND's plan and for a period was also collaborating with Reverend CHARLES COUGHLIN of Royal Oak, Michigan. b7D

SMITH also organized the Committee of 1,000,000 in New York, which committee had a short life. He later came to Detroit and organized the Federation of Americanization in Michigan, a Michigan corporation organized as of April 14, 1939, with the following incorporators:

[redacted] b7C

This federation was short lived and its charter was soon revoked.

Special Agent [redacted] formerly assigned to the Detroit Field Division, whose residence is New Orleans, Louisiana, stated that SMITH was well known in and around New Orleans; that SMITH became actively connected with HUEY P. LONG's "Share the Wealth" movement in the early days of LONG's reign in Louisiana. He stated that this connection by SMITH was made while SMITH was preaching at Shreveport, Louisiana. It is reported that SMITH was forced to resign his pastorate at the Shreveport church for some unknown reason. b7C

SMITH, during the regime of LONG, always campaigned for LONG and was a very successful worker in this respect. SMITH's duties with LONG finally became that of being in active charge of LONG's "Share the Wealth" movement and SMITH began preaching this movement throughout the country.

Agent [redacted] indicated that it is generally known in Louisiana that HUEY P. LONG, prior to his death, contemplated running for the presidency of the United States in 1936, possibly as a third party candidate. Therefore, about 1934, SMITH began a very aggressive campaing to make his "Share the Wealth" organization b7C

national in scope. In this capacity, SMITH traveled throughout the country preaching the "Share the Wealth Gospel." The money for SMITH's activities was furnished from HUEY LONG's political organization in Louisiana. After LONG's death, SMITH was supposed to have taken all the money that was in the coffers of the Share the Wealth organization and at this time the Share the Wealth bubble burst.

After LONG's death his lieutenants in Louisiana began fighting among themselves and split up into two groups, each group trying to pull a political coop and gain control of the political machine and the 1939 Louisiana election. SMITH happened to be joined up with the losing faction and immediately came into disfavor in Louisiana, at which time he left that section of the country.

In 1940, SMITH returned to Louisiana for the State Elections and campaigned for former Governor EARL LONG, brother of HUEY, for the governorship and it was apparent that his political effectiveness was nil. SMITH then returned to Detroit, Michigan, from which city he had come, to continue his activities in Detroit and vicinity.

According to Agent [redacted] there is a consensus of opinion among Louisiana citizens that SMITH is nothing more than an adventurer with a glib tongue who uses his church standing to further his political purposes.

[redacted] who has a wealth of information and has conducted considerable investigation in and around Detroit, Michigan relative to anti-Jewish activities, stated that the reported supporters of HUEY LONG in Detroit, Michigan, are the manufacturers' associations, The National Association of Purchasing Agents and HENRY FORD.

[redacted] further related that the September, 1940 issue of the Michigan Democrat contained an article entitled "An Expose" of GERALD L. K. SMITH by EDWARD L. MARSHALL.

[redacted] went on to advise that SMITH, with whom he had had numerous conferences in the past, is, in his opinion, an extreme egotist and is definitely out to benefit himself only;

ALL
DTC
DTD

that he will give public speeches in the favor of any group which will support him financially and that on one occasion SMITH, through round-about methods tried to get the financial support of the Jewish Community Council of Detroit and it was during this period that [redacted] had meetings with SMITH, although SMITH did not know the true identity or connections of [redacted] It was during these meetings that [redacted] came to the conclusion that SMITH was not sincere and would sell out to any group, whether Jewish or anti-Jewish.

At one time SMITH had an office in the Book Cadillac Hotel, as well as an office in the Washington Boulevard Building, but at the present time he is living in a modest suite in the Detroit-Leland Hotel, from which suite he conducts his business.

SMITH supposedly came to Detroit in about 1936, from New York City, where he had lived in the Warwick Hotel.

[redacted] further related that SMITH had associated with a [redacted] who has a tabernacle at Mack and Connors Avenue in Detroit, Michigan.

After first establishing himself in Detroit in 1936, according to [redacted] SMITH, for a short period, traveled extensively in New York and in 1937 started the "Committee of 1,000,000," which had as contributors such men as [redacted] of the American Cyanide Company and [redacted] of the Johns-Mansville Company.

In 1938 SMITH tried to establish himself in Cleveland and was very unsuccessful and, according to [redacted] the Cleveland News in 1938 carried an editorial in which it was stated that "SMITH smells of Fascist KKKs." Thereafter he made public appearances in Akron, Ohio and Toledo, Ohio and returned to Detroit where he has been since.

There is being forwarded to the Bureau with copies of this report a copy of the article appearing in the September, 1940 issue of the "Michigan Democrat," entitled "An Expose of Gerald L. K. Smith," by EDWARD L. MARSHALL. The information contained in this article is not being set out in this report.

[redacted] who furnished information to Special Agent [redacted] in another matter being investigated by the Detroit Field Office, related that for some time until July 1, 1940, he [redacted] was associated with GERALD

ALL b7c, b2

(Detroit File 62-1126)

L. K. SMITH [redacted] for the purpose of obtaining money in order to carry on SMITH's work of appealing to the masses.

[redacted] stated that [redacted] he came to the conclusion that SMITH was purely and simply a racketeer and was only thinking of the power which he could control to gain his own ends. He stated that SMITH is a renegade and was formerly associated with GERALD WINROD, MOSELY, PELLEY, Father COUGHLIN and others, but has been thrown out by all of these individuals.

[redacted] indicated that originally SMITH was very close to HUEY LONG in Louisiana and was supposedly one of three persons holding the key of the safety deposit box of LONG in which box, at the time of LONG's assassination, was supposedly $800,000 in cash but when the box was opened it was found to be empty. [redacted] although he has no facts to substantiate same, states that he is of the opinion that SMITH undoubtedly got some of this money.

SMITH also preached the elegy at HUEY LONG's grave, which elegy was taken from a similar piece of oratory used by ROBERT INGERSOLL, SMITH changing the wording so that it would appear that it was the original work of SMITH. This elegy was supposedly a masterpiece and various newspapers, including the London Times and the Glasgow Herald, commented on it in editorials. The Glasgow Herald stated: "It was the finest piece of oratory that has come out of the United States since the Gettysburg Address." SMITH had 5,000 copies of this address printed and sold them at $2.50 a piece.

[redacted] further stated that it was his understanding that SMITH got into trouble in Louisiana through a "phoney" real estate transaction and that he is supposed to have defrauded a woman in New York out of about $20,000.

[redacted] related that SMITH is very fond of liquor and that, [redacted] to believe that SMITH aspired to be a dictator; that he admires Hitler's cause and has made the statement that when he gets in power, he will set up a system of storm troopers in the United States to take care of the Jews. He stated that SMITH was anti-Semitic and very much against Communism.

ALL b7C b7D

(Detroit File 62-1126)

Consequently, SMITH is friendly with the Ford Motor Company officials from whom he is presently obtaining money at the present time in order to fight Communists in the C.I.O.

[redacted]

[redacted] informed that SMITH has written two pamphlets, one entitled, "Dangerous Enemies," and the other, "Too Much Roosevelt," which sell at about fifty cents a piece. The latter book, "Too Much Roosevelt," has not, as yet, gained wide circulation and [redacted] indicated that this book is a vicious attack on President ROOSEVELT.

[redacted] He stated that he is friendly with all Senators who are anti-Roosevelt.

b7C
b7D

According to [redacted] SMITH has a keen mind and the gift of flowery oratory. [redacted]

[redacted] of the Detroit Field Division, whose identity is known to the Bureau, stated that, although he knows of no instance where anyone associated with the Ford Motor Company has ever given GERALD L. K. SMITH funds to carry on his public speaking campaigns against Communism, [redacted]

b7D

(Detroit File 62-1126)

There is contained in the Detroit Office file a copy of the pamphlet, "Dangerous Enemies," which contains facts and fiction relative to some nationally-known Communists and other Communists and labor leaders in the Detroit area, along with their photographs. The Detroit Office does not have at this time a copy of the booklet entitled, "Too Much Roosevelt."

At the present time GERALD L. K. SMITH is living at the Detroit-Leland Hotel and makes his livelihood by selling the above-mentioned booklets at a profit, by making public addresses at gatherings for a fee, and by soliciting funds from the general public by way of mail and over the radio. He speaks each Sunday night on the Columbia Broadcasting System, on a national hookup.

Although in the past SMITH has obtained a great amount of newspaper publicity, very little is being printed about him at the present time.

In June, 1940, SMITH was the principal speaker at the convention of the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police in St. Joseph, Michigan, during which talk he gave his usual speech and praised the activities of the Dies Committee, as well as the activities of this Bureau.

A review of the newspaper morgue of the Detroit News revealed a great amount of clippings relative to SMITH and the pertinent headlines, as obtained in these clippings, are being set out hereinafter in chronological order.

> September 16, 1935 - Baton Rouge, Louisiana - Smith testified at inquest into death of Huey P. Long.
>
> September 22, 1935 - Baton Rouge, Louisiana - "Preacher-pupil tries to draw Long's bow. Reverend Mr. Smith hopes to construct national movement."
>
> November 1, 1935 - Memphis, Tennessee - "Smith thinks he has a chance of becoming President."
>
> June 7, 1936 - Detroit, Michigan - Smith campaigns against Roosevelt.

(Detroit File 62-1126)

October 20, 1936 - New York City - Fascist move to seize U. S. is launched by Reverend Smith. He is said to have financial backing for one year and more than 1,000,000 members. Politically potent leaders in various parts of the country. Organization will combine best features of Huey Long's Political Science and ideals of Charles E. Coughlin and Dr. Francis Townsend.

October 21, 1936 - Chicago, Illinois - Union Party and Townsend Recovery Plan sets on Gerald L. K. Smith. Smith was member of Board of Directors of Townsend group. Charged by them with Fascist ideas.

October 23, 1936 - New Orleans, Louisiana - Gerald L. K. Smith, follower of Huey P. Long and self-styled Fascist leader, attacked by three men in radio studio. Former preacher expelled this week by Townsend Old-Age Pension Plan.

November 3, 1936 - New Orleans, Louisiana - "Gerald L. K. Smith goes to jail." Arrested early today after denouncing State Administration in radio address, charged with disturbing the peace, reviled police officers and used obscene language. Released after two hours. Suspended sentence of $10 or ten days. Smith says arrest is Farley dictatorship seeking revenge on criticizers.

January 2, 1937 - Detroit News editorial refers to Gerald L. K. Smith as part of "nut crop." States he proposes to launch national organization, "Committee of 1,000,000," and further states, "Mixed in its concoction will be nearly every known brand of hooey and hokum calculated to appeal to fanatacism." Organization is supposedly defense for church and religion. Each member is to have badge and card from national headquarters with authority to investigate radicalism. "Gerald L. K. Smith got some reflected glory by edging into the Huey Long and Dr. Townsend spotlights."

(Detroit File 62-1126)

October 31, 1937 - New York Times says, "Huey Long's disciple and New Deal foe is starting twenty-six weekly Sunday broadcasts on old Coughlin hookup. It further states, "Smith says Committee of 1,000,000 Executive Committee includes people prominent in 140 national organizations and has 150,000 members in New York, New England and Pennsylvania."

March 17, 1938 - Detroit, Michigan - "Old pal of Huey Long rebuffed at Harvard Brotherhood lecture."

February 9, 1939 - Detroit, Michigan - Smith, now forty-one years old, first gained national attention when he preached funeral oration for Huey Long and then proclaimed himself political and spiritual heir to Long's empire. Later disavowed and discredited by Long's associates, left Louisiana and went to Washington and persuaded Dr. Francis E. Townsend to walk out of Congressional Committee Hearings. Was one of Coughlin-Townsend-Smith triumverate backing Representative William Lemke for President in 1936.

February 25, 1939 - Detroit, Michigan - Smith says America's greatest need is an army of "rabble rousers" on the right. Advocates removal of Communists from public service and labor leadership.

March 19, 1939 - New York City - $500,000 slander suit filed by Smith, charging "March of Time" newsreel had associated him slanderously with Father Divine and called him "rabble rouser" and leader of "the neurotic fringe."

November 3, 1939 - Detroit, Michigan - 15,000 persons filled Olympia Stadium Thursday night to hear Smith, former organizer of Share the Wealth clubs for the late Huey P. Long. Smith berated Communist and Fascist activities in Government and labor organizations and called for mass action of those still believing in principles of Americanism. Urged support of Dies Committee.

(Detroit File 62-1126)

December 8, 1939 - Detroit, Michigan - Federation of Americanization, a non-profit organization which handles funds collected by Gerald L. K. Smith radio campaigner, is under suspension by Michigan Corporation and Securities Commission for not filing annual returns.

ENCLOSURES

To the Bureau:

Copy of article entitled, "An Expose of Gerald L. K. Smith," by EDWARD L. MARSHALL.

* * * C L O S E D * * *

Copy - 3

April 16--1941.

Mr. G. E. Hoover .

Subject: Speech by J;K;L;Smith 915 PM. April 16th. over W.J.R. Detroit.

Revealing contents of a supposedly secret document---How to sabatage America.

If anyone was listening that had sabatage in mind but was short on method, he sure told them all they need know.

I'm an X. U.S.Marine in fact I'm still a U.S. Marine as far as that is concerned and I'm getting D. Sick of this bird and his speeches.

U.S.Marine.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY SA 8873/mc

(Anonymous communication received at Bureau in envelope postmarked Detroit, Mich., Apr. 22, 1941, at 3:30 P.M.)

COPIES DESTROYED
83 OCT 12 1964

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION
KEEP ENVELOPE ATTACHED

April 16--1941.

Mr. G. E. Hoover.

Subject: Speech by J;K;L;Smith 915 PM. April 16th. over W.J.R. Detroit.

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I'm an X. U.S.Marine in fact I'm still a U.S. Marine as far as that is concerned and I'm getting D. Sick of this bird and his speeches.

U.S.Marine.

Radio Station WJR

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY SP8B/SJMG

Detroit
5-10-41

RECORDED [redacted]

62-42818

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
1 APR 24 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FILE

10

WCH:IJA

May 14, 1941

RECORDED & INDEXED

~~100-0-3655~~
62-43818-10

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith copies of an anonymous communication received by the Bureau concerning a speech reported to have been made over Radio Station WJR at Detroit by J. K. L. Smith at 9:15 P.M. on April 16, in which the contents of a supposedly secret document, "How to Sabotage America", were revealed.

It is desired that appropriate inquiries be conducted to ascertain the identity of J. K. L. Smith and the type of broadcast made by him on April 16.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/20/82 BY [redacted]

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Pennerth
Mr. Gurnie
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ MAY 14 1941 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Put in Wash. Div. with

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Detroit - Michigan
May 20, 1941

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
MISCELLANEOUS -
Information Concerning

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to letter from the Bureau dated May 14, 1941 (Bureau file 100-0-5655), in which letter it was stated that an anonymous communication had been received by the Bureau concerning a speech made over Radio Station WJR, Detroit, Michigan, by J. K. L. SMITH at 9:15 P.M. on April 16, in which the contents of a supposedly secret document, "How to Sabotage America" were revealed.

It is being pointed out that the individual referred to in Bureau letter as J. K. L. SMITH is, in all probability GERALD L. K. SMITH, a well-known commentator in the Detroit area. The Bureau's attention is directed to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 20, 1941, at Detroit, Michigan, in which report complete information is set forth as to the background, character and activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH.

b7c

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas
John S. Bugas
Special Agent in Charge

CH-17

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-43812-11
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
6 MAY 22 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FIVE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/62 BY SP4 [illegible]

6:30 pm June 5 1941
From Detroit

39256

Mr. President -

Have just listened to Mr Gerald K. Smith (GERALD K. SMITH) with his Christ Address which convinces me that he is a paid servant of Hitler or a "Fascist" who is trying to divide America by his doctrine of the pacifists, as the best way to field money from those mothers who think only that their sons are going to be sacrificed to pull England chestnuts out of the fire. He said just now that he may have to close his Radio programme for the lack of funds that he had spent his all over 48 hr. He winds up his 13 minutes for money to continue. You and your Government know better than I which is his aims but I voice my & your etc time that these Radio lectures be discontinued. Sam Greene Rept

CH-23

RECORDED

62-43517-11

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 JUN 17 1941
U.S. DEPT

b7c

Attorney Gen'l

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION

Gentlemen: In Re. Committee of One Million of which one G. K. Smith is the mouth piece. Why dont you test the accuracy of the Radio assertions that this out fit has a million backers or sponsors? If they have only 2 or 3 hundred there and you can shut it up for propagating falseness. This outfit is trying to belittle all the efforts of F.D.F. and should be sealed up. Unquestionably its is nothing more than just another racket.

Detroit.

6-9-41

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/42 BY SP-8BTJ/mh

RECORDED
INDEXED
62-43818-12
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 JUN 13 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

EX-14

TELEGRAM

The White House

Washington

43wudtws pd 3

YC Pontiac Mich June 12 1941

The President

The White House

Several of my friends ask me to listen to the radio talk given by Gerald L. K. Smith and express my opinion. Free speech is one thing and Gerald L. K. Smith another. Under the rule of Hitler his head would no doubt be resting in a basket long before this. During these trying times I should think his talks should be devoted to national unity. As a veteran of World War Number One, and past chapter commander of disabled American veterans I am wholeheartedly opposed to his talks and think he should be removed from the air.

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/20/82 BY

INDEXED

62-43818-13

FBI - INVESTIGATION JUN 19 1941 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TELEGRAM

39wud tws pd 3

The White House

Washington

YC Pontiac Mich June 11am June 12 1941

The President

The White House

Hon. Sir: Radio time for Gerald L. K. Smith Detroit should be discontinued in the interest of national unity. The personalities which he enters into and the savage attacks made against you and other government officials must be stopped. His plea for funds to carry on his so-called crusade should be scrutinized closely. As a world war veteran, and a citizen deeply concerned over the welfare of this nation, I urge you to take action.

RECORDED
INDEXED

62-43818-14

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[redacted]

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/22/82 BY SP4 [illegible]
130

more continued

Justice
F.B.I.

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

[redacted]

[redacted]

Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt
President of The United States
Washington, D. C.

Dear President:

Find inclosed the speach of Gerald K. Smith on the night of Sept. 23rd. at Toledo, Ohio. This clipping is out of the Toledo,Blade.

I feel it's my duty to inform you of this meeting.

Notice, Mr. Smith stands along side of Lindberg. They both should go abroad and live with Hitler.

Respectiverly yours,

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY S-18TJ/mm

RECORDED
62-43818
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
1 OCT 6 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FED. BU. OF INV.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OCT 4 10 AM
DIVISION OF RECORDS
FED. BU. OF INV.

1 ENCL. 0

no acks
Politically
Controversial

ALL
b7c

SEPTEMBER • 1941						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

SMITH HURLS BROAD CHARGE AT ROOSEVELT

Speaker Threatens To Seek Impeachment Over War Policy.

3,000 IN AUDIENCE

Declares U. S. Is Under Control of Henderson And Red Henchmen.

A threat to seek impeachment of President Roosevelt if he continues in his present foreign policy was voiced by Gerald L. K. Smith to a capacity Toledo audience in the Civic Auditorium last night.

The crowd of more than 3,000 persons cheered this declaration for more than two minutes, shouting, applauding and stamping.

Mr. Smith, who described himself as the spokesman for the Committee of One Million, which, he said, really has 3,000,000 members, denounced the Administration in Washington as "traitors to the American people," and declared "the country is in the hands of Leon Henderson and his Communist henchmen."

Lines Up With Lindbergh

The speaker said, while a collection was being taken among the audience, that he would reveal "forbidden truth and dangerous facts" which he was not permitted to voice over the radio. At the same time, he identified himself with Charles A. Lindbergh, Senators Nye and Wheeler, and charged that the war mongers are out to get him and them.

Between leveling charges at the American Government, the President, Wendell Willkie, Senator Gerald Nye, Senator Claude Pepper and others, Mr. Smith paused to give a sales talk for several books and pamphlets, some of which he said he wrote himself.

A summary of the charges made by Mr. Smith in the two-and-a-half-hour address, follows:

"The United States is being run by a government by the President for the British and Russians."

Predicts Plant Closing

"Sixty-four per cent of the small factories in the United States will be closed within the next 60 days unless they get a defense order. This is because the priorities board is keeping materials from Toledo manufacturers and giving them to the British. The British in turn are manufacturing the raw materials and selling the finished products in South America in competition with American business."

"Eight million American boys will be killed if this nation enters the war, and no one has a right to say whether this nation should enter or not except mothers or those young enough to fight themselves."

"The war mongers will try to repeal the Neutrality act and then will deliberately get some American ships sunk so they can go into the war on the side of Britain and Russia."

Continues Charges

"Thirty-thousand dollars of lease-lend money was spent for whisky in one Washington cafe alone, most of it by the British."

"The President has given his four sons soft swivel-chair jobs in the armed forces, and will see that they stay out of danger in the event of war."

"The President wants to bankrupt the American people and spill the blood of American boys for the red flag of Russia, the Union Jack of Britain and the yellow flag of China."

"The Administration is picking the pockets of the American people, and has set up a super-dooper WPA project in China, and is giving the money to Russia and England."

"Members of the Catholic Church will have grounds to refuse conscription or military service if the United States goes to the aid of Communist Russia."

Mr. Smith declared that "105 million Americans or 86 per cent of the people are on our side."

To correct the evils he described, Mr. Smith suggested that "we take about 100 people out of Moscow, Berlin, London and Washington, and sink them in the Atlantic Ocean, and war will be over in 15 minutes."

Urges $100 a Month

He advocated that all men conscripted for military service receive $100 a month, and suggested it be paid $50 monthly in cash and an equal amount in defense bonds.

The speaker said that a revolution is coming in America after the war, when the mushroom factories now being built no longer are needed, and said "there would be a depression which would make the 1933 one look like a boom."

He said America would come to conscript labor under a dictatorship and that the Government would assume ownership of private property if the United States entered the war.

Charging that Winston Churchill would "make a treaty with the devil himself," Mr. Smith said he would stake his professional reputation on the following statement:

"The first three billion dollars that Hitler got to build his war machine came from the British who gave it to him instead of paying the war debt to the United States."

Speaking of the Roosevelt-Churchill conference at sea, Mr. Smith declared "If Roosevelt tries to pull two more deals like that we'll elect a Congress next fall that will impeach him. Frank Knox should be impeached, too."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 8/20/82 BY SP-4620

Toledo Blade Sept 24, 1941

b7c

[redacted] Ohio 9/2[illegible] '41.

Mr. Edgar Hoover,
Washington, D.C.
Dear Sir:

Many citizens of my city feel that one Gerald Smith (ex-Long manager) of Detroit, Mich. who gave a lecture here recently in which he referred to President Roosevelt as a traitor etc. and other libelous statements, needs attention from federal authorities.

One thing is certain SE he should be removed from the air. This following is largely political.

Won't you please make some investigation?

Respectfully,

b7c

[redacted]

62-43818-15
SEP 29 1941
RECORDED
EX-10 90
INDEXED

Fed. Communications Com.
17 9/41

[redacted] 9/26-'41. b7c

Hon. Edgar Hoover,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Many citizens of my city feel that one Gerald Smith (ex H. Long manager) of Detroit Mich. who gave a lecture here recently in which he referred to President Roosevelt as a traitor etc. and other libelous statements, needs attention from federal authorities.

One thing is certain he should be removed from the air. His following is largely pro Nazi.

Won't you please make some investigation?

Respectfully,

[redacted]

b7c

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/20/82 BY SP-8B/[illegible]

COPY

REL:hr
~~100-44857~~-1
RECORDED
62-43818-15X

October 9, 1941

[redacted]
Toledo, Ohio

Dear [redacted]

I desire to acknowledge receipt of your communication under date of September 26, 1941, and to thank you for your courtesy in communicating with me.

Inasmuch as portions of your letter are possibly of interest to the Federal Communications Commission, I have taken the liberty of transmitting copies of it to that agency.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Drayton
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
OCT 9 1941
FBI
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

REL:hr
~~100-44857-1~~
62-43818-15X

October 9, 1941

Honorable James Lawrence Fly
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
New Post Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Fly:

There are transmitted herewith for whatever consideration and attention deemed appropriate copies of a communication dated September 26, 1941, addressed to me by [redacted] who complains of the broadcast of Gerald Smith of Detroit, Michigan.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY SP-8/BT-3 pc

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Drayton
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Troy
Miss Gandy

CH-5

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
OCT 9 1941
P M
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- [x] Deleted under exemption(s) b1 with no segregable material available for release to you.
- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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- [ ] Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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- [ ] For your information: _____

- [x] The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-1571

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FBI/DOJ

[redacted] b7c

October 27, 1941

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY SP-8073

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington
D. C.

Gentlemen:

Last evening, I listened to the regular Sunday broadcast of Mr. Gerald K. Smith and his emphasis upon the fact that his program is financed by "The Committee of One Million" brought to mind an incident that may be of interest to the F. B. I.

In October, 1935, I had a visit from an old friend--a French priest who for many years had been an American citizen. Nine years prior to 1935, however, he had returned to France where he lived near the Italian border--at Cannes. During that period, of course, he made frequent visits to Italy and it seems he was thoroughly imbued with the facistic form of government. He insisted that it typified what he called "order." No amount of argument could convince him that it was not superior to the democratic form of government under which he had lived and prospered for many years.

One of the first things this man asked us was: "What do you know about this Gerald K. Smith?"

Keep in mind that this man had just landed in New York from France after an absence of nine years--and all we knew about Gerald K. Smith at that time was that he had been a henchman of Huey Long. What reason had this man, who had been living in retirement in France for years, to be making inquiry about Gerald K. Smith?

b7

Yours very truly,

[redacted]

RECORDED
INDEXED

62-7691-16
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 OCT 30 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

EX-16

RECORDED 62-43818 -16 November 12, 1941
REL:mae

[redacted]

b2

Dear [redacted]

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated October 27, 1941.

Your courtesy and interest in bringing this information to my attention are indeed appreciated, and you may be assured your letter will receive appropriate consideration.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/10/82 BY SLB/JMC

cc Detroit with copies of incoming communication

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Nathman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
NOV 13 1941
P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

38

2 SEP

COMMISSIONERS

JAMES LAWRENCE FLY, CHAIRMAN
RAY C. WAKEFIELD
PAUL A. WALKER
NORMAN S. CASE
T. A. M. CRAVEN
GEORGE HENRY PAYNE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO THE SECRETARY

T. J. SLOWIE, SECRETARY

OCT 14 1941

The Honorable
John Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hoover

I have your letter dated October 9, 1941, with which you enclosed copies of a communication dated September 26, 1941, from [redacted] who complains of the broadcast of Gerald Smith of Detroit, Michigan.

b7

Thank you for sending us this complaint. It will be given appropriate attention.

Sincerely yours,

James Lawrence Fly
Chairman

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/22/82 BY

EX-16 RECORDED

62-43818-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
8 OCT 16 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

168

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hollloman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mendenhall
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Harbo
Tele. Room
Tour Room
Mr. Nease
Mr. Tracy
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

DML:WGR

October 30, 1941 CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. H. M. KIMBALL

4:55 P.M.

RE: [redacted] b1

[redacted]

I told Mr. Foxworth that a check would be made on this matter.

Very truly yours,

D. M. Ladd

D. M. Ladd

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

CLASS. BY SP-PBTS/mlw
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 3
DATE OF REVIEW DATE 9/2/82

Mrs. Mr. Ladd
11/1/41 - DNCS forward

RECORDED
62-43818-16X1
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
NOV 8 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CONFIDENTIAL

EX-18

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-16x2

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FBI/DOJ

[redacted]

Nov. 3d, 1941.

Hon. Pres. F. D. Roosevelt:

I never write but when I do it is with great intensness. On Sunday night, Nov. 2d, 1941, a man named Gerald L. K. Smith, spoke over WJR in Detroit. His talk I take was to cause dissension or mutiny and unrest amongst our people, it included a lot of insulting stuff addressed to Canadians and British. He used the word "God" to save us Americans from your friends who were influencing you in all that you did. He asked Lord Halifax and the British people to mind their own business and leave our politics alone, he gave us facts and figures which were supposed to be from the Congressional Record (the newspaper published something like it a few days ago) showing how many were killed in Europe - he multiplied each nations' losses individually and tried to prove that England lost the smallest number - he stated that England wanted us as a sucker - he put lots of crying pathos in his voice crying "God" His talk was sensational and stirring (to those who dont' know him) and it was bad enough because the reflections were on you without him mentioning your name.

He calls himself the Committee of One Million and claims he now has three million, and the announcer said the Committee was kept up by contributions and asked everyone for their name to whom they would mail a circular. He is planning talks with a man named Holt in Lansing, Mich., also in Flint.

Listen Franklin I worked too hard for you and spent a lot of money on gas and oil, layed awake nights to keep you where you are - this man made me mad - he is dangerous in this community and I know him for what he is - he isent' even a Republican, he's working for money and sticking around Michigan because they dont' know so much here. He would be talking for Democrats if there was any money in it. I am only a machine operator in Chryslers at the Highland Park Plant now on Defense Work, but have been around politics long enough to recognize a dangerous enemy, with his slick tongue, to do harm not only to our party, but a real menace to our people. Will you please investigate and let me know what you can do to quieten this man. This information comes to you from a correct and true source, I heard the talk myself and quote to you as near as I can remember. This man G. L. K. Smith I remember very well as handing out some wrong information while campaigning against you some time ago. Just a rat.

Your reply will be a confidence - ask F. M.

Most Respectfully,

[redacted]

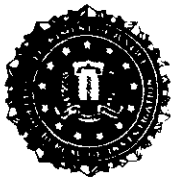
62-42618-1
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
NOV 13 1941
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FED. BU. OF INV.
NOV 10 1941

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/10/82 BY SP-8

COPIES DESTROYED
83 OCT 12 1964

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigatio
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

November 27, 1941

[redacted] b7c

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of November 3, 1941, addressed to the President, has been referred to this Bureau by the White House for appropriate consideration. I want to thank you for your courtesy in making these data available to the Federal Government.

Inasmuch as the subject matter of your communication is possibly of interest to the Federal Communications Commission, I have taken the liberty of referring copies of your letter to that Agency.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY SP/PBTJ/m

62-43818-17

RHL:nak

RECORDED 62-43818-17

November 27, 1941

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of November 3, 1941, addressed to the President, has been referred to this Bureau by the White House for appropriate consideration. I want to thank you for your courtesy in making these data available to the Federal Government.

Inasmuch as the subject matter of your communication is possibly of interest to the Federal Communications Commission, I have taken the liberty of referring copies of your letter to that Agency.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Nathanson
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Reese
Miss Jand.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
NOV 28 1941
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY SP-6 BTS/MWC

RECORDED

NEL:nak
62-43858-17

November 27, 1941

Honorable James Lawrence Fly
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
New Post Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Fly:

There are transmitted herewith for whatever consideration and attention deemed appropriate copies of a letter dated November 3, 1941, addressed to the President by [redacted]

The matter is brought to your attention in view of the reference to radio broadcasting. [redacted] has been informed of the transmittal of copies of his letter to you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY SP-2BTS/mc

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gandy
Mr. Hoover
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
NOV 28 1941
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Nov 28 10 48 AM '41
RECEIVED-ROOM 5640
FBI
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[redacted]

Dec. 27, 1941.

Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Subject: Gerald Smith, Radio Speaker.

I have noticed that Gerald L. K. Smith, former Louisiana speaker and preacher, one time with the Townsend organization, and now a radio speaker, I believe, in Detroit, is still mouthing every Wednesday evening over Station WOL, in Washington, presumably on a national Mutual Broadcasting hook-up. The purpose of this broadcast could be for only one thing--national disunity. I know of the man only in that he is another one of the easy money boys, similar to Robert Noble, of Los Angeles. I don't know whether his old side-kick, press agent George Mains, is with him or not, but he might be. I am only interested in his being shut up if possible. I don't believe he could influence anyone with normal intelligence, but he could the unthinking. I hate the guts of any blame Atheistic Red as well as he does, but I'm for using Reds, or any other color right now to lick the Japs, Nazis, Dagoes and their lesser fry.

I have nothing on the man, but thought that you might not keep your eye on him. Just study his recorded broadcastings and see if I am right or wrong.

Cordially yours,

[redacted]

b7c

[redacted]

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY SP-8 BCT/[illegible]

b7c

ack 12/14 Ltr to Bureau Pick 12/14

COPIES DESTROYED
83 OCT 21 1964

FX-2 RECORDED
INDEXED

62-45818-18
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 29 1941
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

62-43818-18

RECORDED JML:MET February 12, 1942

[redacted]

b7c

Dear [redacted]

I am in receipt of your letter of December 27, 1941, concerning the radio program of Gerald L. K. Smith, over station WOL in Washington, which program you believe to be inimical to the best interests of this country. In view of the fact that this information may be of interest to the censorship establishment, I have taken the liberty of forwarding your letter to the office of Mr. Byron Price, Director of Censorship, Washington, D. C.

I wish to thank you for your interest and cooperation in furnishing such information at this time.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 5/20/82 BY SP8BTJ

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
FEB 16 1942
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

62-43316-1

RECORDED JMLiMCT February 12, 1942

Mr. Byron Price
Director of Censorship
Room 772, Federal Trade
Commission Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Price:

There is enclosed herewith a copy of a letter from [redacted], in which he expresses the belief that the radio programs of Mr. Gerald L. K. Smith over station WOL in Washington are inimical to the bests interests of the country. b7c

The above is being furnished for your information, and [redacted] has been advised of this reference. b7c

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY SP-8B

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Slosson
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Tolly
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Baum
Mr. Gordon
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Nathanson
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Hance
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
FEB 16 1942
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COORDINATOR OF INFORMATION

270 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Lester
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Gerson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Kerdon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

December 11, 1941.

Mr. Archibald MacLeish
The Librarian of Congress
Washington, D. C.

Dear Archie:

In case you have not seen it, this is what Gerald L. K. Smith and his "Committee of 1,000,000" are now up to, or at least were up to until a few days ago. As this belongs in your bailiwick, I thought I would pass it on.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

RECORDED

62-43818-19

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 6 1942

ENCL BEHIND FILE

62-4-8 8 8-19

RKL:MBB

January 2, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LAWRENCE M. C. SMITH
CHIEF, SPECIAL DEFENSE UNIT

There are transmitted herewith for your information and whatever consideration deemed appropriate, copies of a leaflet entitled "13 Mistakes of President Franklin D. Roosevelt"; a flyer entitled "Committee of 1,000,000" signed by Gerald L. K. Smith; and the petition which was attached thereto entitled "Petition to Congress and President Roosevelt No A.E.F."

For your information, I have received this material from Honorable Archibald MacLeish, Director, Office of Facts and Figures, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C., who originally received it from [redacted] of New York. I have informed Mr. MacLeish of the reference of the material to you.

b7c

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 8/20/82 BY [illegible]

7 JAN 1 4 1942

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JAN 3 1942
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FBI
RECEIVED
JAN 2 1942

[redacted]

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
F. B. I.,
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY 58-86 [illegible]

Dear Mr. Hoover;

I am enclosing a letter that I think should be brought to your notice if you haven't already seen it. The two paragraphs that I have marked on the second page make the item to read. It seems to me somebody ought to look after the Senator referred to.

At the start of Mr. Smith's [illegible] a dollar or so, I thought [illegible] good. But I soon changed [illegible] him, but he still keeps sending this literature. It makes a good fire starter, though, in our open fireplace.

You do not need to trouble yourself to answer this.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
19 SEP 5 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

I ENCLO. 13

A: b7c

4-750 (2-7-79)

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☒ For your information: DELETED PER YOUR LETTER OF 3/18/82. "THE UNDELIVERED SPEECH"

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-20 ENCLOSURES

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FBI/DOJ

JPC:SG
62-43818-20

March 13, 1942

[redacted] b7c

Dear [redacted]

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated January 30, 1942, together with the enclosure.

Your courtesy and interest in bringing this information to my attention are indeed appreciated, and you may be assured your letter will receive appropriate consideration.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/10/67

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Coffey
Gurnea
Jones
Tamm
Quinn
Tracy

4

TC APR 20 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/20/82 BY [illegible]

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3:42 AM
MAR 17 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-ROOM
F B I
MAR 17 10 15 AM '42

Tracy

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 2

PAGES REVIEWED: 81

PAGES RELEASED: 50

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

[redacted]

1-27-42

Edgar Hoover
FBI
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing a letter that I just read and firmly believe that your bureau should investigate Gerald L.K. Smith. Even if Mr. Smith is sincere in his beliefs, his letters which are sent to thousands of Americans(most of us are gullible and believe everything we read) tend to disrupt the unity that now exists, and God knows that we have to have unity if we are to defeat our enemies. Mr. Smith has no confidence in our government and is willing during these crucial days to spread this propaganda to thousands of other Americans, who wil fall for it, hook, line and sinker. We are at war and we should be 100% united....we don't want any Quislings or Coughlinites or traitors in our midst, who are trying to creat in our minds that our allies are treacherous.

If I have erred, I am willing to apologize, but as an average, voting American citizen, I believe, that no real American should, in time of war, creat havoc and disunity, as our enemies, who are in ourt midst(fifth columnists), are doing their darndest to disrupt us.

May I hear from you?

Thank you. [redacted]

2-18-42
Ackn + Let to Price
[redacted]

1 ENCLO.

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-21

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 30 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mlc

FILES DIVISION

←750 (2-7-79)

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4 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):
PER YOUR LETTER OF 3/18/82

☒ For your information: "THE UNDELIVERED SPEECH" HANDOUT

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-21

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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

RECORDED 62-43818-21

[redacted]

March 18, 1942

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

I am in receipt of your letter dated January 27, 1942, with which you referred to this Bureau a pamphlet edited and promulgated by Gerald L. K. Smith. Please be advised that I am taking the liberty of forwarding your letter together with a copy of your enclosure to the office of Mr. Byron Price, Director of Censorship, Washington, D. C., who has an apparent interest in the matter.

I wish to thank you for your interest in forwarding this information to us at this time.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mh

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Nelleman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 7
★ MAR 18 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

8 APR 1 1942

ALL b7C

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-22

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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DO

[redacted]klb

RECORDED

February 28, 1942

62-43818-22

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith, with
alias Jerald L. K. Smith;
Committee of One Million.
Internal Security.

Dear Sir:

For your assistance in conducting the investigation of the above captioned, there are attached hereto two photostatic copies of a letter dated January 10, 1942, addressed to Honorable Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy, by [redacted]

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/20/82 BY SP8 BTJ/MC

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Nolloman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

13 MAR 6 1942

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
F B I
RECEIVED-ROOM 5640

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
RECEIVED
MAR 2 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL b2c

United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

Feb. 3, 1942

104

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to submit the following communication for your consideration, and to ask that the request made therein be complied with if possible.

When the matter is disposed of, will you kindly have the letter returned to my office, and oblige.

Yours truly,

RECORDED
62-73818-23

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 6 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

James J. Davis
U.S.S.

Honorable James A. Davis
Senator from Pennsylvania
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir;

Please read the inclosed letter
I believe this organization is subversive
They are sending me this literature for
about a year.

I am sorry I cannot sign my name I am a
Government employee and am afraid of causing
difficulties for my self.

ENCLOSURE
62-43818-23
A voter

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 8 10 2
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

[redacted]:klb February 9, 1942

62-43818

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-4BTJ/kc

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith; Committee of One Million; Internal Security.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the closing report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 20, 1941 at Detroit, Michigan, in the case entitled, "Gerald L. K. Smith; Miscellaneous - Information Concerning".

Several reports from reliable sources have been received by the Bureau to the effect that the Committee of One Million might in some way be promoted by foreign agents in the United States, and if this organization continued along the lines adhered to in a radio speech made by Gerald L. K. Smith, which originated from Detroit, Michigan on the evening of December 18 or 19, 1941, that a great number of uninformed persons would be prone to distrust the manner in which the United States Government functions in its present war struggle, and would consequently create a strong element of disunity among the American people.

It is the Bureau's desire that this case be reopened to determine whether Gerald L. K. Smith and the Committee of One Million may be promoted by foreign agents in the United States.

Very truly yours,

RECORDED 62-43818-24

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Nathman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

79

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
FEB 11 1942
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

7 FEB 17 1942

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 12 1942

ALL 62

[redacted]

Feb 11

Mr Edgar Hoover
F.B.I.
washington D.C.

Gentlemen,

I received this letter some days ago and I am turning over to your office for your consiteration and invsetigation.

I beleive that the government is doing the best that they can right now, and I dont think that people ought to be circulating such letters through the country

I think that this letter was written for another [redacted] but after I had read this letter I consitered it my duty to send it to your office,. I dont like the way he talks about the inside information he is getting. He speaks of a conspiracy behind the lines and speaks of an inner circle that will get this information and pass it on to thousands and millions of people through-out the country

I dont beleive in such a program myself so I am turning this letter over to your office for your consiteration and investagation

[redacted]

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP8CTJ/MM

ALL b7c

Acr 2/25/42 file

62-43818-25

RECORDED

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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FBI/DOJ

February 25, 1942

RECORDED

62-43818-25

[redacted]:NU

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated February 11, 1942, with enclosure.

Your courtesy and interest in bringing this information to my attention are indeed appreciated, and you may be assured your letter will receive appropriate consideration.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mc

ALL
b7c

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Ladd
Nichols
Tracy
Gurnea
Coffey
Nease
Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
FEB 26 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-ROOM 5640
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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Truly

MAR 5

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DATE 9/28/82 BY SLSBTJ/mc

APR 20 1942

62-43818-26

CHANGED TO

100-95444-2

4 APR 21 1942

Papers received and changed
Please file

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

January 7, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER

DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith 62-43818-19
"Committee of One Million" 9-6654

In connection with your memorandum sent to the Special Defense Unit under date of January 2, 1942 forwarding copies of a leaflet and other papers relating to the activities of Gerald L. K. Smith and the "Committee of One Million", will you please send us the reports of investigations now in your files concerning the above matter.

We would appreciate receiving this material at once so that we may dispose of the matter forwarded to us.

LAWRENCE M. C. SMITH
Chief, Special Defense Unit

By Frank W. Crocker
Frank W. Crocker
Assistant Chief

[redacted]

b2

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62-43818-27
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
1 FEB 13 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JAN 8 RECD

RECORDED

[redacted] klb
62-43818 -27

February 9, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF, SPECIAL DEFENSE UNIT

MR. LAWRENCE M. C. SMITH

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH; COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION; INTERNAL SECURITY.

Reference is made to your memorandum dated January 7, 1942, signed by Mr. Frank W. Crocker, Assistant Chief, requesting copies of investigative reports relative to the above captioned matter. There is attached hereto a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 20, 1941 at Detroit, Michigan in the case entitled, "Gerald L. K. Smith; Miscellaneous - Information Concerning".

For your information reports have been received by this Bureau from individuals located in various parts of the United States complaining of the type of radio programs given by Gerald L. K. Smith.

On December 23, 1941, it was reported to a representative of this Bureau by a reliable source that the speech made by Gerald L. K. Smith, which originated from Detroit, Michigan on the evening of December 18 or 19, 1941, was in the nature of a direct address to the President of the United States and the tenor of his talk appeared to be agitation for disunity of the American people, inasmuch as he reportedly made certain statements, accusations and criticisms of the President which would promote the destruction of faith in the President by persons not well versed in Governmental functions or political trends.

It was also reported by the same source that it was his opinion that the Committee of One Million might in some way be promoted by foreign agents in the United States, and if this organization continued along the lines adhered to in the program he heard, that a great number of uninformed persons would be prone to distrust the manner in which the United States Government functions in its present war struggle, and would consequently create a strong element of disunity among the American people.

The Detroit Office of this Bureau has been requested to reopen this case to determine whether or not Gerald L. K. Smith may be connected with any group that could be considered dangerous to the internal security of the United States.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mason
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Hollomon
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
★ FEB 11 1942 ★
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAR 2 - 1942

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
FBI
FEB 11 8 PM

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DATE 9/24/82 BY SP-8 BI

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

December 26, 1941

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gesson
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Hoffman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Harbo
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8BTJ/MG

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: HERBERT L. K. SMITH
Committee of One Million
Internal Security

On December 23, 1941, Special Agent [redacted] while engaged on the Interdepartmental Visa Control Committee No. 3 at the State Department, was advised by [redacted] of the United States Army that he, [redacted] had heard a radio speech given by Herbert L. K. Smith, who identified himself as a representative of the Committee of One Million on Thursday or Friday evening, December 18 or 19, 1941.

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According to [redacted], the speech made by Herbert L. K. Smith originated from Detroit, Michigan, and lasted for fifteen or thirty minutes. [redacted] advised that the speech rendered by Mr. Smith was in the nature of a direct address to the President of the United States and the tenor of his talk appeared to be agitation for disunity of the American people inasmuch as he made certain statements, accusations and criticisms of the President which would promote the destruction of faith in the President by persons not well versed in governmental functions or political trends.

b7c
b7D

[redacted] who, incidentally, is a lawyer, former school teacher and has many years' service with the United States Army, appears to be a very fair minded individual who is not particularly concerned with politics, and it was his opinion that the organization represented by Herbert L. K. Smith might be in some way promoted by foreign agents in the United States, and therefore, he desired that this matter be brought to the attention of the Bureau. He stated he knew nothing of the organization and had never heard of it previous to Thursday or Friday evening, December 18 or 19, 1941. However, it was his opinion that if this organization continued along the lines adhered to in the program he heard, that a great number of uninformed persons would be

1 FEB 25 '42

RECORDED 62-43918-28

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
1 FEB 13 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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83 OCT 19 1964

COPY IN FILE

EX-18

prone to distrust the manner in which the United States Government functions in its present war struggle, and would consequently create a strong element of disunity among the American people.

In this connection it should be stated that [redacted] of the ONI, who was present during this conversation, stated that he also heard the program referred to and viewed it in the same light as does [redacted]

b7c

It is realized that the above information is more or less the opinion of [redacted] and [redacted], but inasmuch as the Committee for One Million may possibly be engaged in some type of un-American activities, this information is being brought to your attention for whatever action you may deem appropriate.

Respectfully,

S S Alden

S. S. Alden

See what we have on this outfit - and have approp. investigation made. [redacted] b7c

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
February 26, 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8BTJ/MC

Dear Sir:

This office has in its possession a mimeographed letter, dated January 24, 1942, Detroit, Michigan, which apparently has received a large distribution by GERALD L. K. SMITH.

The letter is captioned "THE UNDELIVERED SPEECH" and below are quotations from this publication.

> "Among other things, this man gave me his reasons for believing that a "conspiracy" has been worked out behind the scenes, for destroying the Sovereignty of the United States, by making us an organic part of the British Empire. As we talked together, with measured words and sober countenance, I shuddered instinctively at the thought of having the sins, weaknesses, economic and geographical handicaps of a foreign government saddled upon us."

> "THIRD, as indicated above, this book also contains the latest inside facts about the international deal, to destroy the individualism, and governmental integrity of the United States, by tying us politically so the tail of the British lion." (This refers to the book, "The Undelivered Speech.")

referred to Chi 2-11-41 see serial

This information is being set forth with the thought in mind that the Bureau may be interested from the standpoint of possible seditious utterances on the part of GERALD L. K. SMITH.

Very truly yours,

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

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62-43818-2
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
1 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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83 OCT 12 1961

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MAR 24 RECD

[redacted]klb b7c

March 28, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8BTJ/MC

62-43818 -29

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith;
Committee of One Million;
Internal Security.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated February 9, 1942, requesting that this case be reopened to determine whether the above captioned may be promoted by foreign agents.

The Attorney General has exhibited a personal interest in this case and desires that efforts be made to prosecute the subject under any provisions of the criminal statutes and war statutes, and that if no violations are apparent, then consideration should be given to prosecute the subject under the Sedition laws as a last alternative.

It is, therefore, requested that you endeavor to guide this investigation accordingly, but, of course, do not overlook any Sedition utterances that may have been made by the subject.

It is my desire that this investigation be given very close and careful attention. Consideration as to possibly prosecuting subject under the following violations should not be overlooked: Smith Amendment to Immigration Bill, Selective Service Act; Espionage Acts, and lastly, Sedition Acts.

It is desired that a thorough report be submitted in this regard not later than April 15, 1942.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 6
MAR 28 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gurley
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bellmon
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

[redacted]

[redacted]

office of F.B.I.
Washington D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 9/26/82 BY [illegible]

Dear Sir:

I a Soldier from Ft. Meade S.D. while here on his furlow at Xmas showed me a Bulletin or letter that he said some of the boys at Camp had gotten some place - on reading it I thought it sounded like a lot of nonsense so copied it. and attached is the exact copy. I doubt you have had copies of this before if not this may be of

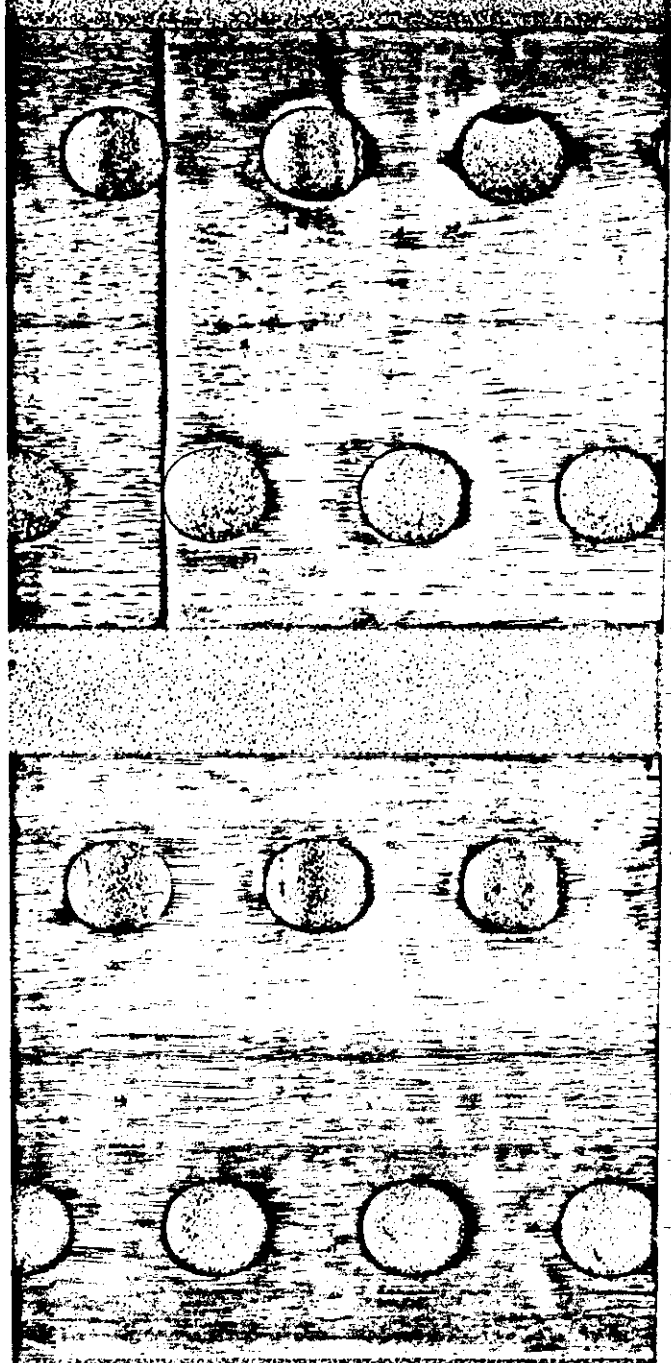
Nature of Inquiry: [illegible]

RECORDED
60-4818-
[illegible]

1 ENCL

[redacted]

HRL



Some good.

15951

Am Yours Truly.

[redacted]

b1v

Radio address by Gerald L. K. Smith - National Chairman Committee of 1,000,000 - Radio Station WJR- Detroit and others - every Wednesday night 10:15 P. M. - Every Sunday night 7:15 P. M.

The Most outspoken promotor of war in the United States Senate is Mr. Claude Pepper from Florida. He is considered the spokesman of President Roosevelt. The other day Senator Pepper said:"This war will last 10 years. It will cost one hundred billion dollars per year." These brief words are enough to make the blood of every American boil. First, because they tell us what the war party have in mind for us, and second, these words should inspire in us a resentment and a new determination to see to it that we keep our boys out of this program of organized slaughter. Benedict Arnold became the traditional traitor because he attempted to turn over to the British the army of the United States. If he were to come back to life and visit Washington, D. C. he would find some politicians in the capitol City and public officials that would make him feel like a patriot.

If those of us who love America most, best, and first, do not fight, we have a set of men in Washington who will not only turn our army over to the British but will give them the navy, our money, our resources, and the blood of our twenty-one million American boys of military age.

We are in the hands of a set of politicians who seem to think that the patriotic thing to do is to put some foreign countries ahead of the United States. Just the other day the President announced that he wanted another seven billion dollars for national defense. That sounds all right, but the report reveals that much of this, in fact several billions of it, is likely to be set aside for communistic Russia. Millions of our people are hungry tonight,-can't pay their rent,- can't get a job. In the City of Detroit, we have what is known as the Old Newsboys organization. It is a marvellous organization of outstanding citizens who were once newsboys. Between now and Christmas these men will beg and borrow and campaign to get enough money to see that every child in Detroit is visited by Santa Claus. Similar organizations are in every great city. Our People beg and pas the hat. Our women stand on the corner in the cold in order to get a few nickels, dimes and dollars for the hungry and poor, but we give billions to Britain, Russia, China.

The day our President gave Russia a billion dollars, they threw a celebration at Stalin's Washington headquarters which cost from forty to sixty thousand dollars for one night. They drank at least 2000 bottles of champagne at $10.00 a bottle, up. I have before me a letter from a widow with four children. She is on relief. She is living in a two room apartment. Her husband was a veteran of the last war. This widow and her children are half-starving in a land that sends billions of dollars to foreign countries.

Within a few weeks one hundred fifty thousand workers in Detroit will be on the street, out of work because the factories in which they work will not be permitted to have the necessary materials. The theory is that these materials are being saved for national defense, but I have a dispatch which quotes Senator John A. Danaher to the effect that there is no limitation whatever on exportation of these strategic metals to Canada and as a result Canada can buy in America anything she wants and British companies in Canada don't even have to buy it, they get it free. You can buy anything you want in Canada, from a hairpin to an automobile whether it is made of aluminum, steel, copper, or brass, but while this is going on, more than one hundred thousand little manufacturers and businessmen in the United States are being driven into bankruptcy. The men who have been working for them are being turned out on the street, unemployed, because our Government refuses to let American businessmen buy copper, aluminum, steel. I have here a dispatch sent out of Columbus, Ohio, relative to a meeting of 400 little business men who were trying to figure ways and means to prevent the cutting of their throats by this America second program that has been inaugurated in Washington, D. C. At this conference, Mr. Clarence E. Karst, vice-president and treasurer of the Brunkoff Mfg Co., of Cincinnati, spoke: (Quote of dispatch)"After revealing how his firm which manufactures advertising Specialties, had been unable to obtain sheet metal, Karst said he subscribed to a British magazine, the British Export Gazette- which advertised for sale and for delivery "NOW" the very things he

needed, the advertisement adding a guarantee of delivery because of the British navy's existence. "Our company has sent to England for five cars of steel on the strength of these advertisements", he asserted. Then addressing others in the crowd, he added:"Why don't the rest of you fellows write these people? You can get it easier than you can here." The Advertisement, which Karst handed to newspaper men for examination said: The best British goods can be delivered now. The British navy is guarantee of delivery." Items advertised included steel, cables, wires, copper and aluminum which Great Britain supposedly is importing from the United State

It looks like someone has conspired to destroy american business, rob us of our natural resources, crucify the little business man on the cross pf bankruptcy and turn all the business of the world over to the international monopolies. This all strikes me as a super-super game of treason played by the big monopolies and the big politicians.

The american toy manufacturers have been told they cannot even make toys for American children, but American children will have toys this year, not made by Americans, of course, but made by the British and sold by the British to us while our toy manufacturers are driven to the wallm in Bankruptcy.

Unless you regular Americans wake up and put on your fighting clothes, we won't have any clothes to put on. These foreign slickers, wil have our shirts, our sons, our money, our blood, our Government. In fact, one of the biggest things they are trying to put over right now for which they have raised one million dollars for propaganda is a scheme to get America back into the British Empire. I hate Nazism and I have fought it to a standstill. I hate communism and I have fought it the same way, but by the Grace of God and the spirit of George Washington, I will fight the imperialists who conspire with the covetous eyes and watery mouths to take this Garden of Eden, this Valley of Peace, this glorious America back into the bondage of the British Empire from whence our fighting and bleeding founding fathers sought and won escape in 1776.

We have a set of diplomats and politicians in Washington who opera on the America Last principle which summarizes about as follows: Billions for Russia, Bones for America,-Champagne for the Reds, Crumbs for American children,-Billions for Britain, Bankruptcy for America's little business, No conscription for Canada,- Conscription for America. $40.00, $75.00 and $100.00 a month for Canadian Soldiers, $21.00 a month for American Soldier throat-cutting taxes for Americans but British property in America by special arrangement of Mr. Roosevelt is tax free.

A Sweet old lady came to me the other night at a meeting and said: "Mr. Smith, do you think that the Townsend Plan will ever go through; and I answered by saying: " Why my dear woman, the Townsend Plan has alread gone through, but the British and Russians are on it instead of us. If we had the money we are sending foreign countries, millions of old people could be paid a pension commensurate with their needs. The thing we Ameri need to do is to pray and fight and work to see to it that our public officials in Washington have enough nerve and courage and patriotism to look after our own soldiers, our own people and our own business men and our own old people before they exhaust our resources, bankrupt our treasury and bleed us white.

[redacted] b7

15919

February 28, 1942

RECORDED

62-43818-30

[redacted] b7

Dear [redacted]

I am in receipt of your recent letter with which you enclosed a copy of a circular bulletin which had been received by a soldier stationed at Fort Meade, South Dakota.

In view of the fact that this matter may be of interest to the censorship establishment I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of your letter to the office of Mr. Byron Price, Director of Censorship, Washington, D. C.

I wish to thank you for your interest and cooperation in furnishing such information at this time.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY [illegible]

cc—St. Paul

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 7
★ MAR 3 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-ROOM 5640
F B I
U S DEPT OF JUSTICE
MAR 2 9 30 AM '42

APR 11 1942

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION
KEEP ENVELOPE ATTACHED

B.F.I.
Washington

Gentlemen:

The enclosed pamphlet was sent the writer some days ago, and since I am not in sympathy with such activities and pan-handlers at this crucial moment in our history, am sending same on to you for your inspection and action.

C.P.

1 ENCLO.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

62-43818-31
FEDERAL BUREAU
16 FEB 28
U. S. DEPT.

9 MAR 26 1942

[redacted]

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☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
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FBI/DOJ

CONFIDENTIAL

b7c

CONFIDENTIAL

RECORDED 62-45818-33

April 20, 1942

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF Class Dec DATE 11/29/82

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY

CLASS. BY SP-8BTJ
DATE OF DECLASS. CADR 9/28/82

Dear Sir:

For your information only there is set forth below information which was received at the Bureau on March 4, 1942, from Office of Naval Intelligence:

"SMITH, Gerald L. K.
Detroit, Michigan

[redacted]

b1

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 7
★ APR 20 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CONFIDENTIAL

b7c

GERALD L. K. SMITH

15946

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/28/82 BY [illegible]

New York, N. Y.,

February 21, 1942.

The Hour reports:

Former Silver Shirter, Key Appeaser and Agent of U. S. Cliveden Set, Launching New Campaign to Obstruct U. S. War Effort.

Gerald L. K. Smith, former lieutenant of the late Huey Long and now national chairman of the fascist Committee of One Million, is forming in Detroit, a secret group called The Inner Circle. This group is to serve as a brain trust for the anti-democrati disruptive program with which Fifth Columnist Smith seeks to undermine American morale and hamper the war effort of this country. The slogan of The Inner Circle will be "Christ First!"

We have in our possession a letter, sent out by Gerald L. K. Smith from his Detroit headquarters on January 24 to a select number of his followers, which tells of creation of this Inner Circle. The recipients of the letter are invited to join the ne organized cabal. Smith writes:

> "...after much thought and planning, I have decided to establish what we shall call 'THE INNER CIRCLE.' Let us visualize the Committee of One Million as a gigantic wheel. Then, let us think of 'The Inner Circle' as a wheel, within a wheel. The purpose of this letter is to invite you to become a close consistent co-worker, and be listed as a member of my personal inner circle. By filling out the blank at the bottom of this letter and mailing it to me at once, your name will be recorded on this special list. Kindly consider this invitation a personal matter."

The Detroit fascist mentions in his letter that he has discussed the formatio of The Inner Circle with certain of his "friends" in Washington, D. C.

RECORDED 62-43818

INDEXED

3 MAR 19 1942

> "...These words are being written at a time when I have just returned from Washington. While there, I had conferences with several leaders, men who understand the power and potency of the 'Committee of One Million.' I was given a cordial reception.
>
> "I spent four hours with one particular Senator, an outstanding figure in American public life, and gleaned from him certain unpublished

MAR 7

MAR 16 REC'D

information, most of which I expect to pass on to my Inner Circle of friends in the near future.

"Among other things, this man gave me his reasons for believing that a 'conspiracy' has been worked out behind the scenes, for destroying the Sovereignty of the United States, by making us an organic part of the British Empire. ... I shuddered instinctively at the thought of having the sins, weaknesses, economic and geographical handicaps of a foreign government saddled upon us."

15947

In the light of President Roosevelt's recent reference to a U. S. Cliveden Se Smith's boast of assistance from Washington has particular significance.

It is not an idle boast. The Hour can reveal that among the congressmen with whom Gerald L. K. Smith has been in close touch are Senator Robert R. Reynolds of North Carolina, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs; Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg of Michigan; Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana; ex-Senator Rush Holt of West Virginia (currently accused of having cooperated with the paid Nazi agent, George Sylvester Viereck); and Representative Clare E. Hoffman of Michigan.

For a number of years Smith has played a key role in the anti-democratic movement in the United States. His fifth column activities have not always brought him into circles as eminent as those he frequents today. On August 5, 1938, H. E. Martin, executive director of the Silver Shirts of America, sent to Dr. L. M. Birkhead, director of the Friends of Democracy, a letter which stated:

"Answering your letter of the 3rd regarding Mr. Gerald L. K. Smith's connection with the Silver Shirts, which you say he denies, we have on file certain letters and telegrams received from him.... The letters are all written on Silver Shirts of America letterheads and signed by him. His registration number as a member of the Silver Shirts was 3223 and his wife's number was 3220."

Smith's important function in this subversive band is indicated in the following passage from one of his many communications to Silver Shirt Chief William Dudley Pelley, who is now in jail in North Carolina: "...by the time you receive this letter I shall be on the road to St. Louis and parts north with a uniformed squad of young men composing what I believe will be the first Silver Shirt storm troop in America."

Smith, an expert rabble-rouser, was not content to remain for long in Pelley's service. He began organizing vigilante groups of his own. He traveled about the country spreading anti-Semitic propaganda. On August 5, 1938, the press in Cleveland, Ohio, described Smith's disruptive technique in these words:

"In his recent speedy tour of Ohio, Reverend Smith has spoken in both urban and rural communities. In the urban communities he has made no reference to racial grou but in the rural communities, he has decried the sinister influence of Jews and Catholic

In 1939 Smith came to Detroit, Michigan. He won the support of influencial backers and began a weekly radio program over WJR, the city's largest and most expensive station. He established in the auto city, headquarters for the Committee of One Million

The Committee has a secret membership which, according to Smith, is active in every state in the country, and which has specialized in disseminating anti-New Deal, anti-labor and appeasement propaganda. In its "anti-war" machinations, Smith's group closely cooperated with the Nazi-endorsed America First Committee; and, although America Firsters denied Smith was one of their members, it was commonly known that he supervised their operations in the Michigan area.

Every Sunday evening at 7:15, Gerald L. K. Smith now broadcasts from station WJR in Detroit. He speaks in the name of the Committee of One Million. His radio progr are aimed, none too subtly, at creating disunity among Americans by stirring up race hat He constantly harps on the Coughlinite theme of "Christ First in America." He also atte to undermine confidence in the war leadership of the Roosevelt Administration. Periodic ally, his speeches are re-broadcast by transcription over Station WOL in Washington, D.

The Hour asks: how much longer will Gerald L. K. Smith be permitted to maintai his anti-democratic band and to continue his work of undermining morale and hampering th war effort of this country?

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

WB-NML-BGL

146-28-43

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

February 20, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER,
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,

Re:

GERALD L. K. SMITH;

Re:

COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;

Re:

THE INNER CIRCLE

Receipt is acknowledged of your memorandum dated February 11, 1942, enclosing copies of a circular entitled "The Undelivered Speech", which appears over the mimeographed signature of the subject.

We have examined the circular with a view to Smith's liability for seditious utterances, and it is our opinion that its contents do not constitute a violation of the applicable statutes.

It is noted that the activities of Gerald L. K. Smith have been reported to Mr. Lawrence M. C. Smith, Chief, Special Defense Unit, under date of February 9, 1942. It is requested that a copy of this report be transmitted to the Criminal Division.

~~RECORDED~~ RECORDING

It is further requested that the Division be kept fully advised of the results of the investigation which you state is now pending to determine the subject's possible affiliation with subversive organizations.

Respectfully,

RECORDED

Wendell Berge

WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General.

62-43818-3
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 21 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Name to Berge

b7c

b7c

[redacted]klb b7c
2/26/42

62-43818-35

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

WENDELL BERGE

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith;
Committee of One Million;
Internal Security.

Reference is made to your memorandum dated February 20, 1942, requesting a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 20, 1941 at Detroit, Michigan concerning the above captioned. b7c

Pursuant to your request there is enclosed herewith a copy of the above mentioned report.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8BTJ/MC

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mason
Mr. Carson
Mr. Gaffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

9 MAR 17 1942

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
★ MAR 3 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-36

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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FBI/DC

[redacted]

March 18, 1942

[redacted]

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Mr. Byron Price
Director of Censorship
Room 772, Federal Trade
Commission Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Price:

There is attached hereto for your information a copy of a letter dated January 27, 1942, from [redacted] together with a copy of his enclosure. [redacted] has been advised of this reference.

b7c

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP8BTJ

Enclosure

49718

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
MAR 18 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818-37
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 2 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

1-27-42

Edgar Hoover
FBI
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing a letter that I just read and firmly believe that your bureau should investigate Gerald L. K. Smith. Even if Mr. Smith is sincere in his beliefs, his letters which are sent to thousands of Americans (most of us are gullible and believe everything we read) tend to disrupt the unity that now exists, and God knows that we have to have unity if we are to defeat our enemies. Mr. Smith has no confidence in our government and is willing during these crucial days to spread this propaganda to thousands of other Americans, who will fall for it, hook, line and sinker. We are at war and we should be 100% united....we don't want any Quislings or Coughlinites or traitors in our midst, who are trying to creat_ in our minds that our allies are treacherous.

If I have erred, I am willing to apologize, but as an average, voting American citizen, I believe, that no real American should, in time of war, creat_ havoc and disunity, as our enemies, who are in our midst (fifth columnists), are doing their darndest to disrupt us.

May I hear from you?

Thank you.

/s/

[redacted]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Hoffmann
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mc

62-43818-37

ALL
b7C

BYRON PRICE
DIRECTOR

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
WASHINGTON

March 19, 1942.

[redacted]

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Naturally I have examined with deep interest the letter from [redacted] and his enclosure which you sent me under confidential cover on March 18.

I note that you have advised [redacted] that his communication has been referred to the Office of Censorship. I assume this was a routine reference, but I am wondering whether you have any suggestion as to what action the Office of Censorship might take.

Sincerely yours,

Byron Price,
Director.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lester
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Wade
[redacted]

b7c

b7c

Handle as F.B.I. Inside

aib 3/30/42 [redacted]

RECORDED [redacted]

62-43818-38

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
10 APR 2 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TWO

[redacted]

b7c

March 30, 1942

[redacted]

62-43818-38

Mr. Byron Price
Director of Censorship
Room 772, Federal Trade
Commission Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Price:

I have your letter of March 19th, in which you refer to my letter to you of March 16th concerning a communication addressed to this Bureau by [redacted] A copy of [redacted] communication was referred to you for your information only. Naturally, if there are any steps which need to be taken from the standpoint of internal security investigations, this Bureau will take all necessary and possible action.

b7c

[redacted] communication was forwarded to you with the thought in mind that in connection with the voluntary censorship of radio, the officials of your office might desire to have the views of [redacted] for their consideration.

b7c

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SO-8BT/rc

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Nease
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Hoover
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 7
MAR 30 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAR 30 6 30 PM

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAR 31 1942

3/27/1942

Dear Mr. Biddle

For gods sake,
Will You Please
take Gerald Smith
out of circulation

Sincerely Yours

62-43818-38X

178

b2c

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8BTJ/MC

[redacted]

~~100-90160-1~~
RECORDED 62-43818-38X May 7, 1942

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

I wish to advise that your letter of recent date, has been received at this Bureau by reference from the office of the Attorney General.

Your courtesy and interest in bringing this matter to the attention of the Department of Justice are indeed appreciated. You may be assured that the content of your letter has been noted and will receive appropriate consideration.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/MC

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mohlman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 6
★ MAY 7 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[redacted]

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

WB:NML:is

146-28-43

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

April 10, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JOHN EDGAR HOOVER,
DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith;
"Committee of One Million";
"The Inner Circle";
Sedition

The Criminal Division is in receipt of a photostatic copy of a news clipping from the "New York Herald Tribune" dated March 27, 1942, with reference to the subjects, which states that Smith a short time prior thereto brought out the first issue of a monthly magazine entitled "The Cross and the Flag". It is requested that a copy of this issue and of all future issues of the publication be made available to the Division.

Reference is made to the statement by the reporter in the above-mentioned clipping that "Detroiters contribute by the thousands to support him, in dribbles of less than $5.00 at a time." It is also noted that in the same report Smith declares that he derives $75,000 yearly from his various "constituents" to pay for his living expenses and propaganda activities. It is requested that copies of the federal income tax returns of Smith for the years 1938 through 1941 be obtained, or information as to why none were filed.

b7c

On page 5 of the Bureau report by [redacted] relating to Smith and dated May 20, 1941 at Detroit, Michigan it appears that the Bureau has a copy of an article appearing in the September 1940 issue of the "Michigan Democrat" entitled "An expose of Gerald L. K. Smith" by Edward L. Marshall. On pages 7 and 8 of this Bureau report are statements that Smith is the author of two pamphlets, "Dangerous Enemies" and "Too Much Roosevelt", and that a copy of the first mentioned pamphlet is in the files of the Detroit office of the Bureau. It is requested that copies of the expose and of the two pamphlets by Smith be transmitted to the Division.

b7c

I ENCLO. 14

146-43818-3
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 11 1942
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILES

letter to Dallas 4/7/42
memo to Acting
letter to Treas 4/23/42

4/7

APR 13 RECD

On page 5 of the Bureau report dated May 20, 1941 it is noted that Smith, as of the date of the report, was living at the Detroit-Leland Hotel. [redacted] b7E

Reference is further made to a report in "The Hour", number 128, dated February 21, 1942, that Smith makes weekly radio broadcasts over Station W J R in Detroit and that his speeches are periodically re-broadcast over Station W O L in Washington, D. C. It is requested that transcripts of his talks since December 7, 1941 be procured, if possible, and made available to this Division. It is likewise requested that the Bureau obtain transcripts of any future radio talks by Smith and forward them to the Division.

Reference is finally made to your memorandum to this Division dated February 11, 1942, wherein you stated that the Bureau was conducting an investigation of Smith to determine his possible affiliation with any subversive organizations. It is requested that you advise as to the current status of such investigation.

Respectfully,

Wendell Berge

WENDELL BERGE
Assistant Attorney General

Smith Will Speak In Coughlin's Behalf

Detroit, April 21 (AP).—Gerald L. K. Smith, national chairman of the isolationist "Committee of One Million," announced today he would address a rally here Friday night on the subject, "Will We Permit the Reds to Jail Father Coughlin?" The Coughlin magazine, Social Justice, has been barred from the mails, pending a hearing on Attorney General Biddle's finding that it is "clearly seditious."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-9875 mlh

Washington Post
April 22, 1942.

62-43818-34

62-43818-39

RECORDED [redacted]klb

April 26, 1942

The Honorable,
The Secretary of the Treasury,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

In connection with an official investigation being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation concerning the activities of one Gerald L. K. Smith, whose address is believed to be the Detroit-Leland Hotel, Detroit, Michigan, it will be appreciated if you will furnish photostatic copies of the Federal income tax returns for Smith for the years 1938 through 1941, or advise as to the reason why none were filed.

Sincerely yours,

(signed) Francis Biddle

Attorney General.

APR 23 3 01 PM
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F B I
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

SIGNED AND FILED
APR 23 1942
DIVISION OF RECORDS

FOR THE BUREAU

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease

E B I
RECEIVED MAIL ROOM
FEB 13 3 56 PM '43

8 MAY 4 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP8BTJ/MC

APR 24 1942

62-43818-40
cancelled

APR 25 1942

Papers rec'd. & cancelled.
Close File.

Probably I've already had this same sort of surveillance. Don't know how they got my name on list

Moreover, through my years of public service, traveling in all parts of the Nation, appearing before every conceivable type of public audience, enjoying the personal friendship of a large number of United States Senators, Representatives and other prominent government officials in Washington, there comes to me a constant flow of priceless INSIDE INFORMATION, not available to the general public. Much of this material is of such a nature that propriety forbids its use over radio. And yet, it should be placed in the hands of key people, like yourself, for judicious patriotic handling and dissemination.

Thus, through frequent Inner Circle letters, there will come into your home, important facts -- facts of vital concern to the welfare of our Nation, which you will want to share with friends and neighbors. By this means, vital truth, not available through press and radio will seep through to countless thousands, perhaps millions of people, as we go on working together, IN UNISON, expanding our labors.

Hours are precious in the present crisis, and I am hoping, believing, praying that you will use the blank at the bottom of the last page of this letter and let me hear from you without delay. If you live a considerable distance from Detroit, please answer by airmail.

For instance, these words are being written at a time when I have just returned from Washington. While there, I had conferences with several leaders, men who understand the power and potency of the "Committee of One Million". I was given a cordial reception.

I spent four hours with one particular Senator, an outstanding figure in American public life, and gleaned from him certain unpublished information, most of which I expect to pass on to my Inner Circle of friends in the near future.

Among other things, this man gave me his reasons for believing that a "conspiracy" has been worked out behind the scenes, for destroying the Sovereignty of the United States, by making us an organic part of the British Empire. As we talked together, with measured words and sober countenance, I shuddered instinctively at the thought of having the sins, weaknesses, economic and geographical handicaps of a foreign government saddled upon us.

I have prepared, exclusively for you friends of the Inner Circle, a special brochure, entitled "THE UNDELIVERED SPEECH" -- which contains a chapter devoted to this matter. The Senator referred to above, knows about the activities of certain international politicians, operating under the name of the "Federal Union Inc.," who hope to consummate this treasonable plan within six months, while we Americans are occupied with our emergency. This is an issue concerning which you, and millions of other patriots should be informed with all possible haste.

And now, a further word about this new book, "The Undelivered Speech". Let me say, FIRST, that this treatise is not being offered to the general public and cannot be purchased. It will be released solely through the Inner Circle. I feel that the startling facts which it contains, should be placed only at the disposal of persons whose thinking along these lines has reached maturity.

SECOND, some days ago I was invited to deliver an address before a large number of people. Those in charge insisted that they see an advance copy of the message. Accordingly, I submitted the manuscript.

1 APR 21 42
62-43812-4
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 18 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/6/6 BY

THE UNDELIVERED SPEECH

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/28/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mc

Detroit, Michigan
January 24th, 1942.

My dear Friend:

Please consider this a personal letter from Gerald L. K. Smith. Do me the kindness of getting a quiet comfortable chair and sifting every sentence with utmost care. I feel, in view of the tragic crisis now engulfing our beloved country, that I must today unburden my soul to you friends who have stood so loyally with me.

I regard this as the most important letter I have ever written. The entire future, of our Christian and patriotic work -- work, precious to your heart and mine, will depend upon YOUR IMMEDIATE RESPONSE to certain suggestions that I shall outline below. There are so many important matters to be presented for your consideration, that I shall try to boil down my thoughts to a minimum of words.

You are no doubt aware that a very large amount of mail reaches me from week to week. Letters pour in constantly from all parts of the Nation. Without such correspondence, it would be impossible for the "Committee of One Million" to function. We have demonstrated the correctness of the old axiom, IN UNION THERE IS STRENGTH.

No other organization in the United States is duplicating the work in which we are engaged. Our influence for moral, religious, economic and political righteousness is nation wide. Good people love us, while the international agents of destruction, hate and fear us.

I have gone through a large accumulation of mail and chosen what I regard as my "preferred list" of friends and supporters across the Continent. You are in this group. Hence, the present communication.

Because of the unprecedented peril which our Country is now facing.. and considering that the American people will be obliged to make grave decisions in the days just ahead ... and the further fact of your responsibility and mine, in helping to produce an aroused, informed, enlightened public opinion, animated by righteous impulses -- it is now imperative that a large group of us shall work together, in closer collaboration, than at any previous time.

So, after much thought and planning, I have decided to establish what we shall call "THE INNER CIRCLE". Let us visualize the Committee of One Million as a gigantic wheel. Then, let us think of "The Inner Circle" as a wheel, within a wheel. The purpose of this letter is to invite you to become a close consistent co-worker, and be listed as a member of my personal inner circle. By filling out the blank at the bottom of this letter and mailing it to me at once, your name will be recorded on this special list. Kindly consider this invitation a personal matter.

I want to feel free at all times to write to you ... to seek your prayerful counsel when I have important decisions to make ... to learn from you, how our patriotic labors can be especially useful, from time to time, in your community. I want to be able to bring the problems and needs of the program before you, as occasions may demand.

After scrutinizing same, they forbade me to deliver the speech. It is probable that the message would have been heard by radio, and quoted in far away Russia. My exposure would have been of such a character, that those in charge feared it might have antagonized the Reds against us.

In the present state of affairs, there are some things that no longer can be said over radio, and yet we are faced with the stubborn fact that Communist propagandists within our own borders, are opportunizing on present collaboration between Washington and Moscow, by pushing toward their objective of PHYSICAL REVOLUTION AND BLOODSHED in the United States.

Because of certain things I cannot say over the radio, I must find a way for filtering the truth through to straight-thinking Americans like yourself. And so, we are ready to release the complete text of "The Undelivered Speech", to those who use the blank below.

THIRD, as indicated above, this book also contains the latest inside facts about the international deal, to destroy the individualism, and governmental integrity of the United States, by tying us politically to the tail of the British lion.

We want you to know us better. And we want to know you better. Accordingly, Mrs. Smith and I have prepared a family calendar, bearing our photographs, for 1942. This item, a token of appreciation for your help, will serve as a daily reminder that we are standing together in defense of the principles and ideals of the American founding fathers.

And now, before closing, a personal word of utmost importance: With the declaration of war, made by the Congress, on December 8, 1941, the importance of our work was incalculably increased. It seemed that our past efforts were all directed toward this particular peak. Now that the hour has come, when the destinies of our Country are being shaped, we must not falter in accepting responsibility thrust upon us by virtue of our knowledge and advance preparation.

During recent weeks, inducements and threats have been made to silence us. Enemies of our Country, emmissaries of Satan, are doing everything in their power to retard our efforts. But, until the present hour, we have moved steadily forward, as a great constructive force. Under the slogan "Christ First" we propose to continue these labors which have been Divinely preserved. With your help, with your consistent, unfaltering, prayerful cooperation, I shall continue leading this movement for God, Home and Country.

I would be less than honest, if I did not say that we are NOW faced with urgent financial needs. The only thing that could hold us back at this time, would be lack of money to continue the radio work, great public mass meetings, distribution of literature, and the multiple lines of work which go out from the central hub here in Detroit. We must not fail for want of

financial support. Should our movement go down in defeat, there is nothing else on the American horizon to take its place. I REPEAT, WE MUST NOT FAIL!

Week after week, we are reaching millions of people through broadcasts from both Detroit and Washington. As you know, we are helpless except as loyal supporters like yourself, come to our rescue. I am frank to say, that these words are written out of a heavy heart, with a certain degree of anxiety, because of pressing obligations now facing us.

UNLESS I HAVE FINANCIAL HELP AT ONCE, MY VOICE WILL BE SILENCED.

In supporting this work, you are not performing an act of charity. On the contrary, you are making an investment. With this premise in the background, I do not hesitate to suggest that you send, without delay, a contribution of the largest amount possible, so that we can proceed with the work unhindered.

It is probable that this letter will reach some friends who can contribute as much as $100. Others $50. or possibly $20. While a large number of gifts will fall automatically into the $5 and $10 brackets ... yet, I want you to know that your offering, no matter the amount, be it one dollar, or two dollars, will be thankfully received. In fact, our work has been carried on these years, for most part by a large number of small contributions -- one, two and three dollar amounts.

Let us make it a unanimous offering, in which everyone shall participate. I have faith to believe that somehow, these obligations with which we are faced, will be met, so that the work will be able to continue. Without fail, fill out the blank below and send the largest amount possible. Kindly let me hear from you right away.

Sincerely yours for God and Country.

Gerald L K Smith

GERALD L. K. SMITH.

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - OFFERING BLANK - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Write!

Dear Mr. Smith:

Enclosed find my voluntary contribution of $_____ to help meet the present, pressing needs of the work. You may enter my name, so that I will receive your Inner Circle Letters from time to time. Yes, send me one of the 1942 calendars bearing the photograph of you and Mrs. Smith, also the book. "The Undelivered Speech".

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

CC-150

b7c

[redacted]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

APRIL 18, 1942

Transmit the following message to:

SAC, DETROIT, MICHIGAN

GERALD L. K. SMITH, INTERNAL SECURITY, SEDITION. IMMEDIATELY ADVISE WHY REPORT NOT SUBMITTED APRIL FIFTEENTH AS REQUESTED.

HOOVER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8BTJ

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mason
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Mendenhall
Mr. Nellemann
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

9 APR 25 1942

RECORDED

162-43818-42

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
9 APR 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

b7c

COPIES DESTROYED
83 OCT 12 1964

SENT VIA _____ M Per _____

Chicago, Ill.

Mr. Walter Winchell
N.Y. Daily Mirror
New York, New York.

To Hoover

Dear Mr. Winchell -

Knowing of your splendid crusade for what is right and just, it occurred the attached from the Chicago Daily News of February 14th would interest you. I have always been most proud of this great metropolis in which I live, but this sort of thing appals me when it is allowed to occur without incident.

Frankly it "smells" of treasonable intent — just the kind of "americanism" which Hitler so much admires.

Sincerely

[redacted]

b7c

February 14, 194[redacted]

[redacted]

b7c

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DATE 1/28/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mk

62-43818-4B

I ENCLO. 14

RECORDED & INDEXED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
14 FEB 28 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

5 APR 25 1942

EX-18

APPEASERS BOO F.D.R. AND ALLIES IN MEETING HERE

Cheer McCormick, Huey Long and Lindbergh; Laugh at 1st Lady.

BY FRANK SMOTHERS.

Britain and Russia were booed last night, China's war supply needs made a subject for laughter and America's commander in chief ridiculed at a meeting of William G. Grace's revamped Citizens' Committee, in session at 32 West Randolph street.

Before Pearl Harbor it was the Citizens' Keep America Out of War Committee. Grace now has reorganized with the shorter name.

As principal speaker the Rev. Gerald L. K. Smith, Detroit spellbinder, chairman of what he calls the Committee of a Million, cajoled the crowd for almost two hours. A crowd of some 500 filled the 12th-floor meeting hall.

The crowd cheered and applauded the names of Charles A. Lindbergh, Col. Robert R. McCormick, the Chicago Tribune, Senator C. Wayland Brooks, the late Senator Huey P. Long, Senator Gerald P. Nye, Representative Clarence Day, and "America First."

Hit Treason Charges.

A great chorus of enthusiastic "ayes" adopted a resolution that attacked Representative Raymond S. McKeough's charge in Congress of treason against McCormick. The resolution endorsed "most heartily" the Tribune and its "editorial policy," and paid tribute to the "patriotism" of McCormick.

All but a few in the audience were middle-aged or elderly. Faces of most were stern as they entered. No men in uniform were seen.

As in similar meetings before Pearl Harbor Lindbergh's name above all was magic with the crowd. Its first mention by Smith brought the house down with cheers, high shrieks of women, long hand-clapping. To that Smith came back:

"Give him a real hand!"

Respond with Ovation.

The crowd responded with a rising, cheering ovation. Lindbergh's name was tumultuously cheered again when Smith said that for real "unity" Nye should be brought into the cabinet, Senator Robert Reynolds of North Carolina made Secretary of War and Lindbergh appointed head of a new air arm.

"Frank Knox should resign before midnight," shouted Smith, waving his arms. He is a stocky, dark-haired orator, whose gestures range from arm-swinging to squatting in midsentence.

First titters at the President's expense came when Southard, who spoke before Smith, declared that Washington and Lincoln were "isolationists" and that Lincoln made his position clear "again and again and again." Smith repeatedly brought similar titters with slurring references to the President and Mrs. Roosevelt. There were appreciative giggles, too, when Southard read a reference to China's dissatisfaction because she is not getting what she wants in lend-lease aid.

Audience Ends a Sentence.

In one of many attacks on Britain Smith said: "The dagger that's sharp enough for the kidneys of Australia is sharp enough to pass through the kidneys of"—and women in the audience finished it with him—"of America."

The house came down when Smith said America First should not have disbanded and when he extolled his old intimate, Huey Long, as "the Lincoln of the South."

Smith declared he was for "victory" in the war, but that "victory" meant different things to different people. He didn't want a "victory" that would "make Eleanor president," said the preacher.

"The only defeat for America would be that which destroyed the independent destiny of America," he proclaimed. "The only victory would be that which preserved it."

Throughout his speech Smith reiterated that what he wanted was victory for a "Christian America," nor did the cheering crowd misunderstand his implication regarding the Jewish citizens of America.

He painted the horrors of the war and said that if his "6-foot son comes back to his beautiful mother and myself in a wheelchair or blind or in a casket I pray to God let it be a victory for us, not Russia, not Britain, not the international bankers." The Reds and "Union Now" he chastised repeatedly.

Smith said he favored "using" Britain and Russia in the war, he affirmed, and, with the war over, giving them 24 hours' notice to "get out."

Nominating petitions were circulated in the anteroom of the hall and many signatures secured for Brooks and for Grace as a congressional aspirant. Social Justice was on sale in the anteroom.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-PORT/ha

62-43818-43

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

[redacted]

New York, N. Y.

April 21, 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/28/82 BY SP2 BTS/MC

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing a photostatic copy of a communication received from [redacted] of the law firm of Delafield, Marsh, Porter and Hope, 20 Exchange Place, New York City, together with the enclosures which [redacted] forwarded with his letter. These enclosures refer to "The Committee of 1,000,000."

It is believed that the Bureau will desire to call this material to the attention of the Department.

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth

P. E. FOXWORTH
Assistant Director

1 Enclo.

Enclosures

ALL b7c

4 MAY 2 1942

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-44

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
7 APR 23 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COPY IN FILE

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83 OCT 21 1964

EX-5

APR 29 REC'D

Mr. Boardman
Mr. Thurston
Mr. Coleman
Mr. Carson
Mr. Leffler
Mr. Lerrigo
Mr. Lyons
Mr. Lynn
Mr. McIntire
Mr. Quinley
Mr. Simons
Mr. Tyler
Miss Tate
Chief Clerk
Property Clerk
Files
SAMUEL THORNE
COUNSEL
RAMON SIACA
CABLE ADDRESS
DELMARSH NEW YORK

April 15, 1942

Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Federal Building,
Foley Square,
New York, N.Y.

Sirs:

I am enclosing herewith a letter and contents received by me from an organization entitled "The Committee of 1,000,000". I don't suppose that this not very subtle type of propoganda can do great harm, but I am sending it along to you for whatever it is worth.

If nothing else can be done to suppress this type of thing (and off-hand I don't see that this material constitutes either libel or a mail fraud) it might be that local religious authorities could prevent these gentlemen from making use of the surface religious veneer which is apparent in these papers.

Yours very sincerely,

:ctw
Enc.

F. B. I.
APR 10 1942
N. Y. C.
ROUTED TO

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

1 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):
PER YOUR LETTER OF 3/18/82

☒ For your information: 1 PAGE CY OF AMERICA FIRST

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-44

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

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FBI/DOJ

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, New York

[redacted] b7D

April 20, 1942.

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
INTERNAL SECURITY (G)

Dear Sir:

There is forwarded herewith various papers including a re-print of a sheet from the Congressional Record which relates to GERALD L. K. SMITH, which were furnished to me by [redacted] b7D

Copies of these papers are not being retained here.

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth
P. E. FOXWORTH
Assistant Director.

PUBLICATION FILE

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DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8B15/mc

Encls.
CC:

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/15/57

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-45
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
10 APR 23 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS

9 MAY 2 1942

(Not printed at Government expense)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 9/28/87 BY

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 77th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

We Take Our Stand

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

HON. ROY O. WOODRUFF

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 1942

EDITORIAL BY GERALD L. K. SMITH

Mr. WOODRUFF of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks in the RECORD, I include the following editorial by Gerald L. K. Smith from the magazine The Cross and the Flag for April 1942:

[From the Cross and the Flag for April 1942]

WE TAKE OUR STAND

(By Gerald L. K. Smith)

We have named this magazine The Cross and the Flag because we want it to symbolize the highest and most dynamic ideals. This is a patriotic, crusading journal which recognizes the fact that the ethical, moral, and spiritual teachings of Christ constitute the fountainhead of all worth while modern civilization.

We expect the worst from our foes, because we propose to use this magazine as a weapon with which to deal blows to the enemies of our traditional American way of life.

The reader may not be able to find in this editorial the symbol and name of everything we shall fight for, but if you keep right on reading, by the time you have finished this you will have a pretty fair idea of what we propose to support and oppose.

In the first place, we are 100 percent for an American victory and every sacrifice necessary to win that victory for America. We invite you to read our war platform on page 14. We have a very definite definition of victory, which appears elsewhere in this issue. The Cross and the Flag will never say nor do anything to lend aid and comfort to the enemies of America, whether they be on the battlefield, outside America, or among the agents of subversion inside America. America's attitude toward the Nazis, the Fascists, and the Japs is a fixed military policy which has been approved by the overwhelming majority of our Congress.

Now that we have made these facts clear, for the record, we assert that even though America is at war we old-fashioned Americans do not propose to be city-slicked by boondoggling bureaucratic politicians, Communists, British imperialists (the Union Now gang), and a thousand and one other porch climbers, confidence men, and snake-oil salesmen who are working day and night on conspiracies designed to compel us to swallow a hundred poison pills in the name of wartime emergencies.

We are not complaining about blood, taxes, or any of the sacrifices that go along with the legitimate conduct of a war to save and defend America. We are talking about bureaucratic fakers, brain-trust screwballs and political mechanics whose conscience and self-respect are about as calloused as the operator of a French guillotine. We are talking about ruthless political racketeers, propagandists, and character assassins who never hesitate to translate blood into ballots and defense bonds into boondoggling. The Cross and the Flag knows that many of these fakers and political confidence men are right on the pay roll of the United States Government. Some of them are awfully close to the White House, and many are in both Houses of Congress. The editors expect the worst from these people. We expect to be called appeasers, turtles, copperheads, Fascists, anti-Semites, racketeers, fifth columnists, rumor mongers, and even candidates for the Cliveden set.

A fraternity of smear artists has sprung up in America which has mastered the science of character assassination. The moment we old-fashioned Americans assert ourselves over the air or by the publication of a magazine these character killers turn on the heat. They issue bulletins, they bark over the air and suddenly the plain old-fashioned American, whether he be Charles Lindbergh or Gerald Smith, is aware of the fact that 10,000 mysterious enemies have descended upon him with scandalizing persecution, physical threats, editorial scorn, picket lines, and protest meetings. His patriotism is impugned and his Americanism is questioned.

We see a man like Walter Winchell monopolize an international radio network for a given period of time each week presuming to interpret Americanism at the rate of five thousand luscious "lotion" dollars per week. Walter Winchell has a background of scandal mongering, underworld gossiping, and now steps up to assume the role of a superpatriot. Political pull and White House favoritism make it possible for him to become a commissioned officer in the United States Navy, although to this date he continues to draw from the Jergens Lotion Corporation, the motion-picture industry, and others, a salary estimated at from $250,000 per year up. This man is no special evil in himself; he merely typifies the mattery festering of an evil element within our borders. Let Mr. Winchell, the great patriot, explain to us over the air some night why he presented, some months ago, to every Member of Congress a book written by the notorious Red, John Spivak. Let Mr. Winchell explain why he recommended the works of this Red propagandist de-luxe to the elected Representatives of the United States. We agree with Congressman VINSON, chairman of the

PUBLICATION FILE

Naval Affairs Committee of Congress, who said in effect, "Let Winchell put on the uniform and enter the Navy or take off the uniform and get out of the Navy."

We don't like the idea of the President of the United States playing politics with a wartime Cabinet. We think he should demonstrate a willingness to fill his Cabinet with men representing all the major political elements in our Nation. We agree with the American Legion of Michigan, which, by resolution, called on the President to remove five of the impotent, ineffective members of his Cabinet. We don't like the idea of Harry Hopkins being so powerful that every high official in the United States has to siphon his ideas through this ailing Pink.

We are impressed with the editorial challenge of men like David Lawrence, editor of the United States News, who accuses Donald Nelson of toying with Soviet technique—in setting up industrial committees. If David Lawrence is wrong, he should be rebuked. If David Lawrence is right, then Nelson should be curbed or dismissed.

We don't like the way the administration has ignored the sensational findings of Congressman MARTIN DIES, in his exposure of Reds, Pinks, and Communists on the pay roll of our wartime Government. We are opposed to the theory that America must flatter and cajole the Communists in America merely because we are military allies of Russia.

We recognize the priorities emergency, but because we know something of the background of Leon Henderson we think that some place in this set-up there are certain Marxists who are getting a real thrill out of seeing the great middle class crucified in the name of this emergency. Every day we see creative minds being nailed upon the cross. Forty-four thousand automobile dealers, with an average of 12 dependent employees each, totaling over 500,000 men, are virtually in the bread line. Add to these 100,000 little manufacturers making nondefense materials who have been closed up; add to these tire dealers, advertising agencies, and 10,000 correlated business enterprises, and you witness a crucifixion of middle-class individuals surpassing even the liquidation of similar groups during and following the Russian Revolution.

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The Cross and the Flag admits the necessity of radical adjustments due to a shortage of war materials, labor, and factory facilities, but we are bold to assert that the most serious thing about this crucifixion of the middle class is not only the fact that our bureaucrats apparently don't care what happens to these people but they actually appear to delight in their annihilation. Thousands upon thousands of these people are friends of the crusade represented by this magazine.

Over 50,000 members of the Congress of Industrial Organizations in Detroit alone, are affiliated with our committee. There are still millions of Bible-reading, church-going prayerful workers in America, who don't like the idea of being led around by the nose by a former playmate of Nikolai Lenin—Sidney Hillman; and there are still millions of American workers who don't fall for this Walter Reuther bunk (it is to be remembered that Victor and Walter Reuther took a 2-year intensive course on industrial organization at Lenin University in Moscow).

If we are to be governed by a long-term President, we hold the conviction that the people should have a chance to express themselves concerning his administrative policies oftener than once every 4 years.

We don't like the idea of Madam Litvinoff and Ambassador Maxim Litvinoff running around over the country addressing a series of Red-sponsored rallies under the guise of Russian relief. Our Congress has appropriated nearly $50,000,000,000 to be used by the President of the United States for foreign countries in the prosecution of this war. That should be enough to give them all the relief they need without conducting these propaganda rallies under the guise of relief.

We want a "he-man" civilian defense program.

We will get along without sugar, we will eat sorghum molasses, we'll jack up the car, we'll send our sons off to battle for America, but we are not afraid or ashamed of the words "America First" whether we are at war or at peace. We hate nazi-ism, fascism, communism, shintoism, and imperialism.

The state of mind, represented by this journal, is just too old-fashioned to understand why the Agricultural Adjustment Administration proposes to burn and plow under this year 2,000,000 acres of Kansas wheat.

We know that a set of highbinders in Washington are trying to sneak us back into the British Empire in the name of this so-called new world program, and we know that a similar outfit is going to try to get Earl Browder out of the Federal penitentiary and elect him to Congress while another set of Red stooges, and propagandists work on a scheme to make us part of an international imperialistic empire to include Russia—Communist Russia.

We won't swallow that stuff; in fact the Cross and the Flag holds the conviction that if our President and his coordinates and the administration in Washington don't put a stop to such tricks our beautiful America will be made the victim of a paralyzing disunity which is exactly what we do not need in this awful hour.

Of course, we old-fashioned Americans expect to be made the victims of a highly organized smear campaign. We expect certain political strategists in Washington and elsewhere to put the finger on us. We expect to be made the scapegoats, because when the American people really wake up to what is going on in this country, the bureaucratic politicians, in an attempt to deflect and sidetrack the scorn of an indignant people, will attempt to make us the goats in a desperate effort to save their own hides. Well, it won't work. Bring on your house-wrecking crew and your character assassins, you who operate the political torture chambers of America, and give us the works; and for every Gerald Smith you annihilate and smear and cripple, 10,000 will rise up to take his place.

America is on the march. Protest is in the hearts of the people, not against our Government; we are devoted to the America of Washington and Lincoln, but we are against treason, waste, profligacy, bureaucratic arrogance, stupidity, and military defeats which have been the outgrowth of short-sightedness. We believe that the convictions expressed in this editorial are so universally accepted by the American people, that if the congressional elections were today we would send to Washington a Congress whose majority would O. K. this statement.

God bless you until next month.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1942

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☒ For your information: AMERICA FIRST LITERATURE & "CROSS & THE FLAG"

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: 62-43818-45

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 3

PAGES REVIEWED: 75

PAGES RELEASED: 49

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

WEH:MES

April 20, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

In his broadcast last night Walter Winchell started out by addressing his first remark to the attention of the editors of the Middle West, stating that Federal Agents would strike this week at a notorious subversive gang in the Middle West. Winchell intimated that it would be at Omaha, Wichita or Kansas City.

Winchell is undoubtedly referring to the following individuals: Charles B. Hudson of Omaha, Nebraska, who is publisher of "America in Danger", and Reverend Gerald Winrod of Wichita, Kansas, publisher of "Defender". His reference to Kansas City may be [redacted] an attorney at law, who formerly contributed to the "Deutscher Weckruf und Beobachter und the Free American", which was formerly issued by the German-American Bund in New York City.

Winchell stated Attorney General Biddle has ruled that wartime powers against subversive publications are not limited to the mails. They can be prohibited from going across state lines. Patriotic express companies can refuse to carry same.

Winchell gave the city for his next remark as Detroit, Michigan. He stated that an intimate friend of Father Coughlin and William Dudley Pelley is Gerald L. K. Smith. He is carrying on similar pro-Axis propaganda as a former member of Pelley's Silver Shirts. Inspite of this, Smith attracts the support of Congressman Woodruff of Michigan. Recently he reprinted Smith's "rabble rousing" in the Congressional Record. Senator Clark also sent him a message of support. Winchell said that the most shocking of all is that this pro-Hitler propagandist receives the written support of the Chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, Senator Reynolds of North Carolina.

Gerald L. K. Smith has been under investigation by the Bureau and information concerning this has been transmitted [illegible]

Winchell stated that William Kullgren and [illegible] is another who gives Hitler the trouble of spreading Axis propaganda in the United States. He publishes a newspaper which [illegible] gross blood thirsty ideas such as sudden death [illegible]

He stated that Kullgren publishes his propaganda [illegible] near Camp Roberts, California, the largest [illegible] United States.

ORIGINAL FILED IN

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117

BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE SAVINGS BONDS

Kullgren is publisher of "Beacon Light".

His writings are being checked for sedition.

Winchell related that Joe McWilliams, who was run out of New York because his activities add up to one big swastika, is now making speeches in the city of Chicago. Winchell said that McWilliams spreads the same sort of propaganda that resulted in the arrest of William Dudley Pelley and others. He then went on to state that if Pelley's writings are rated as sedition, why aren't McWilliam's. Winchell answered his own inquiry by stating that perhaps William Power Maloney is not down to the McW's as yet.

This is the individual who Winchell also sometimes refers to as "Joe McNazi".

Winchell addressed his next remark to the attention of Governor Lehman of New York. He stated that the American-Irish Defense Association is a patriotic organization. Winchell stated this Association has just sent Governor Lehman a letter which has not been made publicK to the press. He stated it concerns one John F. Cassidy, the leader of a "front" which once defiled the name Christian. He said that Cassidy and fellow members were once accused of trying to overthrow the Government but all were acquitted. To this Winchell stated that sometimes justice acts in a very strange way. He stated nevertheless that Cassidy has been trying to become a lawyer in New York. Some how, Winchell said, it seems that the Bar Association in New York has been stalling for the past two years on his application. In this regard, Winchell stated that it is to be remarked that Cassidy once "screamed" that President Roosevelt could not be impeached and that the only possible way to get rid of him was by violence. Winchell then intimated that Cassidy has been drafted into the armed forces. This conclusion is reached by his remark which is addressed to Governor Lehman and Secretary of War Stimson as follows: "As a drafted soldier this Cassidy has a gun in his hand and poison in his heart".

The next remark of Winchell is directed to the Baltimore Evening Sun regarding his reference last week to the woman of Nazi sympathies

ALL b7c

(Winchell no doubt is referring to Mrs. Mary Uzzell whose son, Rudyard S. Uzzell, Jr., was said by Winchell to be a member of G-2 in the Third Corps Area). Winchell then stated that it is to be recalled that he credited this item to New York newspapers and then went on to state that the reason why he gave it such a wide circulation was because of the fact that when "P. M." (a New York newspaper) telephoned the Army at Baltimore for the purpose of trying to check on it, the attitude was "so what".

You will recall that I mentioned Mrs. Uzzell and her son in my memorandum to you of last week regarding the Winchell broadcast.

Winchell in his next statement thanked the Commander of the American Legion at Colton, California, for stating that the Legion would check on David Baxter following Winchell's remark concerning him during his broadcast last week. Winchell then went on to state that Baxter had been called before the Grand Jury in Washington this last week and that he was scared "stiff".

You will recall that I mentioned David Baxter and his organization, known as the Social Republic Society, in my memorandum to you relative to Winchell's broadcast last week, setting forth that he was being actively investigated by the Bureau.

Winchell also stated that he had remarked in one of his broadcasts several weeks ago that Lindbergh was in Washington, D. C., at the President's request. Winchell stated that he distinctly said that this was so reported by the Boston Globe and then went on to say that the story has proved to be a hoax.

Respectfully,

M. A. Tolson

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APR 25 1942

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lado
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

[redacted]

FBI DETROIT 2-25-42 7-40 AM EWT DHR

DIRECTOR.

DRIVE. GERALD L. K. SMITH, SEDITION, INTERNAL SECURITY. SUBJECT LAST NIGHT ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO RUN FOR UNITED STATES SENATOR FOR STATE OF MICHIGAN AND STATED THAT HE WOULD USE PLATFORM AS PREVISOUSLY OUTLINED FOR COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION. PROMISES THAT HE WILL PERSISTENTLY CRITICIZE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT IN A CONSTRUCTIVE WAY. CLAIMS THAT DAILY WORKER AND [redacted] OTHER COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA AND AGENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR GETTING ATTORNEY GENERAL BIDDLE TO PERSECUTE FATHER COUGHLIN AND SMITH HIMSELF. FULL REPORT FOLLOWS IMMEDIATELY.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/28/82 BY SP8 Bostwick

BUGAS

END

7-44 AM OK FBI WASH DC SP

RECORDED

62-43818-4

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
10 APR 28 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COPIES DESTROYED

83 OCT 12 1964

[redacted]

COPY IN FILE

[redacted]

~~SONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

[redacted]klb
4/24/42
62-43818

b7

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH; COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION; INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

There is attached hereto the April, 1942 copy of "The Cross and the Flag" which is Volume 1 and Number 1.

This publication is edited by the above captioned individual and was contained in an envelope addressed to the Attorney General which is also attached hereto.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-8 BTJ/mlc
ON 9/28/82

Enclosures

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 7
★ APR 25 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED
62 Att Gen. Berge
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 27 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[redacted]em:bk
4-25-42

APR 27 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mc

65-43818-47

RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
Sedition

For your information, this is to advise that on the night of April 24, 1942 Gerald L. K. Smith announced his intention to run for the office of United States Senator for the State of Michigan, and that he would use the platform as previously outlined for the Committee of One Million. It is reported that he is running on the Republican ticket.

It is also reported that Smith said he would campaign as a "champion" of Father Charles E. Coughlin, and that his platform would have the following four points:

1. One hundred per cent loyalty to the war effort;
2. One hundred dollars a month for every soldier;
3. An honest hearing in the Senate for the Townsend Plan;
4. Tires for everybody.

It is reported that he also promises that he will persistently criticize the present Administration of Government in a constructive way, and that the Daily Worker and other alleged Communist propagandists are responsible for getting you to "persecute" Father Coughlin and Smith himself.

Immediately upon the receipt of additional data in this regard, you will be furnished with the same.

Respectfully,

(S) J. E. H.

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Beloneman
McGuire
Quinn Tamm
Jones
Andy

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME 6:06 p.m.
DATE 4/27/42
BY [illegible]

MAY 14 1942

APR 27 2 37 PM '42
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
FBI
DEPT OF JUSTICE

[redacted]

CC-150

b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[redacted] klb
4/23/42
62-43818-2

TO: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

Transmit the following message to:

Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge

GERALD L. K. SMITH; COMMITTEE
OF ONE MILLION; INTERNAL
SECURITY; SEDITION.

Reference is made to your memorandum dated April 10, 1942, wherein certain requests were made concerning the investigation of the above captioned.

The Field service of this Bureau has been requested to comply with your requests and a letter has been directed to the Secretary of the Treasury in order that copies of the Federal income tax returns for Smith for the years of 1938 through 1941 may be obtained or information as to why none were filed.

For your information the Detroit Office has been directed to have a detailed report submitted in this matter not later than April 30, 1942.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8B15/MC

APR 23 3 01 PM '42

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gandy
Mr. Nease

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED PM
APR 23 1942
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

62-43818-49

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 27 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SENT VIA _____ M Per _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APR 23 1942

TELETYPE

Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Neace

[redacted]

b7c

FBI DETROIT 4-23-42 1-35 AM EWT DHR

DIRECTOR

DRIVE. GERALD L. K. SMITH, INTERNAL SECURITY, SEDITION.

RE BUREAU TELETYPE APRIL NINETEENTH. ~~LAC XXX LAC XXX~~ LACK OF INVESTIGATIVE ~~PERSONNEL XX~~ PERSONNEL HAS MADE IT IMOSSIBLE TO CONDUCT ALL NECESSARY INVESTIGATION. CASE NOW BEING ASSIGNED. EXPECT THAT REPORT WILL BE SUBMITTED BY APRIL TWENTY SEVENTH.

BUGAS

END

OK FBI WASH DC 1-40 AM DCN

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/28/82 BY 3048TS/mc

RECORDED 62-43818-50

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
3 APR 23 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

letter to Detroit 4/23/42 [redacted] b7c

9 MAY 1 1942

COPIES DESTROYED [redacted]
83 OCT 12 1964

b7c

APRIL. 20. 1942.

MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER.

WASHINGTON , D. C.

DEAR SIR::

PROSECUTE FATHER COUGHLIN ON CHARGE OF LUNACY.

THIS WOULD DESTROY HIS FOWOLING AND HIS PAPER.

EVEN IF YOU COULD NOT CONVICT AS A LUNATIC YOU COULD STILL PROSECUTE HIM FOR SEDITION.

THERE ARE PLENTY OF PEOPLE THAT WILL SWEAR THAT HE IS CRAZY

THIS WOULD RELEAVE THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIM AND SET THEM TO LAUGHING AT HIM.

ALSO TRY IT ON GERALD SMITH.

YOURS VERY TRULY.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

62-
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
10 APR 22 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

original filed in

[redacted] b7c

~~62-41602-90~~
62-43818-51

May 26, 1942

RECORDED [redacted] b7c

b7c

Dear [redacted]

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your communication of recent date.

Your courtesy and interest in bringing this information to my attention are indeed appreciated, and you may be assured your letter will receive appropriate consideration.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/17/80 BY SP5 RJC/mm

Stamped

15

31 MAY 29 1942

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN DETROIT FILE NO. 62-1126

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	4/27/42	4/24,25/42	[redacted] b7c MMC

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH - "COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000"	INTERNAL SECURITY SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject is national chairman of "Committee of 1,000,000" claiming 3,000,000 constitutents and has recently organized "The Inner Circle" as nucleus of "Committee of 1,000,000." 26,400 circulars mailed from Detroit during April, 1942. Incoming mail also voluminous. Monthly magazine entitled "The Cross and the Flag" started April, 1942, by GERALD L. K. SMITH and contains various criticisms against administration of Federal Government and persecution of the war. Editorial, "We Take Our Stand," placed in Congressional record of 77th Congress, second session, by Representative ROY O. WOODRUFF. Speech by Subject in Detroit on April 24, 1942, summarized. In that speech Subject announced intention to run for United States Senate and to use platform as previously outlined for "Committee of 1,000,000." Promised to persistently criticize constructively present administration of Government. Claimed that Communist agents were responsible for getting Attorney General BIDDLE to persecute Father COUGHLIN and SMITH himself.

- P -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/25/82 BY SP8 [illegible]

REFERENCE:

Bureau letter dated February 9, 1942. 62-4[illegible]
Bureau letter dated February 28, 1942. 62-4[illegible]
Bureau letter dated April 23, 1942.
Teletype from Detroit Field Office to Bureau dated April 25, 1942 (erroneously dated February 25, 1942)

1 ENCLO.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: John S. Bugas SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-4518-52

RECORDED & INDEXED

ADD 29 1942

COPIES OF THIS REPORT

5 - Bureau
2 - New Orleans
1 - Chicago (information)
3 - Detroit

CC Sent to McNamara
Dept Spec
Messenger 5-2-42
(Orig. delivered 9 7 8)

COPIES DESTROYED

83 OCT 12 1964

(Detroit File 62-1126)

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan:

b7c

On May 1, 1941, Special Agent [redacted] and Special Agent (A) [redacted], attended a meeting of the "Committee of 1,000,000" held at the Maccabees Building auditorium, Detroit, Michigan, GERALD L. K. SMITH presided. The hall, which seated at least 350 persons, was completely filled and numerous persons stood throughout the meeting. Approximately 200 persons were turned away.

All present were urged to sign a Petition to Congress:

1. To outlaw the Nazi-Communist Party and to remove alien agents from the United States payroll. (SMITH alleged that 2,700 Communists were in the employ of the Government.)

2. To outlaw all organizations which permit the membership of subversive alien agents.

3. To take whatever steps are necessary to prevent alien agents from hindering the building of an adequate national defense.

All present were urged to sign a petition setting forth their opposition to involvement in foreign wars.

Patriotic songs were sung to begin the meeting. Two books by SMITH entitled "Too Much ROOSEVELT" and "War Mongers and the Threat of War" were offered for sale @ 25¢ each. The text of SMITH'S last six radio addresses was sold for 50¢.

A document bearing and explaining the seal of the "Committee of 1,000,000" was distributed to all. Gold pins or buttons bearing this seal can be purchased for a nominal sum.

SMITH is apparently hard pressed for money to continue his campaign and enumerated the various expenses necessary to keep his organization functioning. He quoted $200.00 as the cost of 15 minutes of radio time. He gives addresses at least once and sometimes twice a week. Each is fifteen minutes in length. SMITH made an appeal early in the meeting for contributions. The collection was made during the meeting. A copy of the envelope distributed for this purpose was secured. Later in the meeting cards were distributed and those present were asked to pledge a certain monthly contribution, note the amount on the card and return for filing.

Generally speaking, SMITH is an extremely zealous American patriot who does not hesitate to take issue with President ROOSEVELT and his actions which appear to be leading us toward war. While he is not opposed to England as a power, he is vigorously opposed to the present

course being followed by the Government (instituted by British propagandists) which will make it necessary for us to slaughter millions of American boys and go into economic bankruptcy in order to "save England." Rather, he urged, we should all get behind the Government of the United States, bend our entire efforts to development of an impregnable national defense. He says our program should exclude English interests and needs if they interfere with our immediate problem, that of defense for the United States.

He said that "the Committee must continue to demonstrate its desire to keep out of foreign wars so that no Congressman in Washington will dare to take another step toward involvement."

He alleged that the United States would have been in the war last January, had not the sentiment of the people been so strongly opposed to it.

He alleged that Ambassador WILLIAM T. BULLITT had promised England that if Germany invaded France the United States would be in the war within eight days, opposing Germany.

He impressed his audience with the fact that in order to pay for the cost of a war an increase in taxes would be necessitated, and that this increase would raise taxes to a figure where the people would be unable to pay. When this occurred, the United States would go into bankruptcy, revolution and general collapse. He warned that we were well on this road at present and placed all on notice that the big jump in taxes would come either this year or next, "whenever they can slip it in without too much publicity."

SMITH warned that Congress was waiting only for summer when folks would be on vacation and too warm to object strenuously before taking action that would be sure to involve us in the present war.

He berated President ROOSEVELT for designating LINDBERG as a "copperhead" when he was in fact a shining example of American youth and manhood. He charged that following LINDBERG'S visit to Germany he warned all of the large powers of Germany's tremendous air force, but that his words were unkindly received because every country, or at least France and England had made numerous expenditures of an extravagant nature and rather than heed LINDBERG 'S warning they preferred to get into the war in order to advise their peoples that these expenditures had been made in building a national defense. He said that this is America's position today and cited many of the numerous extravagances of the Government during the NRA, citing also the payment of farmers to destroy their produce and then importing similar goods from another nation. He pointed out the course

this nation is presently pursuing which will eventually involve us in this war, unless Congress is "made" to realize that the overwhelming majority of American citizens desire only an impregnable defense and are thoroughly opposed to fighting in order to save England.

He also advised his listeners of a plan that is presently afoot to unite England and the United States into a common democracy. He said that membership of this group which is known as "Union Now" runs high into the thousands and warned his audience to beware of such a course.

SMITH is a former minister of the Gospel and an impressive speaker. Many times during his talk he drew exclamations of approval from members of his audience who were somewhat deficient in emotional control. Middle-class people of all ages, both sexes and colors were in attendance and were obviously and heartily in accord with SMITH and his views.

Tickets to admit four persons were obtained by the writer to the next Thursday meeting of the group on May 8, 1941. SMITH said that at this meeting he would dwell at length on LINDBERG and his unappreciated service to this country, for which he is being derided by Congress and the British propagandists.

A circular entitled "History of the United States" was passed around at the above meeting. It consisted of a series of five cartoons:

1. The Indian in possession of the United States with Uncle Sam in the background.

2. Uncle Sam throwing the Indian over the precipice.

3. Uncle Sam in possession of the United States with a caricature of a bearded Jew wearing a derby in the background.

4. The caricature of the bearded Jew throwing Uncle Sam off the precipice.

5. Caricature of the bearded Jew with the symbolic three balls in the background in possession of the United States.

On the reverse side is the following language:

"ATTENTION PATRIOTIC AMERICANS

"This circular is to introduce DISPATCH, a militant organ dedicated to the dissemination of factual material dealing with the subversive and un-American activities of international Jewry and such other

forces as are at work undermining our Christian civilization. In DISPATCH, published every two weeks and edited by Homer H. Maerz, you will find uncensored news and documented data no other newspaper or periodical dare print.

"The co-operation and support of every patriotic Gentile is earnestly solicited by the Pioneer News Service. Do your part: Send us 10¢ for your sample copy of DISPATCH. Become one of our subscribers and, if possible, one of our distributors.

"On the reverse side of the circular the Pioneer News Service presents a composite history of the United States in pictures. Should you care for additional copies of this circular and similar cartoons to distribute to your friends, they can be procured from the Pioneer News Service by sending 25¢ in coins or stamps.

"Please send to the Pioneer News Service any data or material that you may discover relative to any Jewish Fifth Column or subversive acts. Report all cases of Americans who have lost their employment to make room for Refuse Jews. If the material can be checked and documented, the Pioneer News Service will publish it in DISPATCH.

BY ALL MEANS SEND YOUR DIME FOR YOUR SAMPLE COPY OF DISPATCH.

ADDRESS ALL MAIL TO -

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
OLD POST OFFICE BOX 435
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

"This "History" cartoon is available in 100 lots at $1.00 per hundred."

It was not known by Agents [redacted] and [redacted] whether SMITH and his group had anything at all to do with the distribution of this circular; however, it was distributed by persons at the above meeting. b7c

On April 17, 1941, [redacted] telephonically advised that GERALD L. K. SMITH spoke over radio station WJR on April 16, 1941, and read what was described as a secret document obtained from the Communist Party. SMITH took 20 minutes to read this document which gave detailed instructions as to how to sabotage defense plants. Informant explained his belief that these instructions were given in detail by broadcast in order, not to expose the Communists, but rather to instruct Subject's own adherents as to modern methods of sabotage. b7

(Detroit File 62-1126)

On October 22, 1941, [redacted] advised Special Agent [redacted], that she had been listening to GERALD L. K. SMITH over the radio for years and she had learned that SMITH is extremely disrespectful of the President and his family and refers to them as ROSENVELD. Informant said that SMITH was anti-Semitic and uses as the theme of all his talks the fact that the present war is being fostered and encouraged by Jewish bankers. b7c b7

On January 19, 1942, GERALD L. K. SMITH telephoned the Detroit Field Office and informed Special Agent [redacted] that apparently through a mistake an envelope containing a communication directed to Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, Detroit, Michigan, from an enlisted man at Fort Benning, Georgia, was included in his mail which his clerk picked up at the main post office that morning. It was "opened by mistake" along with SMITH'S other mail. Thereafter Agent [redacted] contacted [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, and obtained the letter. SMITH'S post office box number is 459 while the post office box of the Detroit Field Office is 2118. This matter was called to the attention of post office inspector [redacted] who later reported to the writer that he was unable to find the cause of the mistake, but that other mistakes that were also unexplained were made the same week end. b7c b7

By letter dated October 27, 1941, addressed to Director HOOVER [redacted] gave the following information: b7c

"Last evening, I listened to the regular Sunday broadcast of Mr. Gerald K. Smith and his emphasis upon the fact that his program is financed by "The Committee of One Million" brought to mind an incident that may be of interest to the F. B. I.

"In October, 1935, I had a visit from an old friend--a French priest who for many years had been an American citizen. Nine years prior to 1935, however, he had returned to France where he lived near the Italian border--at Cannes. During that period, of course, he made frequent visits to Italy and it seems he was thoroughly imbued with the facistic form of government. He insisted that it typified what he called "order." No amount of argument could convince him that it was not superior to the democratic form of government which he had lived under and prospered for many years.

"One of the first things this man asked us was: "What do you know about this Gerald K. Smith?"

"Keep in mind that this man had just landed in New York from France after an absence of nine years--and all we knew about Gerald K. Smith at that time

was that he had been a henchman of Huey Long. What reason had this man, who had been living in retirement in France for years, to be making inquiry about Gerald K. Smith?"

[redacted] telephonically advised Special Agent [redacted] on August 22, 1941, that he had been investigating the activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH and had ascertained that SMITH has had recent contact with [redacted] formerly connected with the German Embassy in Washington, D. C. [redacted] communication to SMITH was mailed from New York City, New York. b7 b7

It is noted that the publication entitled "The Hour" for February 21, 1942, devotes 2½ pages to an article entitled "GERALD L. K. SMITH Forms 'The Inner Circle'," but this information is not being reproduced here inasmuch as it is believed that the Bureau is already in possession of this article. By letter dated February 28, 1942, the Bureau sent the Detroit Field Office two photostatic copies of a letter dated January 10, 1942, addressed to Honorable FRANK KNOX, secretary of the navy, by [redacted] Informant therein stated that he challenged SMITH to a debate, but SMITH did not accept the challenge. Instead Informant received a family tree of the ROOSEVELT family and his cabinet classing them all as Jews. b

A hand-bill announcing the "Dynamic Rally" under the auspices of the "Committee of 1,000,000" on April 9, 1942, at Cass Technical High School Auditorium, Detroit, Michigan, sets forth the following burning issues as outlined by GERALD L. K. SMITH, who wrote:

"It is my opinion that these Burning Issures must be settled if America is to develop the strength which MacArthur and our boys in the battlefield must have in order to win.

1. The truth behind the rubber shortage.

2. Why is sugar rationed?

3. Why is it that our soldiers are paid $21. per month while the private secretaries of war profiteers are being paid $40,000.00 per year.

4. Will we permit the Communists to take our country while our boys are at the battlefront?

5. What is Victory? Are we out to conquer the world or save America -which?

6. Why did the Communist Party in New York City take a vow on the 24th of March that they propose to see to it that my magazine THE CROSS AND THE FLAG should be completely destroyed?

7. Does our military collaboration with Britain compel us to agree with the scheme to take us back into the British Empire?

(Detroit File 62-1126)

8. Because we are military allies with Russia, do we have to swallow Communist propaganda?

9. Why did the state conference of the Michigan American Legion recommend a sensational shake-up in President Roosevelt's Cabinet?

10. How can patriotic Americans be loyal to the war effort and disagree with bureaucratic politics?

11. Should the movie stars be exempt from the draft?

12. Can we elect a Congress this fall that will really represent the will of the people concerning boondoggling, profiteering, waste, inefficiency and bureaucratic arrogance?"

At this meeting the audience, which numbered about 1,000, called upon GERALD L. K. SMITH to run for the office of United States Senator for the State of Michigan and defeat the present Senator, PRENTISS M. BROWN.

A hand-bill advertising a meeting of the "Committee of 1,000,000" on April 24, 1942, was inscribed in the margin with "Give me liberty or give me death," and read as follows:

"Lock Father Charles E. Coughlin in jail!
Put Gerald L. K. Smith in a concentration camp!
Sentence Charles A. Lindbergh to the Federal Penitentiary!
Drive U. S. Senator Robert R. Reynolds from Public Life!
Impeach and imprison Cong. Martin Dies!

"The above quotations are just a few lines out of recent copies of the DAILY WORKER, the official daily paper of the Communist party in the United States. These quotations give you a little idea of what certain un-American conspirators are attempting to do.

"I don't need to tell you that the moment your leaders are killed, imprisoned or, in other ways, liquidated by this Red gang, that you will be next.

"While all loyal and patriotic Americans fight and pay taxes and sacrifice to protect the 'Four Freedoms' all over the world - it is up to us to guard the 'Four Freedoms' in Michigan and in America, as well.

"On this coming Friday night, April 24, I am going to expose the deep and well worked-out conspiracy which has been inaugurated by the Communists in America for the purpose of liquidating and destroying

all patriotic and fearless leadership.

"This meeting will be held at the Maccabees Auditorium in the Maccabees Building on Woodward Avenue in Detroit. This will not be a public meeting and only those who have tickets, such as I enclose herewith, will be admitted.

"This will be one of the most sensational and fearless addresses to which you have ever listened. The subject will be:

WILL WE PERMIT THE REDS TO JAIL FATHER COUGLIN?

Of course, I will discuss many other topics besides the Coughlin issue.

VERY SPECIAL NOTICE

"On the 9th of April, about 1,000 leaders of the Committee of 1,000,000 met and by written note urged me to seek the nomination for the United States Senate to oppose Senator Prentiss M.Brown for re-election. I told these people on that night that I would have to take time for my answer. I will give my answer to this invitation this coming Friday night at the Rally.

"I enclose a ticket for you and some extra ones for distribution among your trusted and most reliable friends.

Sincerely yours for God and Country,

/s/ Gerald L. K. Smith
GERALD L. K. SMITH, Nat'l Chairman
"Committee of 1,000,000"
P. O. Box 459, Detroit, Michigan

GLKS/U

P. S. The State of Illinois has just held its Congressional Primaries. All candidates supported by the Committee of 1,000,000 won by a landslide. Never forget that there are millions of Americans that feel just like you and I about the issues of this hour.

"Slogan - 'Christ First in America'"

[redacted] stated that post office box 459, Detroit, Michigan, was rented on May 9, 1939, for $7 to GERALD L. K.

b7c

SMITH who gave as his home address the Detroit Leland Hotel and as his business address 2002 Industrial Bank Building. References appearing on his application for rental were [redacted], Detroit, Michigan, and [redacted] Detroit, Michigan. Informant said that he would estimate that Subject receives at least 150 pieces of mail matter each day in this box and that most of it comes in printed envelopes not bearing any return address. b7

Subject has permit number 3432 for sending non-metered mail through the Detroit, Michigan, post office. He pays in cash at the rate of 1¢ for each circular letter mailed . In January, 1942, there were 5,465 pieces mailed; in February, 1942, there were 11,076 pieces mailed; in March, 1942, there were 5,372 pieces mailed, and on the first day of April, 1942, there were 26,400 pieces mailed. Payments were made by cash. Application has been made to the postmaster at Detroit, Michigan, to enter the monthly magazine, "The Cross and the Flag," as second-class matter. The application is still pending. The Postmaster General has requested the postmaster of Detroit, Michigan, to submit a copy of the May, 1942, edition of "The Cross and the Flag" in order to ascertain if this is proper material for a second-class permit.

The writer visually observed that the 20th floor of the Industrial Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan, is presently occupied but there is no lettering on the doors. The building directory reflects that room 2002 is occupied by the Federation for Americanization of Michigan, Incorporated. It was ascertained that the Industrial Bank Building is presently operated by the Book Estate.

The writer attended the meeting of the "Committee of 1,000,000" held in Maccabees Auditorium, Detroit, Michigan, at 8:00 p.m. on April 24, 1942, and took full notes of the proceedings which are being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Office. At the entrance to the building and at the entrance to the auditorium copies of the April, 1942, issue of the "Cross and the Flag" were sold and two copies of this publication are being forwarded herewith to the Bureau. Also at the entrance to the auditorium were distributed a reprint of the Congressional record of the 77th Congress, second session, extension of remarks of Representative WOODRUFF, of Michigan, in the House of Representatives on Thursday, March 26, 1942. The remarks of Representative WOODRUFF consist of the editorial of GERALD L. K. SMITH entitled "We Take our Stand" in the "Cross and the Flag" for April, 1942. Two copies of this hand-bill are also being transmitted to the Bureau. A contribution envelope was also distributed which contained the statement, "As a believer in God and Country I desire to be counted among the millions who are now enlisted in a vast crusade to reconsecrate Americans to America."

(Detroit File 62-1126)

Reverend MERION, of Christian Temple in Pontiac, Michigan, introduced GERALD L. K. SMITH as the speaker of the evening and shortly after the meeting was opened the audience sand America. SMITH announced that the meeting was not an open meeting because it was originally intended that admission should be only by tickets whichwere distributed to the "Inner Circle" of about 1,000 leaders of the "Committee of 1,000,000." On the other hand, he stated, it was not a secret meeting because there are no secret meetings of the "Committee of 1,000,000." He said that the Communists have vowed that they would put Father COUGHLIN in jail, would banish Colonel CHARLES A. LINDBERG and would impeach Senator NYE, Senator REYNOLDS and Representative WOODRUFF. As each name was mentioned the audience shouted "no" in protest and also booed and made numerous remarks such as, "Kill the Communists." SMITH then said that we are now suffering the greatest danger to our liberty since the Boston Tea Party. He said that Americans should refuse to be Hitlerized in the United States while American boys are licking Hitler in Berlin. He announced that the "Committee of 1,000,000" now has 3,000,000 constituents and that he broke all records in a recent 15-minute Sunday night broadcast over radio station WJR by receiving 31,000 fan letters. He said that the "Committee of 1,000,000" is undoubtedly the greatest people's movement in the United States. He said that the movement is founded upon seven basic principles which are set forth on page 2 of the "Cross and the Flag", April, 1942, edition. In elaborating upon principle 1 (to re-build the spirit of America) he stated that there is something rotten in America when some Government officials are prevailed upon to put Father COUGHLIN in jail and to free EARL BROWDER from jail.

Principle 2 is "To wipe out to the last vestige Communism, Naziism and Fascism in all forms. (In view of the attempt now being made to join us in a political union with foreign countries, we express our bitter objections to all such schemes to compromise the sovereignity of America, such as 'union now with Britain,' Federal Union, Inc., etc.)" In elaborating on this principle SMITH said that he has a son approaching 19 years of age who has already had seven years of military training and when his time comes he will be inducted into the army to fight, but SMITH said that that does not mean that anyone will ever get him to rub his nose in the Red flag of Russia. He stated that during the persecution of a war he believes that military alliances are all right, but he is firmly in favor of keeping all propaganda out of the United States even though it is issued by a foreign country bound withthe United States by military alliance. SMITH reproached WALTER WINCHELL for calling him pro-Nazi. He stated that WINCHELL forgets that SMITH openly condemns all foreign "isms."

He then proceeded to praise Congressman WOODRUFF who favors the "Committee of 1,000,000" and incorporated the editorial, "We Take our Stand," into the Congressional record. SMITH then said that he is all out for war, but first he wants to make sure that he is fighting the war for America. He then read the third principle, "To re-define

the American National Character."

The fourth principle - "To instill a new spirit in American youth, dedicated intellectually and physically to the maintenace of American institutions;" the fifth principle - "To issue a call to farmers and laborers to resist what is known to be an international plot to make them part of a world revolution;" the sixth principle - "To re-dedicate the citizenry of America to the family altar and to the spirit of the Church."

Elaborating on this sixth principle, SMITH stated that the Reds are persecuting Father COUGHLIN and SMITH himself and are urging Attorney General BIDDLE through "New Masses," official organ of the Communist Party, and through other mediate to put COUGHLIN and SMITH in jail. SMITH said that it is all right with him if the authorities put him in jail tomorrow just so they let him speak the truth tonight. SMITH thereupon resumed his personal criticism of WALTER WINCHELL whom he termed "a lousy gutter snipe." He says that at least he can boast that his own name has always been SMITH (followed by boos and jeers), (directed at WALTER WINCHELL)

SMITH never got to the seventh principle which is set forth in the "Cross and the Flag" as, " To secure the maintenance of a well defined standard of living." He then went on to what he considered the three issues before the American people. He read these from page 3 of the "Cross and the Flag" as follows:

"1. The danger of losing the war because of boondoggling and bureaucratic politicians who put their political machine above America."

SMITH warned "We are now facing the danger of losing this war because of stupidity, bureaucracy and New Deal politics. We have a set of men in Washington who are more concerned about the Congressional election this fall than they are the winning of the war. These same men are attempting to change our form of Government while our minds are concentrated on the war."

"2. Internationalists who are working day and night to get us to some form of world imperialistic government thus surrendering our independence and sacrificing our sovereignty."

"3. Communist propagandists who are taking advantage of our military collaboration with Russia publicized atheistic Communism in American and promoting a Red revolution."

SMITH then invited the listeners to pay careful attention to articles which he would read without announcing their authors and then he would ask his audience to tell him who wrote the articles. He said: "Listen carefully because I may be put in jail for reading this."

(Detroit File 62-1126)

The first article was a caustic criticism of the present administration saying that the people know and accept and are taking the war seriously, but that confusion and inefficiency is all that the people get from cabinet members PERKINS, ICKES, KNOX, STIMSON and HOPKINS. The article continued that people are not complacent, they are merely waiting for leadership. About 15 persons in the audience guessed that this article appeared in the Detroit Free Press on April 6, 1942, written by MALCOLM BINGAY. SMITH then rewarded the lucky guessers with autographed copies of the April issue of "The Cross and the Flag." Later he remarked that he never published any criticism of the Government stronger than these words by MALCOLM BINGAY.

He then read another article which said that Russia is doing well in this war, -- for Russia. The article attacked the Russians as being inherently selfish and advised that the United States should not send all its arms to Russia because it may need arms if the Russians reverse their present policy again and join Japan in its attack on the United States. About 25 members guessed that this article was written by WILLIAM RANDOLPH HURST and published in the Detroit Times. To the lucky guessers SMITH awarded autographed copies of the "Cross and the Flag" for April, 1942, He then commented that his audience, which he termedas having been called "a lunatic fringe" by some members of the press, was merely exceptionally intelligent for being able to name the authors of these articles. SMITH then said that if the Federal authorities are going to arrest COUGHLIN and himself for publishing seditious comments they would have to stop on their way and get BINGAY and HURST.

SMITH then explained that criticism is the soul of democratic government. He said that he was not going to speak in defense of Father COUGHLIN because Father COUGHLIN needs no defense. He stated that he was merely speaking in defense of liberty. He said that he had many eminent Americans on his side including DAVID WALSH and Senator REYNOLDS. He said that many of these eminent Americans including himself are being subjected to a smear campaign and it is a similar campaign such as is characteristic of the methods used by the present administration. He said that HUEY LONG was smeared years before anyone knew what a smear campaign really was and SMITH boasted that he is the only man alive who knows that the secret smear campaign against HUEY LONG was hatched not in Louisiana but in Washington, D. C.

He stated that ROOSEVELT spoke to seven political leaders from the state of Louisiana and proposed that $100,000,000 of Federal funds would be spent in Louisiana within six months if he could have his way. SMITH then said dramatically that all but one of Louisiana's politicians agreed to ROOSEVELT'S proposition and he said that one who disagreed and refused to accept the proposition was GERALD L. K. SMITH. He

said therefore the man who was then Attorney General and other people in Washington know that SMITH is above intimidation and bribery.

SMITH then said that he is entirely in favor of a Grand Jury investigation at this time, but he really wants three Grand Jury investigations - one into the assassination of HUEY LONG, a second into the "Second Louisiana Purchase" and a third into the present distribution of alien propaganda in the United States. He stated that if called upon in this third Grand Jury investigation he will reveal the secret information in his possession that the Communists now have a death grip on all war industries in Detroit, Michigan, and that if STALIN ever turns against the United States there will not be a single wheel turned in the industries of Detroit. SMITH said he would welcome an opportunity to present this evidence. At the time SMITH reminded his audience that it was his custom to take up a collection before starting his speech and explained that he had not yet started his speech because everything that he had previously said was merely an introduction.

SMITH promised all contributors that they would receive an autographed copy of the May, 1942, edition of "The Cross and the Flag" and he commented that this copy would be worth $5 if the Federal authorities throw him in jail. When the collection was completed SMITH picked up a two-page salmon-colored mimeographed article and said that this was his press release relating to his address tonight and that he would be very careful to read from it so that the press release would be accurate.

SMITH said that he would intersperse remarks wherever necessary for elaboration. He then said that the United States must at all costs preserve freedom of speech and the press just as England has done. He stated that a prerequisite is a representative government. He then accused Senator PRENTISS M. BROWN of Michigan of failing to represent the people of Michigan for the last six years. He explained that at a meeting held at Cass Technical High School on April 9, 1942, the audience, consisting of members of the "Committee of 1,000,000," nominated nine people who would be desirable opponents for PRENTISS BROWN at the coming Senatorial election. SMITH stated that among the nine were LOUIS B. WARD, Congressman WOODRUFF, SMITH himself and others whom he could not remember. SMITH stated that by the end of that meeting all but 41 of the 1,000 people present called upon SMITH to oppose PRENTISS BROWN. SMITH then said that he is for America first in war and peace and that while he believes that the military alliance is a contract which must be fulfilled in time of war he would never consent to salute any flag but the stars and stripes. He then stated that he wishes there were 100 GERALD L. K. SMITHS who were seeking the same things in the 48 states. He said that at this time when the people need leadership the administration remains silent and this clearly shows sheer cowardice on the part of Government officials.

He stated that the people are accused of being indifferent to the war effort. He stated that their indifference was nothing new - that it was created when they watched Congress become a rubber stamp and when they watched the Supreme Court packed by President ROOSEVELT. He said the people were also indifferent when they watched "an ailing pink," HARRY HOPKINS who was confined to his room because of illness oust FARLEY and corrupt the democratic political convention. SMITH then made a dramatic plea in approximately the following language: "Let the politicians take our money, our property, our sugar, our rubber and our sons, but please don't let them take our liberty."

SMITH then said that with the Government the way it is mothers shouldn't be blamed for crying when their sons are inducted into the army. He said of course they are sad, but underneath they know their sons have to fight for their country. He said that if the authorities are to cure the sadness of such a mother the best way to do it is to take the gold braid off the four ROOSEVELT sons who never have earned their commissions or anything else in life (followed by a long cheer). SMITH then stated that he promised his dear mother that he would never turn his gifts toward making financial gain, but he said that he recently consulted his mother again and she told him that it was all right for him to run for the United States Senate since he was a crusader. SMITH then announced he was accepting the call of the people to run for the United States Senate, in opposition to Senator PRENTISS M. BROWN. His announcement was followed by loud cheers and SMITH then conducted three hurrahs for himself.

When he resumed his talk he displayed a copy of "The New Masses," official organ of the Communist Party, and showed on the cover what he termed a distorted picture of Father COUGHLIN and himself with an inscription on the cover, "Lock 'em up, Mr. BIDDLE." SMITH then openly accused the Communists of being responsible for getting Attorney General BIDDLE to persecute Father COUGHLIN and SMITH himself. SMITH then displayed Communistic propaganda which had been circulating the United States for at least ten years. One hand-bill he held up showed a large red "V" and at the top of the "V" was the emblem of the hammer and the sickle. The large letter "V" was crushing beneath it caricatures of Jehovah, God and Jesus Christ.

Another item of Communistic propaganda which SMITH displayed was a burlesque of the popular painting, The Lord's Supper, and showed Jesus and all the Apostles drunk. SMITH stated that the Federal authorities have been permitting the Communistic propaganda to circulate freely in the United States for more than ten years and even now there is no attempt to put an end to it. SMITH vowed that on the day that Father COUGHLIN and SMITH himself are loaded onto a train to be taken away by the Federal authorities, on that day there won't be a Communist paper or news

stand left in America. He said that if Communists are powerful enough to carry out their campaign to send BROWDER to Congress then he believes that he himself ought to go to jail.

SMITH then announced that he would read an article appearing in the Washington Herald concerning Supreme Court Justice FELIX FRANKFURTER. At the mention of Justice FRANKFURTER'S name, the audience emitted a long and sustained hiss and boo. At a meeting in Washington, D. C., according to the article, it was urged upon Justice FRANKFURTER and other Government officials that the criticism of the administration by members of the United States Senate must be stopped and Senators be forced to follow the dictates of the administration.

Next SMITH suggested that one year hence he would be in one of three places - first, he said he may be dead. He said this would be all right wih him because he would know at least that he died fighting for the truth. Second, he said he may be in prison. He said this was all right, too, because he would then know at least that there were good men on earth like NIEMULLER (priest jailed by Hitler), COUGHLIN and SMITH. Third, he said he may be in the United States Senate. He said that if this were the case that he could guarantee the Government would not then be silent but that he would use every fiber of his being to bring forth the truth and thereby attain national unity for all the people of the United States. SMITH then read from the press release in his hand the following: "GERALD L. K. SMITH consents to run for the United States Senate tonight in a rally of leaders at the Maccabees Auditorium in Detroit. GERALD L. K. SMITH, national chairman of the "Committee of 1,000,000", announced that a poll of his followers all over the United States demonstrated that they were 99-1 in favor of his seeking the nomination for the United States Senate to oppose the re-election of PRENTISS M. BROWN, junior Senator from Michigan. 1,000 picked leaders admitted by ticket only cheered to the echo the name of Father COUGHLIN when SMITH said during his acceptance address, 'While our sons die all over the world on 31 battle fronts to preserve the four freedoms, people in America and Michigan, including Father CHARLES E. COUGHLIN, are in danger of losing their four freedoms. We must not lose our freedom in Michigan while fighting for freedom in China, Australia and North Africa. The editorial poll of the Social Justice is not the issue. The question is 'Has the time come when a priest in good standing can be imprisoned for his opinions in America?' If Father COUGHLIN is locked in jail he will become the NIEMULLER of America. Certain tyrannical bureaucrats in Washington hate Father COUGHLIN just as Hitler hates NIEMULLER.

SMITH announced that he would discuss his platform at another time, but among other things he would stand for the following: 100% loyalty to the United States and its war effort; $100 for each soldier per month. He said that certainly if we can spend $72,000,000,000 for the

war effort and send billions of dollars for use in India, China and Russia we can certainly afford to give $2,000,000,000 to our soldiers. He said the payment would not have to be in cash, that it could be in non-negotiable bonds so that they would not have to beg and parade the streets as paupers like they did after the last war.

An honest hearing in the Senate Committee for the Townsend Old Age Plan. He said this plan had never received a fair hearing. There was great applause after this remark inasmuch as the audience consisted almost entirely of aged persons.

Tires for everybody. Said SMITH, "I am convinced that the greed of the Dutch and British rubber monopoly has something to do with our tire shortage. Take the rubber situation away from bureaucrats, international bankers and the rubber trust, turn it over to HENRY FORD and I am willing to wager that we'll have tires by New Year's and not later than Easter.

SMITH continued that a Government employee was so successful in recently creating a substitute for rubber by processing alcohol that he was dismissed and now has to depend upon private capital for the continuance of his research. SMITH then read from an unnamed expert on rubber testified before a Senate investigation committee that there is an ample rubber supply in the Western Hemisphere to meet all our needs. SMITH then directed an oath to LEON HENDERSON and JESSE JONES, "If we ever discover that there aint no shortage of rubber but that the recent scare is just the result of bureaucrats designing a monopolistic scheme, God help the bureaucrats." (Followed by loud, enthusiastic shouts from the audience)

SMITH said he favored the right of labor to organize and bargain collectively and has frequently made this known to labor unions provided they would oust Communists from their employ. He stated that he has always been a friend of labor and has been made an honorary member of numerous labor unions. He said that he favored a farm program in harmony with sound Americanism and in opposition to those individuals who are attempting to make Communistic guinea pigs out of the American farmers.

SMITH stated that in 1941 the Department of Agriculture ordered great quantities of sugar crops to be wasted while in 1942, when all the world is crying to the United States for food, there will be approximately 2,000,000 acres of wheat destroyed in 1942 in the state of Kansas alone. SMITH said, "I oppose unearned commissions in the Army and Navy for men who have not been real soldiers or taken training which makes them worthy of those commissions. Two of the most alarming examples of this abuse are the sons of our President and WALTER WINCHELL. I

believe that the four sons of our President should turn in their gold braid and line up behind the conscription desk like the rest of our American boys. It is known that WALTER WINCHELL earns approximately one-half a million dollars a year while holding a commission in the United States Navy. Such men as WINCHELL should sacrifice their incomes and get into the Army and the Navy or take off their uniforms and get out of the Army and the Navy. He compared WINCHELL with CHARLES A. LINDBERG who recently was called upon by HENRY FORD to name his own salary and LINDBERG replied that he wanted only $3500 a year which he would have earned as a colonel in the army. He also criticized General KNUDSEN for being awarded the rank of General with no previous experience when it took General MAC ARTHUR a lifetime of devotion to the military service.

SMITH resumed reading from his press release, "My very campaign will be a fight for liberty. It is my conviction that certain revengeful politicians in Washington are determined to imprison, liquidate and, in other ways, persecute and eliminate all political opposition. To so conspire against our liberty is treason. I propose to expose such individuals and ask for their removal from the Government."

"Outlaw Communism. Our very war effort commits us to the destruction of Naziism and Fascism in the world. Until only a few months ago, the Communists in America were boosting Hitler, hindering the defense program and sabotaging our industry. Now they pose as patriots, merely because we are military allies with Russia. They seek the imprisonment of men like COUGHLIN, LINDBERGH, SENATOR REYNOLDS and myself, while asking for the release of EARL BROWDER, the Number 1 traitor of America. They seek to destroy the magazine of which I am the editor, "The Cross and the Flag," and other Christian publications, while they flaunt in our faces their official journals, the Daily Worker, the New Masses and the Russian Constitution."

"I shall oppose all propaganda schemes being promoted in America which, if carried out, will destroy our independence. I am an isolationist who believes that after we have won this war, we should come home, mind our own business and defend our own shores, and I am one American who will never be ashamed to put my country first in war as well as in peace. A military alliance with England and Russia is a contract which must be honorably kept, but my loyalty to that contract does not compel me to salute any flag except the Stars and the Stripes."

SMITH continued to read from his press release the following: "SMITH concluded his remarks by saying he would rather lose standing for something, than to win standing for nothing - and the highest honor that could befall me during the campaign would be for WENDELL L.

WILLKIE to make a statement against me and, better still, come into the State of Michigan and make a speech against me. WENDELL WILLKIE is a New Deal Fifth Columnist within the Republican Party. My nomination to the United States Senate on the Republican ticket in Michigan can well be construed as the repudiation of WENDELL L. WILLKIE Fifth Columnism.

"Sink or swim, live or die, survive or perish, I give my hand and my heart to this case and, 'Give me Liberty or give me Death.'"

At the conclusion of SMITH'S speech Reverend MERION suggested that the campaign slogan should be "Mr. SMITH goes to Washington." Whereupon Mr. SMITH took up another collection to finance his political campaign and said that every contributor would be made a member of the GERALD L. K. SMITH Campaign Committee. SMITH also encouraged the audience to circulate nominating petitions and to solicit further contributions for his political campaign. He then proposed that a huge mass meeting of the "Committee of 1,000,000" be held at the Olympia on a day to be designated as General Mac ARTHUR Day at the suggestion of Congressman WOODRUFF and that Father COUGHLIN be invited to speak at that assembly on any subject that is nearest his heart. This suggestion was very acceptable to the audience. After the collection and the other details were completed, SMITH encouraged the audience to aid the war effort of the United States with all their ability and he condemned anybody who interferes with the war effort as a traitor to his country. This was followed by ten seconds of silent prayer for the boys fighting for the United States.

ENCLOSURES

TO THE BUREAU:

Two copies of "The Cross and the Flag" for April, 1942.

One copy of press release dated April 24, 1942, at Detroit, Michigan, entitled, "GERALD L. K. SMITH Consents to Run for the United States Senate."

Two copies of Congressional record, 77th Congress, second session, extension of remarks of Honorable ROY O. WOODRUFF of Michigan in the House of Representatives on Thursday, March 26, 1942, entitled, "We Take our Stand," editorial by GERALD L. K. SMITH.

One copy Anti-Jewish hand-bill entitled, "History of the United States."

One copy of bulletin entitled, "Too Much ROOSEVELT" by GERALD L. K. SMITH.

(Detroit File 62-1126)

One copy of bulleting entitled, "War Mongers and the Threat of War," by GERALD L. K. SMITH.

A portfolio of speeches by GERALD L. K. SMITH delivered over radio station WJR prior to April 27, 1941.

One copy of bulletin entitled, "Dangerous Enemies," by GERALD L. K. SMITH.

Two copies of mimeographed four-page letter entitled, "The Undelivered Speech," dated at Detroit, Michigan, January 24, 1942, signed by GERALD L. K. SMITH.

- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW ORLEANS FIELD DIVISION

At New Orleans, Louisiana: Will ascertain background and activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH who is said to have been a body guard and close friend of HUEY LONG, with particular reference to any activities which may have been in concert with present enemies of the United States.

DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At Detroit, Michigan: Will interview [redacted] to ascertain information concerning associations and subversive activities of Subject.

b7

Will interview [redacted] concerning further information about Subject's use of the mails.

b7

Will obtain transcripts of radio speeches made by Subject over radio station WJR, Detroit, Michigan, since December 7, 1941, as well as transcripts of all radio speeches to be made in the future.

Will obtain information concerning financial transactions in which Subject may be involved, especially those indicating the receipt of money from un-American sources.

- P E N D I N G -

(Detroit File 62-1126)

KEY TO CONCEALED SOURCES OF INFORMATION

[redacted]

ALL
b7c, b7D

[redacted] b7c

RECORDED 62-43818-52

May 9, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-2 [illegible]

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
"COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000"
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

b7

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, dated April 27, 1942, in the above entitled matter.

It is noted from a review of this report that practically the entire details were taken up with recording speeches made by subject and literature disseminated at meetings of his group. Practically no information is contained in this report concerning subject's background during his residence in Detroit, and no information whatever is set forth concerning his financial status although it is noted that a lead was set forth to obtain this information.

It is my desire that the investigation of this matter proceed without interruption and that during the course of the investigation an effort should made to obtain credit reports, together with data concerning the organizations records of his Committee. Every effort should be made to locate and secure the records of the printer of subject's literature and, if deemed advisable, the printer should be interviewed to determine if the printed articles are true reproductions of the material submitted to the printer. It is important to ascertain whether or not subject endeavors to reach a particular stratum of society or a particular group such as persons engaged in national defense industries. This inquiry should also seek to establish whether subject has made any special effort to distribute his material among members of the armed forces or persons having obligations under the Selective Training and Service Act.

As you have previously been advised, the Department has requested this matter be thoroughly investigated, and in view of the request of the Department, the investigation should receive the undivided attention of some agent of your office and every effort should be set forth to insure that a report may be submitted on or before May 23, 1942.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

RECEIVED
MAILED
MAY 11 1942
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

119

DETROIT MICH
APRIL 14th.

Meeting of the Comm[illegible] of one Million:
[illegible]ass Techhical High School. 3/9/42 at
8.00 P.M.

About seven hundred people attended this meeting. After a fiery speech by Gerald L.K. Smith the nominations were opened for candidates for U.S. Senator in the District in which Prentis Brown is the incumbent.

115158

During Smith's speech the audience booed everytime Pres. Roosevelt' name was mentioned.

At the voting 40 votes were distributed amongst six other candidates, including Rep. Clare Hoffman. 450 votes for Smith with about 200 refraining from voting.

After the speech and nominations Smith announced as a part of his program a demand that every soldier and sailor be paid $100.00 per month.

Smith is now putting out " The Cross and the Flag" which is a monthly magazine that is anti- British, Anti-New deal and Anti-Communist.

The communists now demand that his head fall and the New Masses issue April 14, 1942 in its front page carried a picture of Smith and Cou' with the caption, " Lock them up Mr. Biddle".

Smith is walking a dangerous road and may be locked up or suppres

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-2 [illegible]/pac

62-415518-53

62-41
FEDERAL BU

EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Glegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Mendenhall
Mr. Nellemen
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Harbo
Tele. Room
Mr. Vence
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

RPK:TD
11:00 A.M.

April 29, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith

b7c

SA [redacted] called from the Detroit Office and advised that a letter had been received from the Bureau requesting that [redacted] He advised that [redacted]

b7c
b7E

I suggested to [redacted] that an Agent who had any background might [redacted] to see what he can work out along the lines suggested and to advise the Bureau.

b7E
b7c

Respectfully,

R. P. Kramer

R. P. Kramer

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8BTJ/MW

9 MAY 6 1942

COPY IN FILE

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83 MAY 12 1964

RECORDED

62-43815-54
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
18 MAY 1 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harris
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Boone
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gandy
Mr. Nathan
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Hume
Miss Beahm
[redacted]

JKM:BK
Call Received: 12:30 P.M.
Dictated: 12:45 P.M.

April 28, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
Sedition

SA [redacted] called from Detroit at this time and requested that approval be secured and given that office for the placing of technical surveillances on the following telephones. He pointed out that these are the two phones which have been identified to date as being used principally by this subject's group.

Clifford 1582: This is an unlisted pay station phone in the name of Bernard Dom[redacted], 2006 Industrial Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan. Do[redacted] is believed to be Smith's [redacted] and associate although SA [redacted] states he is not positive or fully identified as yet.

Randolph 9547: This is a regularly listed telephone and is in the name of B. A. Namod at the same address as the above, this being Smith's office. It should be noted that the name "[redacted]od" indicated here is merely a reversal of the letters in the name "[redacted]an" for which the telephone above is registered.

I advised SA [redacted] he would be appropriately instructed by the Bureau in this matter.

Respectfully,

J. K. Mumford

J. K. Mumford

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8575/MC

RECORDED

62-42819-55
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
15 MAY 2 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memo H. L.
(4-29-42)
[redacted]

ALL b7c

[redacted]

MAY -1 1942

[redacted]

RECORDED 4-29-42
62-43818 -55

[redacted]

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

In connection with our investigation of Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit, Michigan who, you will recall, has been very active in the Committee of One Million as well as in The Inner Circle, I believe it is highly desirable to establish technical surveillances on telephones Clifford 1582 and Randolph 9547 in Detroit, Michigan. I believe that through the establishment of these surveillances we will derive much valuable information concerning Smith's seditious activities. The first of the aforementioned telephones is an unlisted pay station telephone in the name of Bernard Doman, 2006 Industrial Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan. Doman is believed to be Smith's direct assistant and associate. The second telephone is a regularly listed line and is in the name of [redacted] Namod, which is also at 2006 Industrial Bank Building, and which is Smith's office. It is significant that the name "Namod" indicated here is merely a reversal of the name [redacted]".

It is recommended that you give your early approval for the establishment of these technical surveillances.

Respectfully,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME 12:56 pm
DATE 5/1/42
BY [illegible]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Drayton
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

[redacted]

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
F B I
RECEIVED-ROOM 5640
APR 30 10 53 AM '42

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
F B I
RECEIVED-ROOM 5640
APR 30 8 40 PM '42

8 MAY 7 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP8BTJ/MC

[redacted]klb b7c

62-43818

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

April 23, 1942 PERSONAL ATTENTION

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8875/mfm

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith; Committee of One Million; Internal Security; Sedition.

Dear Sir:

It is desired that all issues of the publication, "The Cross and the Flag", which is edited by the subject, be obtained and forwarded to the Bureau in order that the same may be made available to the Criminal Division of the Department.

Your attention is directed to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 20, 1941 at Detroit, Michigan, relating to Smith, wherein it is mentioned that a copy of an article appearing in the September, 1940 issue of the "Michigan Democrat" entitled, "An Expose of Gerald L. K. Smith" by Edward L. Marshall and on Pages 7 and 8 of this report that Smith is the author of two pamphlets entitled, "Dangerous Enemies" and "Too Much Roosevelt", and that a copy of the first mentioned pamphlet is in the files of the Detroit Office. It is desired that copies of the expose and the two pamphlets be submitted to the Bureau so that the same may be made available to the Criminal Division of the Department which has requested copies of the same.

[redacted]

Your attention is directed to a report in "The Hour", No. 128, dated February 21, 1942, which contains information to the effect that Smith makes weekly radio broadcasts over station WJR, in Detroit, Michigan and that these speeches are periodically rebroadcast over station WOL, in Washington, D. C.

It is desired that transcripts of Smith's radio speeches since December 7, 1941, be obtained, if possible, so the same may be made available to the Criminal Division. It is also desired that you obtain transcript of any future speeches to be made by Smith and forward the same to the Bureau for retransmittal to the Criminal Division.

Nelson
A. Tamm
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Coffey
McGuire
Mohr
Tolson
Tamm
Quinn Tamm
Gurnea
Gandy

RECORDED 62-43818-56

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 4
APR 23 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WX-10

The Bureau has received information that Smith is to address a rally at Detroit, Michigan on the night of April 24, 1942 and the subject of his rally will be "Will We Permit the Reds to Jail Father Coughlin?" It is desired that you have appropriate witnesses present at this meeting who will be competent to testify in the event Smith makes any seditious statements during the course of this meeting.

It is also desired that an appropriate coverage be made of all future meetings held by Smith.

The Washington Field Office is requested to make inquiry at radio station WOL, Washington, D. C., for the purpose of obtaining transcripts of any radio talks delivered by Smith since December 7, 1941, which have allegedly been rebroadcast over the facilities of Station WOL.

The Bureau will not tolerate a further delay in this matter, and a report must be submitted not later than April 27, 1942.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

CC - Washington, D. C.

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

4058 U. S. Court House
Philadelphia, Pa.
April 28, 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are additional unaltered reports received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. b7D

You will be furnished with any further material received from this source.

Very truly yours,

J. F. Sears

J. F. SEARS
Special Agent in Charge

JFS:rod.

Encs.

I ENCLO.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP8BTJ/MW

62-43[illegible]-57

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
9 APR 29 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAY 1 1942 RECD

Detroit 4-15-42

[illegible] meeting of the "Committee of One Million" held at [illegible] High School on March 9th there were approximately [illegible]n hundred [illegible]ple in attendance.

Gerald L.K. Smith made a fiery speech, during which the audience booed every time President Roosevelt's name was mentioned.

Nominations were opened for candidates for UnitedStates Senator in the District in which Prentis Brown is the incumbent. Forty votes were distributed amongst six other candidates including Representative Clare Hoffman, 450 votes were cast for Smith and about 200 did not vote.

Smith announed as part of his program a demand that every soldier and sailor be paid $100.00 per month. Smith is now putting out a monthly magazine "The Cross and the Flag", which is Anti-British, Anti-New Deal and Anti-Communist.

The Communists are demanding that Smith's head fall, and the front page of the Communist publication "New Masses", issue of April 14th, 1942, carries a picture of Smith and Couglin with the caption, "Lock them up, Mr. Biddle". Smith is walking a dangerous road.

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-57

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
9 APR 29 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP8BTJ/mfa

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
APR 22 1942
PHILADELPHIA OFFICE
ROUTED TO | FILE

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) IRS _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

_____

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-58

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

[redacted] b7c

62-43818 -54

RECORDED

May 18, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP8BTJ/mk

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There are transmitted herewith photostatic copies of the income tax return filed by the above-named subject for the years 1939 and 1940.

In making these returns available to the Bureau, the Treasury Department advised that it has been found necessary to communicate with the Collector of Internal Revenue, Detroit, Michigan, with respect to the income tax returns of subject for the years 1938 and 1941, and that upon receipt of a reply, the data would be made available to this Bureau.

With reference to my letter directed to you under date of May 6, 1942, I expect an early reply outlining the results of the interview with [redacted] b7c

As was previously called to your attention, the Department is greatly interested in this particular investigation and it is my desire that the investigation in this matter proceed without interruption in your office, and that a report reflecting investigations be submitted at least once every three weeks.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

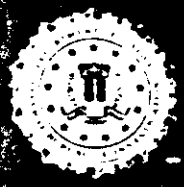
Enclosure

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E.A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

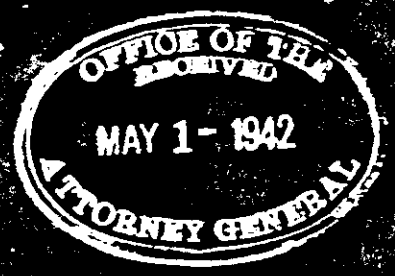
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 7
MAY 19 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
RECEIVED
10 21 AM

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
MAY -1 1942



Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

In connection with our investigation of Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit, Michigan who, you will recall, has been very active in the Committee of One Million as well as in The Inner Circle, I believe it is highly desirable to establish technical surveillances on telephones Clifford 1582 and Randolph 9547 in Detroit, Michigan. I believe that through the establishment of these surveillances we will derive much valuable information concerning Smith's seditious activities. The first of the aforementioned telephones is an unlisted pay station telephone in the name of [illegible], 2006 Industrial Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan. Doman is believed to be Smith's [illegible] The second telephone is a regularly listed line and is in the name of [illegible], which is also at 2006 Industrial Bank Building, and which is Smith's office. It is significant that the name [illegible] indicated here is merely a reversal of the name [illegible]".

It is recommended that you give your early approval for the establishment of these technical surveillances.

Respectfully,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

2:40 PM
5-2-42
Eric Burger
[illegible] authority

RECEIVED

MAY 4 RECD

COPY MADE FOR F.B.I. FILES

FIVE

[redacted] b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/MW

April 6, 1942

AIR MAIL
SPECIAL DELIVERY
[redacted]

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH

Dear Sir:

This will confirm the telephone conversation this evening between Mr. J. K. Mumford of the Bureau and Special Agent [redacted] of your office concerning the interview reportedly planned by agents of your office with [redacted] Detroit, Michigan. b7c

It will be recalled this man, [redacted] is supposed to have furnished information to [redacted] an investigator for the Tolan Committee, to the effect that he had affiliated himself with Smith for the purpose of fighting the Communists but had withdrawn subsequently when he became of the opinion Smith's organization was more detrimental to this country. b7c

I am attaching herewith a photostatic copy of a chart and a copy of each of two memoranda reportedly prepared by [redacted] based on information furnished him by [redacted] concerning the activities of Smith. These are made available to you for your confidential information and the guidance of your agents in interviewing [redacted] if such an interview can be effected. b7c

You will note that the attached material alleges that Smith is financed by and connected with the I. G. Farben interests of Germany, Henry and Edsel Ford, and several other prominent individuals including ones holding high government positions. If [redacted] confirms these data, the facts should be promptly called to the Bureau's attention before further action is taken, based upon them, by your office. b7c

Very truly yours,

RECORDED 62-43818-6

John Edgar Hoover
Director

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 9 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Coffey
Gandon
Gillooman
McGuire
Quinn Tamm
Mohr
Candy

Enclosures

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 4
★ MAY 7 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MK-19

[redacted] b7c

5-11-42

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/ala

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000

b7c

60-43816

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
[redacted] 1942

Supplementing the report of Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, dated April 27, 1942, in the above matter, there is transmitted herewith a photostatic copy of a press release of the Committee of 1,000,000, dated at Detroit, Michigan, April 24, 1942, and a portfolio of speeches by Gerald L. K. Smith, delivered over Radio Station WJR, Detroit, Michigan, prior to April 27, 1941. There is also enclosed a copy of Volume Number 1, of the April 1942 issue of "The Cross and the Flag".

Enclosures

RECORDED

MAY 11 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAY 11 11 32 AM '42

-61

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION
KEEP EXPEDITED

FED. BU. OF INV.

Attorney General Biddle

Investigate immediately-
the ~~in~~ American
magizine The ~~Cross~~ and
The Flag. The Cross
The Flag
Gerald K. Smith, Editor
Important to our
government and to our
people.

Gerald K. Smith

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8 SJJ/mw

Mrs. American Public

RECORDED

62-43818

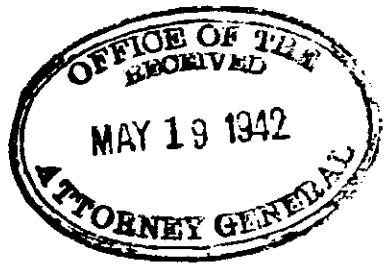
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
1 MAY 13 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUN 2 1942

- 18

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
MAY 19 1942



[redacted]

memorandum
HB 5/19/42

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

On May 1, 1942 you authorized the establishment of technical surveillances to cover the office telephones of Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit, Michigan, who has been involved in seditious activities in connection with The Inner Circle and The Committee of One Million. The Special Agent in Charge at Detroit, Michigan has now advised that he considers it essential that we also include coverage of Smith's residence, telephone Fitzroy 8264, which is located at 1753 Seyburn Avenue, Detroit, Michigan. This procedure is considered necessary if we are to have complete information as to Smith's activities and contacts.

I, therefore, recommend that you approve the extension of our present coverage to include Smith's residence telephone.

Respectfully,

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

5 15 PM
5-20-42
Joe Burger notified of authority. He stated the TS will be in operation by 6 PM today.
E.T.

16 MAY 23 1942

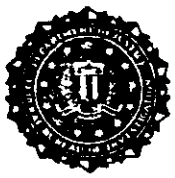
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8 Brs/Jaw

Dwyer
7/1/82
DOV

FIVE E.T.

62-43018-63

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Mendenhall
Mr. Hoffman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

May 16, 1942

EGF:MLC

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith

Call: 9:45 a.m.
Dictated: 10:25 a.m.

SAC Bugas of Detroit advised that the technical surveillance which had been authorized by the Attorney General on May 1, 1942 had been installed at noon May 15, 1942 to cover the two office telephones of this subject. The lines now covered are Randolph 9547 [redacted] and Clifford 1582 [redacted] The surveillance is covered by the plant in the Union Guardian Trust Building.

b7D

Mr. Bugas further advised that he considers it essential that we extend our coverage to include Smith's residence at 1753 Seyburn Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, at which location the telephone is Fitzroy 8264. This phone is listed to E. N. Smith, and if covered will be designated by the symbol [redacted]

b7D

ACTION: Mr. Bugas was advised that this matter would be referred to the Attorney General for the necessary authority to extend our coverage. A memorandum requesting the Attorney General's approval for this procedure is attached hereto.

Respectfully,

E. G. Fitch

Attachment

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8 BWJ

RECORDED & INDEXED
62-42212-64
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
17 MAY 19 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAY 22 1942 COPIES DESTROYED

83 OCT 12 1964

COPY IN FILE

MAY 18 REC'D

EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

DML:mm

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

May 6, 1942

Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Mendenhall
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/6/82 BY SP6 BIAL DMS
204,433

Jim Rowe of the Department called and asked me to drop by his office. He stated that, in connection with the investigation of Gerald L. K. Smith for sedition, he had received information some six months ago from [redacted] an investigator for the Tolan Committee, that [redacted] of Detroit knew the whole picture with reference to Gerald Smith; that [redacted] had just gotten in with Smith for the purpose of fighting the Communists and then had found that he was in something worse than the Communist activities. [redacted]

Rowe stated that [redacted] has in the past stated that he would not talk to the FBI. However, [redacted] has apparently now gotten him in the mood to talk to the Bureau Agents and he allegedly is to be interviewed in the next few days by the Detroit Office.

Mr. Rowe furnished me with the attached chart and memorandum which had been prepared for him by [redacted] based on information furnished to him by [redacted] concerning the activities of Smith. It is noted from the attached material that [redacted] claims that Smith is financed and connected with the I. G. Farben Company, Henry and Edsel Ford, Senators Wheeler, Nye, Reynolds, and other prominent individuals.

Mr. Rowe stated that he wanted the Bureau to know of this so that the Detroit Office would have the background at the time they talk to [redacted]

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

67-43818-65

Copies of the material furnished by Rowe were made and I am personally returning the original memorandum and original penciled chart to him.

9 MAY 9
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

1 Encl.

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/14/57

4

9 JUN 3 1942

FOR DEFENSE
BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

MAY 20 RECD
MAY 8 RECD

COPIES DESTROYED
83 OCT 13 1964

Attachment

Detroit advised 5/6/42

ALL 67C

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

25 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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☐ For your information: _____

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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-65

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FBI/DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 2 OF 18

FILE NUMBER : 62-43818

FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 4

PAGES REVIEWED: 95

PAGES RELEASED: 88

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 19 1942

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

B

FBI DETROIT 5-19-42 4-55PM EWT EGP

DIRECTOR

HOME. GERALD L. K. SMITH, INTERNAL SECURITY, SEDITION. ADVISE PHOTOGRAPHIC LABORATORY NOT TO PRINT PHOTOGRAPHS OF WHICH TEN COPIES WERE REQUESTED CONCERNING DETROIT FILE NINE EIGHT DASH TWO EIGHT SIX. TRANSMITTAL LETTER WAS DATED MAY SIXTEEN AT DETROIT ENCLOSING TWO ROLLS MINIPAN FILM. OK TO PRINT AS INSTRUCTED PHOTOGRAPHS CONCERNING DETROIT FILE SIX TWO DASH ONE ONE TWO SIX.

BUGAS

A AND H

500 PM OK FBI WASH DC NG

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/12/83 BY SP-3 TS/AC

RECORDED 62-43818-

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
10 MAY 20 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

154

7 MAY 27 1942

MAY 20 RECD

ALL b7c

J.Edgar Hoover,

Dear Sir-

Why is Gerald K.Smith allowed on the air? What are we afraid of ? Why permit him to encourage disloyalty. The Public is getting tired of this east attitude towards known traitors.

Yours truly

[redacted] b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 2/17/83 BY SP-8B75/MC

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-43216-67
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 20 1941

MAY 25 1941

MAY 25 RECD

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) IRS _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-68

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

FJS:EWJ
RECORDED 62-43818 -68

June 4, 1942

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated May 18, 1942, which enclosed photostatic copies of the income tax returns filed by the above subject for the years 1939 and 1940.

There are transmitted herewith photostatic copies of the income tax return filed by the above-named subject for the year 1941, which return was recently made available to the Bureau by the Treasury Department. The 1938 return for this individual will be made available to your office in the near future.

It is believed desirable that the pertinent information appearing on the income tax returns submitted to your office in this matter be set forth in the next report submitted by your office so that this information will be available to the Criminal Division of the Department in reviewing this matter.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Enclosure

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 7
JUN 4 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-MAIL ROOM

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/7/93 BY SP8 [illegible]

191

JUN 8 1942

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit - Michigan
May 22, 1942

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

[redacted]

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH;
INTERNAL SECURITY,
SEDITION.

Dear Sir:

[redacted] of Detroit, Michigan, [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, while being interviewed by Special Agent [redacted] with regard to GERALD L. K. SMITH, told agent [redacted] in confidence that the activities of the National Workers League and GERALD L. K. SMITH were being investigated directly by the Department of Justice through two assistants to the Attorney General. These assistants whose names may be Mr. ---- AARONSON and Mr. ---- RETTMAN were contacting informants and collecting propaganda and minutes of speeches in connection with GERALD L. K. SMITH and the National Workers League.

b7c
b7D

[redacted] further stated in confidence that WALTER WINCHELL'S remark of May 17, 1942, that ---- ALDERMAN of the National Workers League had been indicted for sedition was premature; in fact, ALDERMAN and other officials of the National Workers League would be indicted for sedition in the near future because an assistant to the Attorney General was then interviewing witnesses in Detroit, Michigan.

The above information is being transmitted for your personal attention inasmuch as it indicates that there is some duplication of effort involved when agents of the Bureau and assistants to the Attorney General are investigating identical subjects independently.

Very truly yours,

DEFERRED RECORD

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

b7c

[redacted]
62-1126
cc: 65-258

62-43118-79

FBI
MAY 27 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/17/83 BY SP-8B17/AC

2 JUN 2 1942

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit - Michigan
May 22, 1942

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY
PE[redacted]

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH;
INTERNAL SECURITY,
SEDITION.

Dear Sir:

With reference to your letter dated April 6, 1942, please be advised that [redacted] had previously been interviewed by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] indicated that he had a wealth of incriminating evidence against SMITH which would establish the connection between SMITH and other Nazi agents in the United States including GERALD WINROD, CHARLES B. HUDSON, WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY, as well as numerous prominent industrialists in the automobile and steel industries including HENRY and EDSEL FORD, ERNEST TENER WEIR, PEW of Sun Oil Company, and E. J. KULAS. [redacted] added that he had a suitcase full of documentary evidence which could establish these connections. However, he said he was reluctant to submit any information because he needed a job and the expose which would involve such powerful men as HENRY FORD would result in a virtual catastrophe for [redacted] himself.

[redacted] also said that he was fearful of his personal safety because most of the information he had was not known ~~to anyone else except~~ GERALD SMITH himself.

RECORDED
INDEXED
53-638,9-7

A few days later [redacted] was interviewed again by agents [redacted] and [redacted] and revealed to them that [redacted]

b7c
b7D

[redacted]

b7c
b7D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/17/83 BY SP-8BTJ/mc

MAY 28 RECD

JUN 8 '42

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83 OCT 13 1964

Letter to the Director
dated May 22, 1942

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH;
INTERNAL SECURITY,
SEDITION.

In concluding, SMITH [redacted] that the Federal authorities would never prosecute him because he had too much against the administration relative to the assassination of HUEY LONG. [redacted] was still reluctant to give any vital information concerning SMITH. He asked agents [redacted] and [redacted] to get me to arrange an audience for him with BIDDLE or Colonel HICKEY. I spoke to [redacted] for approximately half an hour trying to convince him of the advisability of imparting his information to agents of the Bureau rather than awaiting subpoena before a Grand Jury. [redacted] wanted me to give my approval to his resuming his position with SMITH and I advised him that I was in no position to approve or disapprove such a move.

[redacted] made it clear to me that he wanted the "protection" of the Bureau before he would risk his bodily safety and business future. [redacted] asked for time to think it over and more than a week later he was recontacted by agent [redacted] At that time [redacted] said that he was still unwilling to impart information concerning SMITH because he had too much at stake. When agent [redacted] pointed out the possibility of a subpoena that would require him to testify before a Grand Jury, he then said that he knew practically nothing about SMITH, and anybody that tried to say he knew much about SMITH was misrepresenting facts.

The above information is submitted for your personal information in view of the fact that [redacted] may be considered an important witness in any action that may be brought against SMITH. However, it is pointed out that [redacted] has always earned his living by engaging in promotion schemes and the like. His manner is extremely evasive. His credit record is poor. It is my opinion that he is trying to capitalize on his information for personal profit and will not cooperate with the Bureau unless he is assured that it will be worth his while.

You may be assured that further attempts will be made to obtain information from [redacted] but no promises of any sort will be extended to him in the absence of specific authority.

Very truly yours,

John S Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

17 MAY 2
U. S.

WASHINGTON CITY NEWS SERVICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E.A. T
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichol
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffe
Mr. Hendo
Mr. Hollo
Mr. McGu
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gand

APR 25 9 55 AM '47
RECEIVED
F B I
COMMUNICATIONS

[redacted]
b7c

DETROIT.--GERALD L.K. SMITH, FORMER LIEUTENANT OF THE LATE HUEY
TODAY ANNOUNCED HIS CANDIDACY FOR THE REPUBLICAN NOMINATION FOR U.
SENATE IN MICHIGAN.

SMITH SAID HE WOULD CAMPAIGN AS A CHAMPION OF FR. CHARLES E.
COUGHLIN AND WITH A FOUR-POINT PLATFORM CALLING FOR "100 PER CENT
LOYALTY TO THE WAR EFFORT, $100 A MONTH FOR EVERY SOLDIER, AN
HONEST HEARING IN THE SENATE FOR THE TOWNSEND PLAN, AND TIRES FOR
EVERYBODY."

4/25--EG952A

memo AG 4/25/47
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/1/93 BY SP-5BTJ/mc

189

10 MAY 18 1942

62-43818
10-NOT RECORDED
FILE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

DETROIT FILE NO. 62-1126

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	5/23/42	4/29;5/1,6,12, 14,20,21/42	[redacted]

TITLE CHANGED:
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH also known as Gerald L. K. Smith; THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000

CHARACTER OF CASE
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

b7c

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Adverse publicity given Subject by Chicago and Detroit newspapers. Subject obtains principal financial support from audiences, radio listeners, and industrialists in cash and keeps no records. Radio broadcasts over station WJR, Detroit, Michigan, by transcription paid by checks in name of wife and manager. Examination [redacted] reveals no other significant information. Subject born Wisconsin 1898; was minister in Wisconsin and Shreveport, Louisiana. Became associate of HUEY LONG. Active in "Share the Wealth" movement, Townsend Old Age Pension Plan, and isolation, non-intervention groups prior to war. Subject publicly regretted dissolution of America First Committee. Receives support from Mothers of United States of America. Second number of "The Cross and the Flag" issued May, 1942, through new printer who is suspected of being pro-Nazi. Subject's credit record poor. Copies of Subject's radio broadcasts submitted.

- P -

b7d

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/6/82 BY SP6 [illegible]

EXCL. FROM AUTO. REGRADING, FBI CLASSIFICATION AND DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE

COPIES DESTROYED OCT 20 1964

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated April 27, 1942, at Detroit, Michigan.

DEFERRED RECORDING

b7c

Letter from the Bureau to the Detroit Office dated May 9, 1942.

SE

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: John S Burger Jr SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-143818-71

MAY 26 1942

RECORDED & INDEXED

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
5 - Bureau (AMASD)
2 - Cleveland
2 - New Orleans
2 - New York
3 - Detroit

(Detroit file 62-1126)

DETAILS: The title has been changed to reflect the full name of Subject.

At Detroit, Michigan:

By letter dated May 2, 1942, the Chicago Field Office transmitted to the Detroit Field Office a clipping from the Chicago Sun dated April 27, 1942, giving Subject adverse publicity as a preacher of disunity, distrust, and defeatism. A similar article appeared in the Detroit Sunday News of May 3, 1942. These articles contained little material of evidentiary value but the following excerpts were relevant to this investigation:

SMITH was born in Pardeeville, Wisconsin February 27, 1898 to a Christian minister and his wife. He was educated at Butler University School of Religion at Indianapolis, Indiana and Valparaiso University, Indiana. SMITH himself became a minister in Footville, Wisconsin and Indianapolis, Indiana before he went to Shreveport, Louisiana. While preaching in church in Shreveport, Louisiana, SMITH became acquainted with HUEY LONG by suggesting the cessation of mortgage foreclosures by a building and loan company. SMITH organized for HUEY LONG "Share the Wealth" clubs. In 1933 SMITH resigned his pulpit and surrendered the title of Reverend.

After LONG'S death SMITH took over the leadership of the "Share the Wealth" clubs and he admitted that he had never been elected. When questioned about this he said, "I just told them I was running it and nobody has said I'm not, so I guess I am. No, there wasn't any election. What good are elections? Elections don't make leaders--followings make leaders, and as soon as I lose my following I'm no longer a leader." This statement was made by Subject on June 5, 1936, but it was not stated to whom he made this statement other than it was made during an interview in Detroit.

One night in Louisiana after SMITH finished a radio speech three men assaulted him. On November 3, 1936, SMITH was arrested and convicted of disturbing the peace, reviling the police, and using obscene language. He was fined, but sentence was suspended. SMITH attributed his arrest and conviction to politics. SMITH denies violently that he has ever been anti-Jewish.

In the summer of 1936 SMITH joined with Dr. FRANCIS E. TOWNSEND and Father CHARLES E. COUGHLIN to defeat President ROOSEVELT'S reelection. On October 20, 1936, the United Press carried an article from New York stating that SMITH had announced the formation of a Fascist organization to seize the Government of the United States with a following of 10,000,000 patriots willing to lay down their lives to save the country from an international plot to collectivize it. He boasted the backing of 400 businessmen, in 22 key cities, who pledged to contribute one per cent of their 1935 incomes to make America vigorously nationalistic. As a result of this announcement,

(Detroit file 62-1126)

Dr. TOWNSEND stated, "GERALD SMITH shall have no connection with our organization henceforth. This is definite and final. Nationalism and centralization are both definite trends toward Fascism. SMITH naturally can have no position in such an American institution as the Townsend Plan."

SMITH branded the United Press dispatch as a misquotation and explained that he merely meant that he and the Union Party had 10,000,000 constituents who wanted to seize the government by legal means.

The Committee of 1,000,000 was started in New York City, New York in 1937 and moved to Detroit in 1939. SMITH first directed his attack against Communists and the CIO. In 1941 his platform was isolationist and non-interventionist. He testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and warned that the Lend Lease Bill would give the President authority to bankrupt our nation.

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau supplemented the above information as follows: In 1935 SMITH instituted a libel suit against the Washington Herald for calling him a bodyguard of HUEY LONG but the suit was dropped. In February, 1940, the Law and Order Club, Barlum Hotel, Detroit, Michigan, consisting of five men including [redacted] of Omaha, Nebraska, invited SMITH to speak at the Olympia indoor stadium against Communism and unions. The auditorium was completely filled and SMITH was very well received. b7D b7C

Another person active in this extinct Law and Order Club was [redacted] but informant was unable to furnish any further description of [redacted] b7C

Informant stated that SMITH was active in various non-intervention groups; that he circulated petitions against the United States' entry into foreign wars and has had the backing of an organization known as "Mothers of United States of America." The leaders of this organization in Detroit are [redacted] sister of [redacted] in Detroit [redacted] and [redacted]. Both of these women are believed to hold Nazi sympathies. b7C

[redacted] further stated that the Federation of Americanization of Michigan, Inc., was formed in Michigan April 14, 1939, with the following officers: b7D

HERBERT H. LUCKER, President
456 University, Grosse Pointe

JOHN RINDERMAN, Secretary and Treasurer
3499 Berkshire

(Detroit file 62-1126)

L. NAVARRE PEABODY
535 Arden

This corporation presently has space in the Industrial Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan, on the 20th Floor.

Informant finally stated that SMITH'S credit record is considered poor inasmuch as he is slow pay to printers and other ordinary business creditors. Informant stated that he knows that SMITH has several debts that have remained unpaid over a long period of time. Informant stated that he would have no idea of Subject's income since his income is comprised of cash contributions received through the mail and from hand-to-hand transactions. His credit record is based merely on the fact that SMITH does not pay his bills promptly.

On April 29, 1942, Special Agent (A) [redacted] telephonically advised [redacted] of the Bureau that the Bureau's suggestion in letter dated April 23, 1942, concerning mail coverage was found to be impossible as a result of preliminary investigation due to the heavy volume of Subject's mail as previously reported. b7c

[redacted] main post office, Detroit, Michigan, made available to the writer a file concerning the activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH and the Committee of 1,000,000. He advised that the Post Office Department was conducting an investigation of Subject for a mail fraud in violation of Section 338, United States Code, Title 18. The investigation originated on September 3, 1940, upon complaint of [redacted] Prosecution was declined in New York City by United States Attorney JOHN T. CAHILL on January 21, 1941, but inasmuch as Subject was continuing his activities in Detroit, Michigan, the mail fraud investigation was transferred to Detroit, Michigan. The essence of the complaint was that in each radio broadcast Subject announces that he has no means of paying for radio broadcasts except through contributions which he receives from his sympathizers through the mail, when, as a matter of fact, the broadcasts are paid for by other sources. b7c b7D b7c

The Post Office Department file contained copies of the "Michigan Democrat" published by EDWARD L. MARSHALL, 733 Barlum Tower, Detroit, Michigan, issues of June, July and September, 1940. These contained an article entitled "An Expose of a Rabble Rouser." These articles briefly stated that Subject whose true name is GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH joined HUEY LONG for personal profit in the amount of $650 a week. He later joined WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY'S "Silver Shirts of America" as member number 3223. It was further stated that SMITH wrote to PELLEY as follows:

(Detroit file 62-1126)

"By the time you receive this letter I shall be on the road to St. Louis and points north together with a uniformed squad of young men composed of what I believe will be the first Silver Shirt Storm Tropp in America."

Shortly before the 1936 presidential election SMITH was supposed to have said, "We are going to drive that cripple out of the White House and we are going to do it in 1936." This article further stated that Dr. TOWNSEND expelled SMITH from the Union Party in 1936 because of his Fascistic tendencies. It continued that SMITH delivered the funeral oration for HUEY LONG and stole the text of his speech from a funeral oration by ROBERT INGERSOLL and after it was well received printed a half million copies for the purpose of publicity.

The article also stated that SMITH tried to take over the Share the Wealth clubs for his personal profit but he was not permitted to do so by EARLE CHRISTENBERRY.

The file of the Post Office Department also included a statement by [redacted] who stated that he was employed by GERALD L. K. SMITH. [redacted] statement set forth that SMITH admitted having received the financial backing of E. J. MILLER, Secretary of the Manufacturers' and Merchants' Association, Toledo, Ohio; Colonel WILLIAM FREW LONG, Secretary of the American Plan Association of Cleveland, Ohio; LOWELL THOMAS, President, New York Advertising Club; E. J. KULIS, President, Midland Steel Corporation; HARRY JUNG, General Manager, American Vigilante Association of Chicago, Illinois.

[redacted] set forth in his statement that SMITH had been successful in his campaigns in Toledo, Ohio, Youngstown, Ohio, Cleveland, Ohio, Akron, Ohio, New York City, and in New Jersey. In New Jersey SMITH spoke against the CIO immediately before the election at the Johns-Manville plant and was so successful that the election was called off and the company union continued in power. [redacted] further stated that JOHN LOVETT, Secretary of the Manufacturers Association, refused to support SMITH. SMITH was financially assisted also by CHESTER CULVER, Manager of the Employers Association of Detroit; HARVEY CAMPBELL, Vice President, Detroit Board of Commerce; and LOUIS FLINT, Secretary of the Citizens Committee for Industrial Relations. [redacted] further avered that FLINT obtained $1,500 from L. A. YOUNG of Young Manufacturing Company; VAN YOUNG of the National Bank of Detroit; and — MARKEY of Bohn Aluminum and Brass Corporation.

[redacted] also stated that the Hoyt Morris Advertising Agency, Detroit, Michigan, at SMITH'S request billed him $1,000 for a broadcast which actually cost $240. In his statement, [redacted] continued that [redacted]

AL b7c, b7D

(Detroit file 62-1126)

[redacted] b7c b7D

The incorporators of the Committee of 1,000,000, Inc., in Delaware were GERALD L. K. SMITH, his wife ELEANOR MARION SMITH, and PRESTON DELCAZAL.

[redacted] b7c b7D

A search of the Detroit City Directory revealed that the Merchants Press is operated by ADALBERT JUNGBERT, 442 East Lafayette, Detroit, Michigan. The Embassy Press is operated by Mrs. SADIE LANKIN, 2038 West Forest, Detroit, Michigan. A search of the indices of the Detroit Field Office revealed that [redacted] is the Subject of a pending investigation bearing the character "INTERNAL SECURITY - G". The investigation is based principally upon expression of pro-HITLER and pro-Nazi views. b7c

[redacted] b7c b7D

[redacted] b7c b7D

[redacted] Arnold-Powers, Inc., 550 West Lafayette Street, Detroit, Michigan, said that his company set up the type for the April, 1942 issue of the magazine "The Cross and the Flag." He said that the original negotiations were made between GERALD L. K. SMITH and BERNARD DOMAN and [redacted] He

said after the price was set the articles were brought to the shop in a typewritten form by GERALD L. K. SMITH and later SMITH brought some additional articles. DOMAN telephoned some corrections of a minor nature but [redacted] explained that most of the work was done by SMITH himself. [redacted] stated that there were no changes in the text made by his type setters and that his type setters positively set up the articles in the same form as they appeared in the typewritten sheets submitted by SMITH. [redacted] said that the linetyping was done [redacted] said that after running off the proof there was no printing done by his company. He said when the type pages were approved by SMITH they were sent over to the Baring Press, 535 West Larned, which printed them. [redacted] said that his company had been setting up the type also for Social Justice magazine, but as soon as the Attorney General FRANCIS BIDDLE announced his opinion against the legality of Social Justice magazine, his company discontinued setting up type for both Social Justice and The Cross and the Flag. He said that he considered The Cross and the Flag the same type of propaganda as Social Justice and did not want to handle it because it might soon become "too hot" to handle.

He said he also understood that the Baring Press refused to print The Cross and the Flag after the first issue.

[redacted] telephonically advised BERNARD DOMAN that they did not want to print any further issues of The Cross and the Flag and DOMAN seemed insulted. However, ten minutes later DOMAN called back and told [redacted] to return the cuts which were used for the front and back pages of The Cross and the Flag. [redacted] said that his company had been paid in full for the type setting of the Cross and the Flag; however, he said that he had not been paid for printing certain tickets which they did for SMITH.

[redacted] Arnold-Powers, Inc., said that he handles the business end for the company; consequently, he had the original business dealings with SMITH and DOMAN over the publication of The Cross and the Flag. He said that no written contract was entered into. This was merely a commercial job and they just set up the type for whatever material was given to them at a certain rate which he did not remember. [redacted] said he was certain that the type was set up exactly as the typewritten copy was given but he said that [redacted] had direct supervision of that phase of the work.

[redacted] Baring Press, 535 West Larned, Detroit, Michigan, telephone Randolph 3470, was telephonically contacted and stated that his company printed the April, 1942 issue of The Cross and the Flag. He said as far as he was concerned it was a regular commercial job and he inserted the type pages into his printing presses and ran them off. He assured the writer

ALL b7c. b7D

(Detroit file 62-1126)

that no changes in the text were made after the pages were received from Arnold-Powers, Inc. He said when the magazine was released he heard several adverse comments about the propaganda contained therein so he read it and decided it was "too hot" to handle and he did not want to publish it any more. [redacted] stated that he was a veteran from the first World War and did not want any part in the printing of propaganda which may be considered seditious. b7c

[redacted] b7D

On December 7, 1941, WINROD addressed the congregation at the Christian Temple in Pontiac, Michigan, and closed by asking for a rising vote of thanks for his co-workers, Father COUGHLIN and GERALD SMITH. Informant stated that he was present and witnessed a great ovation. Informant said that he frequently heard SMITH express himself as being anti-Jewish for two reasons: the first reason was a purely personal matter, and the second was a fascistic propaganda device to insure disunity.

Informant stated that he was present at SMITH'S meeting on April 24, 1942, and pointed out that SMITH transcended his usual caution by making two remarks which publicly revealed his hatred for Jews. First, he implied that WINCHELL had changed his name; and secondly, he referred to the control of the bureaucratic politicians in Washington by international bankers and price killers. Informant also said that he had heard SMITH say frequently that he had learned from HUEY LONG "Fascism will come to the United States on the platform of anti-Fascism." Informant stated that he knew of his own knowledge that SMITH received cash support from leading industrialists including HENRY FORD, ERNEST TENER WEIR, JOSEPH PEW of Sun Oil Company, and E. J. KULAS of Midland Steel Corporation, Cleveland, Ohio.

Informant was interviewed on several other occasions by the writer and Special Agent [redacted] and also Special Agent in Charge JOHN S. BUGAS but was extremely reluctant to give any further information because of fear of his personal safety and business future. He stated that other persons would know more than he would about the activities of Subject and he referred to [redacted] of SMITH, address unknown, possibly connected with the Business Institute, Detroit, Michigan; [redacted] address unknown, telephone Niagara 8646. [redacted] also indicated to the writer and Special Agent [redacted] that SMITH temporarily incurred the enmity of HARRY BENNETT of the Ford Motor Company by going over BENNETT'S head directly to "the old man", meaning HENRY FORD. [redacted] SMITH said to him, "Of course you don't know that I got any money from the German Consul", and while saying this SMITH winked to him. Informant stated that it would be b7c b7D

(Detroit file 62-1126)

almost impossible to ascertain SMITH'S financial condition inasmuch as he does not maintain a bank account and the bulk of his income is derived from two sources--cash received by mail and cash "under the table deliveries" by representatives of leading industrialists.

b2c,b7

[redacted] of Detroit, Michigan, [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, stated that he had no direct information concerning the activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH but that his organization had been interested in the propaganda issued by SMITH for some time because of its anti-Jewish aspect and also because of SMITH'S apparent association with the America First Committee, International Workers League, and other obviously anti-Jewish groups and subtly Fascist groups. He furnished to the writer notes which he had made of the GERALD L. K. SMITH meeting at Cass Technical auditorium on December 16, 1941, including his parenthetic comments which are as follows:

"Smith opened the meeting by stating he will speak only what is the truth, and what is patriotic. He explained that the original subject of 'The No War Rally' is no longer in order since America has been attacked, and we are now at war.

"Congressman Short who was supposed to have appeared at the meeting, was not there. Smith read the telegram from him in which he said among other things that he deeply regretted he could not attend, and that the business of the Military Affairs Committee is keeping him in Washington.

"Smith spoke about the war and said something like 'Just think of a military program which would embrace men between 18 and 64, and perhaps also women' (obvious attempt to make the audience cognizant of the sacrifices involved in war).

"Smith stated that he was sorry the America First Committee had decided to disband. The Committee of One Million will continue. 'I am going to see to it that when we win the victory, it will not be sold down to the Communists, the Internationalists, and the moneychangers.' There were wild cheers and screaming. (Smith looked nervous throughout the proceedings. He seemed to find it somewhat difficult to steer the correct middle course between support for the war on the one hand, and the need to blame someone or some group, directly or by implication, for the troubles in the past, the troubles in the present, and the inevitable difficulties which the war will bring with it.)

"Smith stated he had had a long distance phone conversation with Senator Wheeler. Had asked Wheeler whether or not free speech still exists in

this country, and whether or not he, Smith, was still free to do all the criticizing he wished. Wheeler is also supposed to have told Smith that he was asking for the removal of Colonel Knox from the Secretaryship of the Navy. In his remarks, Smith held Knox, by implication, responsible for the unprepared state of affairs in Hawaii. Throughout his references to Wheeler and later in the course of his quotations from the Free Press, Smith used the trick of relying on the quotations to do the talking for him, and insisting that it wasn't he who was saying this or that but Wheeler in one case and the Free Press in the other.

"Apropos of the small attendance (there were about 800 as compared with the usual two to three thousand) Smith blamed the Christmas holidays, and the ignorance of his group about his change of position. They may have thought that this was still the original 'No War Rally'. He said on the night before there had been a Bill of Rights celebration in the same auditorium, under the sponsorship of 100 organizations, and the rally was not attended any better than his own, Smith's meeting. (This, of course, was incorrect, since the Bill of Rights celebration had an attendance of about 3,000).

"A Mr. Vincent Schenck (?), representing the disabled veterans of the World War, spoke about the Bill of Rights and about the program of the distribution of copies of Bill of Rights to the school. He offered free copies of the Bill of Rights to those assembled, and presented Smith with a framed copy of the Bill of Rights. Smith made a whole to-do about accepting this gift, and later, when a newspaperman walked in, Smith interrupted his own remarks to make sure that the newspaperman got the story of the presentation of this copy of the Bill of Rights to him.

"Smith then started the major portion of his own address. He said among other things, that if we must have a dictatorship during the war to win the war, we'll have to accept it. But after the war is over, I shall want to be one to restore our liberties. What's the use of licking Hitler, if you permit Hitlerism at home?

"I shall continue to criticize the President. I don't like Franklin D. Roosevelt, never did, and never shall. (Loud applause). However, Franklin D. Roosevelt is now driving the bus or piloting the boat, and I'll do nothing to hamper him because we are liable to drown or we are liable to skid or bump into a telephone pole. In other words, we are liable to lose if we hamper the President in his work. If I thought we could change presidents and win this war I would advocate that we change presidents. However, I feel that we can't do that. Not that I like Franklin D. Roosevelt personally, but he is our commander-in-chief. I'll stop attacking Franklin D. Roosevelt on the radio except insofar as the attacks will not hinder our defense program.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

"Apropos his radio addresses, he asked his audiences to write to WJR, so that they will retain him on the air. 'There are some people who will not write such letters', said Smith. 'You and I know who those people are.'

"Smith said that he had no intention of dissolving his group, and he doesn't believe that the Government will dissolve his group. Before the Government dissolves the Gerald L. K. Smith group, I shall ask the President to dissolve the Communist Party. However, I predict that Smith or the Communist Party will not be dissolved for many reasons.

"At this point Smith predicted an alliance between Stalin and Hitler. He maintained that Stalin and Hitler already have an understanding. If they had no such underetanding, why did Hitler suddenly start withdrawing his troops from Moscow? Why did Russia not attack Japan or denounce its non-aggression treaty with Japan? (Obviously another attempt to undermine confidence in our administration, in our alliance with Soviet Russia, and in the effort to help our allies). I shall continue telling the truth, said Smith, but I shall not always be able to tell you all that I wish to say. The radio is a medium on which it is not possible to speak with complete freedom. However, if you will write to me for my radio speeches, I'll be able to send you more than the speech itself, and be able to tell you things which on the radio I am not free to say. He maintained that he will continue his Washington broadcasts to the president and to congress. 'It takes a crusader to stick with his people in an emergency. I don't want to be immodest, however, I have always been a crusader and I shall stick with you.' (Obviously again Smith is attempting to clothe himself in a cloak of martyrdom, and thus retain the support of his group.)

"Smith then noticed the presence of Robert Vietig in the audience. He introduced Mr. Vietig, Mr. Vietig stood up. Smith invited him to come up to the platform and sit up there with him. Vietig did not accept the invitation. Smith stated that if the local chairman of the America First group, meaning Vietig, had had his way, the chapter would not have been disbanded. He himself, Smith, did not wish to see the chapter disbanded. He disclaimed any connection with the America First Committee, but stated he was deeply appreciative of its work. (I have since heard that Vietig is presumably in Smith's outfit in the capacity of some sort of assistant to Smith. This would seem to indicate that the America First people will now go over to Smith's camp).

"Smith then began asking people to pay their radio pledges eithe in full or in part. He told them he didn't know what he was going to say to them on the radio, however, it will be the truth as far as I can go. (Again Smith wants to take on the cloak of martyrdom. He hints that there will be

suppression, and that he will not be able to tell them all that he wishes to say to them.) He says that he will speak on the following night in Washington. His subject will be 'Hitler's Secret Weapon'. He tells them that he will give them a hint, namely, that Hitler's secret weapon is not in Berlin but is in Washington. It is not things but is people. (Again attempting to undermine confidence in Washington, and hinting that in the Administration there are forces which are opposed to the best interests of America.)

"Smith tells his audience that he is preparing new literature since the old literature is now obsolete in view of the declaration of war. He assures his audience that we will still retain our liberties even during the war, and after all it won't be so bad. Even though the audience was small, a good deal of money seems to have been passed in. (The racketeering aspect, and the terrible eagerness to get in as much money as possible, were obvious to even the least critical observer.)

"Somewhere at this point, Smith had occasion to make reference to Senator Reynolds, and referred to him as, 'my good friend, Senator Reynolds'. (Reynolds is a well-known Fascist sympathizer, a publisher of anti-Semitic publication, and an organizer of a well-known anti-Semitic organization.)

"Smith again predicted that there will be a revolution and much suffering after the war. (Again trying to give his audience a feeling of future martyrdom for themselves.)

"Smith now launched on into a tirade on the subject of defending America first. If we had had the fifty destroyers which we gave away to Britain, we might have been prepared in Hawaii, and would not have suffered the losses which we did suffer. Our first slogan should be defend America. We should not be giving away any of the tools of war to any of our so-called Allies. We must build a defense out into the two oceans. He repeated again that there is a conspiracy to create revolution. There will be suffering. Propaganda of all sorts will take root. However, we must not permit any foreign isms to come into this country during our preoccupation with the war. Two isms, Nazism and Fascism, we are now warring against. However, we still have to fight Communism. Smith condemned the Communists for sabotaging our defense program during the Russo-German pact. He said he would refuse to let the Communists horn in and take for themselves any credit for the present defense efforts. He told the store of a certain Fred Williams and another John Anderson, Communists, who through strikes helped close several factories and particularly some bearing factories and paralyzed plane production. These people, Smith said, ought to be in jail. Someone from the audience called out, no they ought to be on a lamp post. Smith said no, that's a bit too strong, and followed up with some wisecrack.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

"He then read from some book which described a Communist anti-religion rally in Madison Square Garden in New York. He stated that he will not do anything to interfere with our military strategy, but we must fight Communism in this country. (Throughout his remarks on Communism, the implication seemed to be present that somehow Communism is present in Washington, present in the Administration, and that fighting the dangers of Communism means criticizing also the Administration.)

"Smith had occasion to mention the doctrine of Federal Union and Union with England. He condemned the national conspirators and the international bankers. (There was a great deal of applause from the audience.) He had occasion to mention Dorothy Thompson. He condemned her and with her Clarence Streit, author of 'Union Now' was also boohed. He attacked the munitions racketeers. Stated that we must all unite now to win the war.

"If we are to win this war, we need strong, vigorous leadership in our administration. We must throw out all the old and ineffectual men. Therefore, says Smith, I have today addressed a telegram to President Roosevelt advising him that he ought to make certain radical changes in his cabinet. Old man Stimson should be thrown out of the Secretaryship of War, and substituted for him ought to be the great American leader, Gerald P. Nye, Colonel Knox ought to be thrown out, and as Secretary of the Navy instead of him, Senator Walsh ought to be put in. Cordull Hull is a very nice man, and has done good work. However, he is old and has been sick and ought to be relieved of his job. In his stead I recommended to President Roosevelt that the great American statesman, Burton K. Wheeler, be appointed as Secretary of State. A separate department ought to be set up for the air force, and as Secretary of the air force, I recommend the great American leader, the great American hero, Charles Lindbergh. (Wild applause and cheering). LaGuardia may be a good man in New York, however, outside of New York he has no popularity whatsoever. The job of Director of Civilian Defense ought therefore to be taken away from him and instead Senator Reynolds ought to be appointed to direct the national program of Civilian Defense. (Note all the isolationists, all those with Fascist tendencies, all those who gave comfort to Hitlerism throughout the period immediately preceeding the war, are those nominated by Smith for positions.)

"Smith took occasion to condemn Sidney Hillman and said that in his place a real native American ought to be appointed to the OPM.

"Smith then took occasion to quote the editorial from the Free Press of December 14th, in which there were some pretty bad things said with reference to the attack on Pearl Harbor. Here again Smith used the trick of quoting from the Free Press, and repeating I'm not saying this, this is being said by the Free Press, thus keeping himself on the safe side, and taking his

(Detroit file 62-1126)

audience into confidence, and by implication assuring them that he's a pretty smart fellow and knows how to get around the difficulty of not wanting to say certain things in public. He reiterated again the need of defending America first.

"Apropos of retaining the freedom of speech, Smith began by praising the British. The British, he said, are the smartest people on earth. They know how to get others to fight their wars, they also know how to deal with all sorts of factions. They have been able to retain freedom of speech during the war. (Smith is making his point about retaining freedom of speech, and indirectly taking a slap at the British who are fighting on our side.) He also took a slam at British influence in Washington. (Again attempting to undermine confidence in our own administration and blame a good deal of our difficulty on Britain.)"

He also submitted notes made by [redacted] which are as follows: b7c

"COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION MEETING

"Committee of One Million Meeting at the Cass Technical High School Dec. 16th, 1941 was a complete flop. This is the First time since Gerald L. K. Smith has been operating in this territory that his meeting was so poorly attended: 350 to 400 people and another 200 in the balcony.

"Congressman Dewey Short widely advertised by Gerald Smith in his Sunday and middle week broadcasts did not appear, the excuse being the necessity of him being in Washington this war-time period. Rev. Merion, Mrs. Gerald Smith and another individual, who apparently is a bodyguard to Gerald Smith were on the platform.

"Smith was the sole attraction and during his speech he spotted Robert Vieteg former Secy of the Detroit Chapter of the America First Committee sitting in the audience and then asked him to take a seat on the platform. This invitation was politely declined by Vietig.

"Gerald Smith referred to an alleged telephone conversation he had that day with Senator Burton K. Wheeler. Wheeler assured him that we still enjoyed the right of free speech and all other liberties guaranteed by the Bill of Rights. He then introduced an official representative of the Disabled Veterans of the World War by the name of VINCENT SHIEK who presented Smith with a framed reproduction of the Bill of Rights and praised Smith for his outstanding achievements as a patriot.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

"Smith impressed the audience with his difficulties in raising sufficient money to continue his broadcasts. He said that from now on he will try to keep us his Washington broadcasts on Wednesday night, that, of course, will depend on the response of the millions of followers who up until this time have been so generously supporting him. He said that he will devote his activities to patriotic purposes and that he will keep his eyes open for professional racketeers.

"He stressed the need of presenting a united front and Demanded Immediate Impeachment of SECRETARY OF NAVY KNOX, whom he blamed for the disaster at Pearl Harbor. He also said that he will have the President of the United States replace Knox--appoint Nye in his place; replace Stimson with Senator Walsh of Mass., replace Secy Hull with Burton Wheeler and finally he will demand the establishment of a separate unified air force with Col. Char Lindbergh at its head.

"Smith's appeal for funds was very pathetic. He asked 20 peopl in the audience who had pledged monthly contributions for a period of one year on previous occasions to make this contribution immediately. Only one man responded. He finally reduced that to half of the contribution and to this appeal only one man responded. He then made an appeal for a general collection and the response was below par.

"He assualted the Communist Party: As long as they meet he will continue to hold meetings; as long as the Daily Worker was on sale, he will continue to speak. He never liked F.D.R. He did not vote for him and never will vote for him, but circumstances make Roosevelt the Commander in Chief who must be obeyed and helped in every way possible.

"The audience was not the usual one. The prevailing German element that always packed his meetings was absent. The audience was composed of anti-semites."

[redacted]

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At the request of the writer, [redacted] engaged Accurate Cour Reporters, 414 Ford Building, Detroit, Michigan, to take stenographic notes of the GERALD SMITH meetings on April 24, 1942, and May 12, 1942. These stenographic notes have been photographed by the writer and will be reported as soon as the photographs are received.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

ALBERT C. GRUNEWALD, Special Agent in Charge, Bureau of Internal Revenue, United States Treasury Department, Detroit, Michigan, said that his department was investigating the alleged fraudulent income tax returns of GERALD L. K. SMITH, but he said the investigation had not yet started and he was not able to furnish the writer with any information.

[redacted] Radio Station WJR, Detroit, Michigan, was interviewed concerning Subject and stated that Subject had a broadcast for fifteen minutes each week over Radio Station WJR for several years. He said when SMITH first applied for radio time he had the unofficial endorsement of the principal automobile companies, the Adcraft Club, and many other prominent people. He said that SMITH'S time is each Sunday evening from 7:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. in direct conflict with JACK BENNY'S radio program. He said consequently this time has always been unsalable and he considers it profitable to sell this time to SMITH at the regular commercial rate of $280 for the fifteen-minute period. He said that several times he has become concerned over the attacks made by SMITH in his radio addresses and he has threatened to put SMITH off the air. On one such occasion SMITH produced 9,000 letters from radio fans which all appeared to be genuine. [redacted] claimed that with an audience this large he gave way and admitted that he would not censor the radio tastes of so many people.

[redacted] said that SMITH is not permitted to broadcast in person because he is given to deviate from the script of any prepared speech. Consequently, the station has required SMITH to submit a typewritten script in the middle of the week. This copy is then checked by the radio station's attorney for liable and slander. At the mention of the radio station's attorney [redacted] summoned [redacted] whom he introduced as the station attorney and who remained present for the rest of the interview.

[redacted] and [redacted] were questioned concerning any sponsorship or financial support which SMITH may have received. [redacted] said that he believed SMITH had the encouragement of the Ford Motor Company and the Chrysler Corporation at the time when he was campaigning against the "Communist CIO"; however, neither [redacted] nor [redacted] was able to give any specific evidence of financial support and they both stated that since SMITH has changed his platform to one of a political nature he no longer has the backong of industrialists. They said that they belisve SMITH'S income is derived exclusively from contributions received through the mail as a result of the appeal which he makes at the end of each week's broadcast. [redacted] said that payment for the weekly broadcasts is made by a check drawn on the account of E. M. SMITH and BERNARD DOMAN on the Detroit Bank. [redacted] exhibited check number 507 dated May 8, 1942, drawn on the Detroit Bank in the amount of $280 signed by BERNARD DOMAN and counter-signed

All DTC.170

by E. M. SMITH. There was a notation on the check indicating that it was in payment of G. L. K. SMITH broadcast of May 10, 1942. [redacted] appeared to be very friendly to Subject and frequently stated that if information was desired concerning the activities and financial support of SMITH the best way to get it would be to go to SMITH directly and ask him, because SMITH was the type of man who would not want to hide anything.

When the name of WALTER WINCHELL was brought into the discussion, [redacted] stated that WINCHELL is a much more dangerous man than SMITH because WINCHELL may be sneaking a lot of things in the back door under cover of the patriotic disguise which he assumes. [redacted] also suggested that Director HOOVER should prevent WALTER WINCHELL from speaking over the radio in such a manner as to imply that he is a confidante of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. At this point [redacted] also agreed that WINCHELL was a more dangerous man than SMITH and suggested that it was a waste of time to have the Federal Bureau of Investigation investigate GERALD SMITH when there were so many more important things to investigate. [redacted] suggested that if anybody would be familiar with the more intimate details of SMITH'S operation it would probably be a man named LUCKER who was his manager over a period of time. b7c b7D

[redacted] was interviewed at the Detroit Field Office and stated that he had conducted some investigation for the Dies Committee into the activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH. He stated that whatever information he had picked up in that connection had already been reported by him and was contained in his report which was contained in the file previously examined by the writer during his interview with post office inspector [redacted] did not admit that he himself was in the employ of SMITH as a collector and denied that he had any first-hand information about SMITH'S activities. [redacted] suggested the following persons as potential informants concerning SMITH:

[redacted] b7c

[redacted] 1332 National Bank Building, attorney, National Labor Relations Board, Detroit, Michigan, explained to the writer that it constitutes a violation of the National Labor Relations Act for an employer or one acting on behalf of an employer to interfere with labor organization. Under this provision in the fall of 1940 the National Labor Relations b7c,b7D

(Detroit file 62-1126)

Board was investigating the alleged activities of the Ford Motor Company and persons acting in its behalf to prevent the organization of workers by the CIO. During that investigation, [redacted] said he personally interviewed [redacted] He permitted the writer to read his reports of those interviews.

[redacted] gave him practically no information of value. b7D

[redacted] As a result of the sponsorship by the Ford Motor Company, SMITH has always been favorable to the Ford Motor Company.

[redacted] pointed out that before the United States entered the war HENRY FORD, after months of preparation, suddenly refused to manufacture airplane engines which were to be sent to England. Thereupon, SMITH publicly lauded HENRY FORD'S refusal to make airplanes for England and attacked the Packard Motor Company which fulfilled his order.

[redacted] b7D

The statement further sets forth that there was a temporary rift between HARRY BENNETT and GERALD SMITH because SMITH too publicly boasted of his connection with the Ford Motor Company.

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau revealed that GERALD SMITH has contacted the following persons whose activities may be relevant to this investigation: Senator REYNOLDS, Washington, D. C., telephone National 3120; Reverend LELAND L. MARION, 261 Whitmore, Pontiac, Michigan, telephone Pontiac 2-7601; Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, United Mothers of America, 348 Arcade, Cleveland, Ohio, telephone Michigan 8838. Also, he has had several telegraphic contacts with an unidentified person in Wichita, b7D

(Detroit file 62-1126)

Kansas, probably Reverend GERALD WINROD.

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau was interviewed on two different occasions, once by Special Agent [redacted] and once telephonically by the writer. He stated that he was directed by HARRY BENNETT of the Ford Motor Company about two years ago to interview GERALD L. K. SMITH and to ascertain what the purpose of SMITH'S campaign was. Informant stated that he was impressed with the fact that SMITH was anxious to obtain support for his campaign against Communists in the labor unions but that more fundamentally he had Fascist tendencies. Informant stated that he had no further contact with SMITH. He recommended contacting [redacted] b7D b7C b7C

The writer has obtained one copy of each radio speech made by GERALD SMITH over station WJR since December 7, 1941, and has an arrangement with [redacted] and [redacted] whereby his speeches are being received currently. Photographs of these speeches have been made and will be forwarded to the Bureau as soon as obtained. b7C b7D

No evidence has yet been developed concerning any attempt of Subject to propagandize any particular stratum of society or a particular group such as persons engaged in national defense industry or members of the armed forces or persons having obligations under the Selective Training and Service Act. His audiences consist of radio listeners to station WJR at 7:00 o'clock Sunday evenings and persons who have attended his meetings and mailed contributions to him.

From a highly confidential source it was ascertained that GERALD L. K. SMITH and his wife were somewhat jubilant over the fact that President ROOSEVELT commuted the sentence of EARL BROWDER because this would give SMITH powerful ammunition for future arguments against the administration.

SMITH also sent a package containing copies of a recent mimeographed letter out to Dearborn by a messenger named [redacted] and SMITH instructed [redacted] that the only thing to be written on the package was "For Mr. HARRY BENNETT--Important." This errand was performed on May 17, 1942. b7C

ENCLOSURE: TO THE BUREAU --

One copy of "The Cross and the Flag", May 1942 issue.

- PENDING -

(Detroit file 62-1126)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE CLEVELAND OFFICE

At CLEVELAND, OHIO, will investigate the character and background of Mrs. DAVID STANLEY and the organization known as "United Mothers of America", 348 Arcade, telephone Michigan 8838. It is noted that Mrs. STANLEY has been in frequent contact with GERALD L. K. SMITH.

THE NEW YORK OFFICE

At NEW YORK CITY will interview [redacted] former associate of GERALD L. K. SMITH who may be located through [redacted] attorney, 39 Broadway, New York City. [redacted] should be questioned principally concerning the financial support received by SMITH with particular emphasis on any support received from any interest which may be subversive.

THE NEW ORLEANS OFFICE

At NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, will ascertain information concerning the background and activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH from approximately 1929 to 1935 when he was said to have been a bodyguard and close friend of HUEY LONG with particular reference to any activities which may have been in concert with present enemies of the United States. Will interview [redacted] said to be of New Orleans, Louisiana and former associate of HUEY LONG concerning SMITH'S activities in Louisiana.

THE DETROIT OFFICE

At LANSING, MICHIGAN, will obtain full information concerning the incorporation and activities of the Federation of Americanization of Michigan, Inc.

At DETROIT, MICHIGAN, will consider interviewing the following persons if advisable concerning the activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH: [redacted]

Will continue inspection of Subject's bank account at the Detroit Bank main office particularly near the end of each calendar month.

Will continue this investigation vigorously in order to ascertain the sources of Subject's financial support, Subject's business associates,

ALL b7C

(Detroit file 62-1126)

and future activities. Will make a special effort to ascertain if Subject is making any attempt to propagandize any particular group of persons in violation of the Selective Training and Service Act.

Will continue to collect Subject's propaganda for transmittal to the Bureau.

- PENDING -

(Detroit file 62-1126)

IDENTITY OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

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_____

☒ For your information: Per your March 18, 1982 letter this enclosure was not xeroxed for release.

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818 - 71 Enclosure

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
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FBI/DOJ

CC-285a

FJS:WMJ
6-8-42
62-43818-71

Date:

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To:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/6/82 BY SP6 BJA/ OMS
204,433

Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Subject:

GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH
"THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000"
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 9 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

There is enclosed herewith for your consideration a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, dated May 23, 1942, in the above-entitled matter.

There is also enclosed herewith for your consideration a photostatic copy of the May, 1942, issue of "The Cross and The Flag", which publication was founded and distributed by subject.

Enclosure

JUN 10 1942

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
May 29, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/6/82 BY SP6BJAL Dms
204,433

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
File

[redacted]

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that [redacted], whose identity was made known to you by letter bearing this same date, revealed the following information up to May 27, 1942:

SMITH is attempting to get time on the radio immediately following WALTER WINCHELL'S Sunday night broadcast, so that he will have a better opportunity to answer WINCHELL, who is apparently his most outspoken enemy.

SMITH declined to make any contact with former distributors of "Social Justice" on advice from one [redacted] who advised him not to have anything to do with them. HARRY KELLY, Secretary of the state of Michigan, assured him that he would come to Detroit to spend some time with SMITH and help him to organize SMITH'S campaign for election to the United States Senate.

SMITH contemplated mailing to every station carrying WALTER WINCHELL'S program an article taken from the "Chicago Tribune" to warn the radio stations that they were flirting with danger and scare them out of carrying WINCHELL'S program. SMITH sent a book to [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company. Mr. SMITH has also been contacting HARRY BENNETT, Personnel Manager of Ford Motor Company, and spent several hours with him on the night of February 26, 1942, when it was decided that [redacted] HARRY BENNETT, and GERALD SMITH should get together to keep the New Dealers and the Communists from destroying all of them. SMITH then contacted McKEIGHAN, who received the suggestion favorably.

DEFERRED RECORDING

On May 25, 1942, SMITH called Mrs. ELIZABETH DILLING of Chicago, Illinois, on the telephone and congratulated her on the way she was getting along and stated that he understood that she had settled her lawsuit.

Mrs. DILLING stated that she had been interviewed by an F.B.I. agent named [redacted] who wanted to know what sort of a bulletin she was issuing. She said that he then told her that she could not fight

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PERSONAL FILE

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Communism any longer because Russia was fighting on the same side in the war and that it would interfere with the war effort, causing disunity and hatred.

She replied that an election would do the same thing so she supposed that she might just as well have the same employer. She said that the agent answered that if she wanted to go ahead and be a martyr it was all right, but that he wanted to tell her that she had no right to fight Communism now.

Mrs. DILLING said that this F.B.I. agent named [redacted] was from the Chicago unit of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. She told the agent, after swearing at him, that she despised the F.B.I. for their sniveling hypocritical talks about freedom when they were going around like OGPU agents cracking down on everybody's head.

b7c

SMITH asked Mrs. DILLING if she was sure that the agent told her that she should not fight Communism. She replied absolutely and that was why she was writing a letter to Attorney General BIDDLE asking him if this agent represented merely his personal views or the views of the Department of Justice.

Mrs. DILLING said she also heard that the people who were called before the Chicago, Illinois Grand Jury were similarly told that they must not oppose Communism or unions. Mrs. DILLING further complained that her followers were being summoned before the Grand Jury apparently to scare them, and she considered this political intimidation.

SMITH then asked Mrs. DILLING what she heard about the COUGHLIN matter. She said that it was her opinion that his church shut him up, and he kept quiet to save his collar, but otherwise he would have given them a run for their money.

Mrs. DILLING asked SMITH if there was anything she could do for him, but he said that she had already done enough and she should keep on doing the same thing.

Senator ROBERT NEAL, who had written a letter to SMITH congratulating him on the first issue of "The Cross and the Flag," objected that SMITH used this letter for publicity purposes. Michigan State Senator NEAL said that several of his constituents believed that he was favoring GERALD SMITH'S election over Senator PRENTISS M. BROWN. State Senator NEAL closed by requesting that SMITH refrain from referring to his name or the letter in any future publications.

The Superintendent of the Industrial National Bank Building, the twentieth floor of which is almost entirely occupied by SMITH and his associates, was preparing an occupancy list in accordance with the requirements of the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor. He told SMITH that the present list showed no occupancy, although it was well known that SMITH occupied most of the twentieth floor. The Superintendent asked SMITH how he wanted his occupancy listed and SMIT said to put it down as "The Federation for the Americanization of Mich A Non-Profit Educational Organization Engaged in Patriotic Education."

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted]
62-1126 b7c

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y ram

w104

DETROIT MICH.
MAY 2nd, 1942.

DAILY WORKER, NEW YORK, TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 1942.

FASCIST GERALD L. K. SMITH WILL CAMPAIGN FOR COUGHLIN

Fascist howls Hall is being 'Persecuted'

Gerald L. K. Smith, Ku Kluxer and fascist rabble-rouser of Detroit, Michigan this week plugged away for his good friend and associate Charles Coughlin, whose "Social Justice" is now banned from the mails under the Espionage Act.

Under an official "press release" from Smith's headquarters, newspaper offic throughout the country were bombarded with an attack against the United States Government for "wholesale persecution" of Coughlin. The denunciation of the administration was couched in the familiar anti-Semitic language of fascist propaganda.

HE IS "NOMINATED"

But Smith's support of his pal was not entirely disinterested-it was also used as a peg on which to hang Smith's own fantastic ambition to become a U.S. Senator.

Last week a meeting of his so-called "Committee of 1,000,000" "nominated" him to seek the Republican nomination. It also "nominated" rep. Clare Hoffman no under investigation for possible ties with Axis agencies, and Louis B. War, Coughlin's advisor and official biographer.

Smith announces that if he runs it will be under the slogan "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington". He should go to Washington-under charges of sedition.

Press Release
Committee of 1,000,000
Detroit, Michigan

April 16, 1942
Immediate Release

Gerald L. K. Smith to seek Senate on Coughlin issue

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-7

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 2 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FASCIST SMARL:
Above is heading of "Press release Coughlin's pal Ge newspapers throughout the country. The release, in itself, constitutes treasonous attack upon the government and was couched in anti-Semitic language.

FIVE

JUN 8 '42
191

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/17/83 BY SP. 8BTJ/mlm

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Candy
[redacted]

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit - Michigan
June 1, 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

[redacted]

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH;
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION.

Dear Sir:

From a highly confidential source it was ascertained that GERALD SMITH said that he knows who was with the President when the press got the news of the assassination of HUEY LONG. SMITH said that if this was brought out it would scandalize the whole New Deal. He said that the MURPHYS knew that the incarceration of a Catholic priest would be political suicide.

PEARSON and ALLEN said over the radio that Attorney-General BIDDLE was waivering because the Catholic church was bringing so much pressure on the White House (obviously referring to the FATHER CHARLES E. COUGHLIN case). SMITH continued that the administration would not dare to prosecute PELLEY, HUDSON and GARNER (phonetic) and all that bunch if the Catholic Church continued to bring pressure.

DEFERRED RECORDING

SMITH said that the New Dealers up here are guilty of so much they don't know how guilty each other is and they can't keep up with their own crookedness. If they go ahead and try to maintain good will with South America which is predominantly Catholic and at the same time incarcerate COUGHLIN and SMITH who was COUGHLIN'S protector and friend, then the whole HUEY LONG scandal would be brought out. SMITH said he thought that they felt the whole COUGHLIN matter was "too hot to handle" and consequently they turned EARL BROWDER loose so that they could give the Communists an answer when the Communists started to yell for COUGHLIN'S blood. SMITH said the BROWDER matter would be a great subject for the next meeting, even for the press releases. He said he would build up what is behind the BROWDER release--"Release BROWDER and jail COUGHLIN--Is that what we are coming to?"

RECORDED
INDEXED
EX-2
62-43818-

SMITH said that this would alarm many Catholics who had previously been lukewarm, and that looked wonderful.

SMITH then referred to Reverend FRANK NORRIS who was making a local speech and said that FRANK NORRIS had been in Germany at one time and had made a flattering statement about HITLER. NORRIS then returned here and a lot of his men led in the club against the Communists. Then NORRIS shifted and started to flatter the Reds and was going to take the Gospel to Russia.

4 JUN 15
JUN 15 RECD
JUN 8 RECD
JUN 4 RECD
COPIES DESTROYED
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COPY IN FILE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/17/83 BY SP.8B55/nc

Letter to the Director
dated June 1, 1942

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH;
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION.

Mrs. ELIZABETH DILLING exposed NORRIS and he was quite an enemy of hers and perhaps even testified against her. SMITH, referring to some investigation, said that the investigators would have to call in the officers of the Ford Motor Company, Hudson Motor Company, J. L. Hudson Company and the WEBBERS if they were going to investigate everyone who fought ROOSEVELT or Communism.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

GERALD L. K. SMITH

New York, N. Y.,

May 16, 1942.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/17/83 BY SP.8 [illegible]

The Hour Reports:

The May issue of The Cross and The Flag, the seditious magazine being publishe in Detroit by Gerald L. K. Smith, ex-Silver Shirter No. 3223, devotes its entire back page to a promotional article based on an endorsement received from Senator Robert R. Reynolds of North Carolina. At the top of the page are several lines of bold type reading: "United States Senator Robert R. Reynolds, Chairman of the Military Affairs Committee, said, when interviewed by the Associated Press concerning The Cross and The Flag;..."The item then proceeds to quote Senator Reynold's statement endorsing Smith's subversive sheet which, in the Senator's words, stands "for the things I have stood for for many years." The article also quotes from a personal letter received by Smith from Reynolds, congratulating the Detroit fifth columnist on the first edition of The Cross And The Flag. Smith proudly remarks, "This is merely one of the thousands of testimonials that have come in, favorable to this crusading, patriotic journal."

Emboldened by the support he is receiving from congressmen such as Senator Reynolds, Gerald L. K. Smith strikes out with increasing venom against the Administrati in his current issue. In his characteristic demagogic style, he attacks the "bureaucra and politicians" in Washington for their supposedly incompetent prosecution of the war. The temporary setbacks suffered by the U. S. armed forces in the Pacific are pictured by Smith as "bloody circumstances" brought about by "boondoggling bureaucrats and racketeer in Washington, who not only should be fired but should be locked in jail for the duratio The Government investigation of Father Coughlin's pro-Nazi activities is represented as a "communist" plot to persecute the Royal Oak priest. Two pages are given over to reprinting an attack by Congressman Martin Dies on Vice President Henry Wallace.

Some individuals, however, come in for hearty praise in the latest issue of

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EX - 20
62-45818-75
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
9 JUN 2 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 6 RECD

Smith's seditious journal. They are Charles A. Lindbergh, the Naziphile flyer who e energetically strove to prevent this country from being prepared to face the Axis or slought; Father Charles E. Coughlin, until recently Goebbels' foremost U. S. Spokesme Father Edward Lodge Curran, eastern Fuehrer of the Christian Front; Elizabeth Dillin notorious anti-Semitic propagandist; Dr. Gerald B. Winrod, Kansas pro-Axis agitator; Col. Robert McCormick, publisher of the Chicago Tribune; Col. J. M. Patterson, publi of the New York Daily News; Eleanor Patterson, publisher of the Washington Times-Her William Randolph Hearst; Congressman Martin Dies; and Senator Robert R. Reynolds. T traitor Smith, who once boasted to his jailbird boss Pelley of forming the first Silv Shirt stormtroop band in the United States, describes the above-mentioned individuals as "fearless Americans who have exposed the subterranean operations of the Red revolutionaries without mercy."

The feature article in the current issue of The Cross and The Flag is entitl "My Hat's In the Ring". In it Smith announces he will be a candidate in Michi an thi fall for election to the U. S. Senate. The sort of backing he hopes to get is obviou "I will be supported by the old-fashioned, Christian, American people," he says. He makes an open bid for the support of Christian Front, German-American Bund elements b including this plank in his program:

> "I shall defend the right of free speech and free press for Father Charles E. Coughlin. The treatment that this minister of Christ is receiving at the hands of the bloodthirsty Reds is unbelievable."

With the United States engaged in a life and death struggle against the Axis powers, the seditious, disruptive propagandizing of this 20th Century Benedict Arnold constitutes an ever-increasing danger to the American People. The Hour therefore urg that the Department of Justice immediately suppress The Cross and The Flag and conduc thorough investigation of the treasonable activities of Gerald L. K. Smith, examining with particular care his ties with certain members of the Congress of the United Stat

JEH:JRC

2:53 PM

June 1, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MS. LADD

[redacted] of the National Broadcasting Company telephoned me from New York City and told me that his company has received a letter from Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit in which Mr. Smith demands 15 minutes over the National Broadcasting Company's stations to answer an attack made on him by Walter Winchell.

Mr. Smith states in his letter that unless he is given this time he will sue the National Broadcasting Company. [redacted] advised me that his lawyers are inclined to turn down this request from Gerald Smith and asked me if I thought they were on safe grounds.

I informed [redacted] that Gerald Smith had been a minister for the Huey Long organization and has lately been around Detroit. I told him that Mr. Smith works on the same lines as Father Coughlin but he had nothing like Father Coughlin's following.

I told [redacted] that I would have a summary prepared on Gerald L. K. Smith and would send it to him confidentially. [redacted] thanked me for this and mentioned it would not be necessary for me to sign the summary.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/12/83 BY SP3 [illegible]

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME 5:02 P
DATE 6-1
BY

RECORDED
INDEXED

62-43818-7

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 2 + 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

KTD:lem
Call: 9:10 a.m.
Dictated: 11:00 p.m.

May 23, 1942

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Nease
Mr. Nellemann
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahan
Miss Gandy

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH

Reference is made to the memorandum to the Director by James Rowe, Jr., dated May 20, 1942, in which he advised that [redacted] of Detroit claims information he gave to the FBI regarding the captioned individual has in some way come into the possession of Harry Bennett of the Ford Motor Company.

SAC. Bugas advised this morning that neither he nor any Agent in his office had ever discussed [redacted] or information that he had given to the Bureau with Harry Bennett or any member of the Ford Motor Company or with any informant who might have taken it to the Ford Motor Company. He stated that the "rather scanty information" given by [redacted] has been kept confidential and has not been discussed outside the Detroit office. He stated [redacted] has always had a very cagey part and one of the reasons he has given for not talking is that he is afraid it will get out if he gives it to the Bureau and that he might later be called on to testify. Bugas pointed out it wouldn't be necessary for the Detroit office to tell Harry Bennett about information in [redacted] possession because in the past [redacted] while Gerald L. K. Smith and Bennett were still closely associated. He stated [redacted] has been and still is in very close contact with professional informants around Detroit, such as [redacted] and that, of course, Smith knows what [redacted] knows about him. Since Smith still is in more or less constant contact with Bennett he would be in a position to advise Bennett what [redacted] knows about him.

b7c
b7d

SAC. Bugas stated that he talked to [redacted] on one occasion and that Number One Man Boyd and Special Agent [redacted] have talked to him on several occasions, trying to persuade him to come clean and tell us what he knows about Smith. He stated he is of the opinion [redacted] is holding out for money and believes he has propositioned the [redacted] crowd in New York for $100,000 to give them the information he has on Smith. He stated he has also given the excuse for not talking that he is in fear of his wife, which Bugas does not think very likely.

b7c

Respectfully,

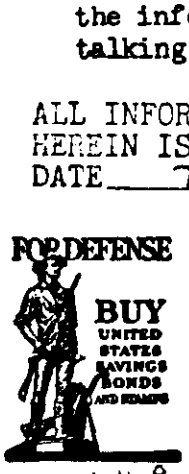
J. E. Mumford

J. E. Mumford

62-43818-7

RECORDED
INDEXED
MAY 23 1942
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/6/82 BY SP6BJA/OMS
204,433



JUN 8 RECD

KTD:lem

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5-25-42

RECORDED 62-43118-77

EX-2

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Reference is made to your memorandum dated May 20, 1942, in which you advised you have been informed that [redacted] of Detroit, Michigan, claims information furnished by him to the Federal Bureau of Investigation has come into the possession of Harry Bennett, Personnel Director of the Ford Motor Company.

[redacted] has been interviewed by employees of this Bureau on numerous occasions, both prior and subsequent to the date on which you furnished information concerning him to Mr. D. M. Ladd. He has refused to furnish any addition information regarding Smith other than that which he had previously furnished to an investigator for the Tolan Committee, with the exception of a suggestion to t effect that Gerald L. K. Smith on one occasion obtained a sum of money from the German Consul in Detroit, Michigan. He has refused to furnish any additional information regarding Smith, justifying his refusal by stating he fears for his personal safety. It is the opinion of the Special Agents who have talked to him that although he undoubtedly does possess considerable data concerning Smith he will not divulge this information unless he is well paid. [redacted]

On May 23, 1942, [redacted] was interviewed by John S. Bugas, the Special Agent in Charge of the Detroit Office of this Bureau, and was very carefully questioned in connection with his statement to the effect that information furni by him to the FBI had come into the possession of Harry Bennett. However, he re fused to clarify this and refused to commit himself in any way. During the inte view [redacted] requested Mr. Bugas to make an appointment for him with Harry Benn and this request, of course, was refused in view of the circumstances.

I have carefully checked on the possibility that information furnished this Bureau through [redacted] could have been divulged to Harry Bennett or any other representative of the Ford Motor Company and wish to state I have ascerta that this has not been done. I might point out that since Gerald L. K. Smith i well acquainted with Harry Bennett, he, of course, would be in an excellent position to advise Bennett that [redacted] does possess considerable information concerning his, Smith's, background.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Coffey
Hendon
Holloman
McGuire
Quinn Tamm
Nease
s Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
MAY 27 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

191

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/6/82 BY SP6 BJA/Dms
204.433

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E.A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Harbo
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

JKM:le
Call: 9:20 P.M.

May 22, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH

I telephonically contacted Special Agent [redacted] of the Detroit Field Division with reference to instructions in Bureau letter dated May 6, 1942 to the Detroit Office that [redacted] informant in the above case, should be immediately interviewed on the basis of information furnished by him to an investigator for the Tolan Committee, which information was subsequently furnished to the Bureau, concerning Gerald L. K. Smith.

b7c I advised Agent [redacted] that a Memorandum has been received from the Assistant to the Attorney General to the effect that one Harry Bennett has obtained possession of this information which was furnished to the Committee by [redacted] and that [redacted] is now in fear for his life as a result of Bennett's having obtained this information; furthermore, that they seem to think that Bennett obtained this information from us. The Memorandum concludes with the following request: "Will you let me know what information [redacted] furnished, and also what information the Bureau has about the reliability of [redacted]

b7D b7D

Inasmuch as the Agent handling this case in the Detroit Office was not immediately available, I requested Agent [redacted] to contact him or SAC Fugas and to advise me tonight, in general, what information [redacted] has recently furnished the Bureau about Gerald L. K. Smith; what about [redacted] reliability; and whether there is any basis for the allegation by the Assistant to the Attorney General that Harry Bennett obtained this information from us.

b7c b7c b7D

b7c Agent [redacted] advised that he would obtain all the information possible, and would call me back on this matter.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/21/82 BY SP6B1A1 Oms
204,433

Call: 9:45

b7c Special Agent [redacted] telephonically advised that he had talked with Special Agent [redacted] who was handling this case, and that [redacted] had furnished the following information concerning [redacted]

INDEXED, SERIALIZED, FILED 62-42717-78

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

FOR DEFENSE BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

JUN 9 1942 11 M

JUN 6 REC'D

[redacted] He claims definitely that he has a wealth of incrim
ing evidence against Smith - as a matter of fact, that he has a "suitcase f
of documentary evidence," and that he, [redacted] will establish the connec
between Gerald Lynrod, Charles E. Hudson, William Dudley Pelley, and a num
of prominent industrial figures in the automobile and steel industries, inc
ing Henry and Edsel Ford, Ernest Tenney Weir, and a man by the name of Pew
the Sun Oil Company, as well as numerous others. He indicated, however, an
extreme reluctance to submit any information, because he is in need of a jo
and he felt that any expose which he might be a party to would involve, of
necessity, powerful men and repercussions would be directed at him and he wo
be ruined. He indicated definitely in his interview that he was fearful of
his personal safety, because most of the information was not known to anyon
else except himself and Smith. He indicated that he might be interested in
remuneration.

b7c Agent [redacted] stated that all of the above information was furnished
a P & C letter to the Director in answer to the Bureau letter of May 6; th
he is evasive and elusive, is afraid of repercussions, he needs a job, et c
and so he furnished nothing more than the information originally furnished

b7c With reference to the information getting to Harry Bennett, Agent
stated that the opinion expressed by the interviewing Agent, and the opinio
believed to be held also by SAC Fugas, is that [redacted] is trying to capi
on his information for personal profit and will not cooperate with the Bur
unless he is assured that it will be worth his while; so that, considering
the fact that he has never furnished any specific information concerning S
if Bennett as obtainined incriminating evidence from [redacted] about Smith,
could not have obtained it from the Bureau.

I advised Agent [redacted] that, with reference to information which B
might have obtained, [redacted] statement to the Tolan Committee was furni
to the Bureau, and was in turn furnished to the Detroit Office; that, the
we desired to know whether there was any possibility of this information
was furnished to the Bureau having gotten to Bennett. I requested Agent [redacted]
have SAC Fugas call me not later than 9:30 A. M. tomorrow morning, May 23,
regarding this possibility.

Agent [redacted] advised that this would be done.

Respectfully,

T. V. Mumford

T. V. Mumford

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

Department of Justice
Washington

JAMES ROWE, JR.
ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

May 20, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR J. EDGAR HOOVER.

Some time ago I gave to Mr. Ladd of the Bureau certain information about [redacted] of Detroit, which information had been furnished to me confidentially by an outside source. At that time, the FBI was in the process of interviewing [redacted] concerning the National Workers League and [redacted] had asked whether he should talk frankly to the FBI. In the past he had indicated an obvious unwillingness to do so.

At my suggestion, [redacted] was told to talk freely and frankly to the special agent in Detroit.

The word now comes to me that [redacted] claims the information he gave to the FBI has in some way come into the possession of Harry Bennett, so-called "Personnel Director" of the Ford Motor Company and [redacted] is now in fear of his life.

The person who gave me this information is seriously disturbed by this disclosure. I do not know the merits of [redacted] contention, nor do I know anything about his reliability.

DEFERRED RECORD

Will you let me know what information [redacted] furnished and also what information the Bureau has about the reliability of [redacted] who is closely associated with Gerald L. K. Smith?

JHR

James Rowe, Jr.

ALL 67c, 67D

RECORDED
INDEXED 62-[illegible]
MAY 29 1942

4 JUN 17 1942

JUN 8 RECD
MAY 22 RECD

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) DEPT OF THE ARMY, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-80

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
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XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice
Detroit - Michigan
May 16, 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

ATTENTION: Photographic Laboratory

Dear Sir:

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
INTERNAL SECURITY, SEDITION.

Enclosed please find two 25-foot rolls of Minipan film.

Please develop and print as instructed, returning prints to this office.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas
JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted] b7c
62-1126
cc: Photographic Laboratory

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/12/83 BY SP-8B7J/wc

62-4528-81
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
6 MAY 19 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MEMP. SECT.

ack 5/22/42

JUN 6 RECD

EX-12

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 19 1942

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Boser
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Neeson
Miss Gandy

B

FBI DETROIT 5-19-42 4-55PM EWT EJP

DIRECTOR

HOME. GERALD L. K. SMITH, INTERNAL SECURITY, SEDITION. ADVISE PHOTOGRAPHIC LABORATORY NOT TO PRINT PHOTOGRAPHS OF WHICH TEN COPIES WERE REQUESTED CONCERNING DETROIT FILE NINE EIGHT DASH TW EIGHT SIX. TRANSMITTAL LETTER WAS DATED MAY SIXTEEN AT DETROIT ENCLOSING TWO ROLLS MINIPAN FILM. OK TO PRINT AS INSTRUCTED PHOTOGRAPHS CONCERNING DETROIT FILE SIX TWO DASH ONE ONE TWO SI

BUGAS

A AND H

500 PM OK FBI WASH DC NG

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 2/12/83 BY SP-8001 MC

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orig & Tw

RCR:AVB

EX - 12

May 22, 1942

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
INTERNAL SECURITY, SEDITION.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated May 16, 1942, and teletype communication dated May 19, 1942, regarding the above-captioned case.

The film rolls forwarded to the Bureau have been developed, and copies are being forwarded to your office under separate registered cover.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/12/83 BY SP-PBFT/ac

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E.A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 7
★ MAY 23 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
RECEIVED
MAY 23 9 55 AM

JUN 1

Exit

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/12/83 BY SP-8B5

JH:klb

June 2, 1942

Gerald L. K. Smith was reportedly born at Pardeeville, Wisconsin, in February, 1898. He is said to have attended Butler Seminary at Indianapolis, Indiana and to have later been graduated from Valparaiso University, with an A.B. Degree. After leaving college, Smith took up active duty as a Minister and is said to have held pastorates at the 7th Street Christian Church at Indianapolis, Indiana and at the King's Highway Church of Shreveport, Louisiana.

During the time that he was a Minister at Shreveport, Louisiana, he is alleged to have become a fast friend and political proponent of the late Huey Long. Advisedly he ultimately left his work as a Minister and was assigned by Long to the task of nationalizing the "Share the Wealth" program. Smith's duties in this regard apparently included travelling about the country and attempting to interest persons in setting up these clubs.

During the life of Huey Long, Smith was an outstanding personality in the Long machine but subsequent to Long's death, he is reported to have incurred the disfavor of Long's successors and to have been ousted from the organization. It is known that he preached the sermon at Long's funeral.

After being dismissed from further activity in the remnants of the Long political machine he is reported to have gone to New York and there in 1937 to have organized a group known as the "Committee of 1,000,000".

Smith's organizational efforts in New York were apparently not successful and in 1938 he removed to Detroit, Michigan where he was instrumental in founding a group known as the "Federation of Americanization in Michigan". This effort was likewise unsuccessful and eventually Smith devoted himself to recreating and directing his original committee, namely the "Committee of 1,000,000" from Detroit, Michigan.

Smith's activities during the past three years and at the present, have been devoted exclusively to an attempt to increase the number of adherents for the "Committee of 1,000,000". In an effort to popularize his Committee he has published a magazine known as "The Cross and the Flag", and has lately established an "Inner Circle" which as its name would imply designates a group of the select few who have been chosen to carry on the work of the "Committee of 1,000,000". Another part of his program, has included weekly radio broadcasts from Station WJR at Detroit, Michigan.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Helleman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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62-43818-2
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
17 JUN 6 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Smith's work in connection with the "Committee of 1,000,000" as outlined in the preceding paragraph has been given principally to criticism of the present administration particularly with reference to its foreign policy. Prior to the involvment of the United States in the current war, his radio broadcasts and his editorials were all strongly isolationist in sentiment and at times anti-Semitic.

According to the accepted publication of the "Committee of 1,000,000", "The Cross and the Flag", the seven fundamental principles of the Committee have been designated as follows:

1. To rebuild the spirit of America.

2. To wipe out the last vestiges of Communism, Naziism, and Fascism in all forms.

3. The redefinition of the American national character.

4. The installation of a new spirit in American youth, dedicated to the maintenance of American institutions.

5. To issue a call to farmers and laborers to resist what is now known as an international plot to involve them in a world revolution.

6. To rededicate the citizenry of America to the family altar and to the spirit of the church.

7. To secure the maintenance of a well-defined standard of American living.

Since December, 1941, the program of the "Committee of 1,000,000" has reportedly shifted to a denunciation of Communism and to a general criticism of the administration in the conduct of the war effort.

Smith has allegedly been actively engaged in various non-interventionist groups and has reportedly had the backing and support of an organization of this type known as "Mothers of United States of America".

It has further been reported that he was at one time an active member of William Dudley Pelley's Silver Shirts.

On the night of April 24, 1942, Smith, during the course of an address to members of the "Committee of 1,000,000", announced his candidacy

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

for the office of United States Senator for the State of Michigan. At that time he reportedly announced his platform as that which was previously adopted for the "Committee of 1,000,000". This platform is said to include the following four points:

1. One hundred percent loyalty to the war effort.
2. $100.00 a month for every soldier.
3. An honest hearing in the Senate for the Townsend Plan.
4. Tires for everybody.

Concerning Smith, it has further been reported that he was arrested on November 3, 1936 by the Police Department of New Orleans, Louisiana, on a charge of having disturbed the peace in the using of obscene language. Reportedly this arrest resulted in his receiving a suspended sentence of $10.00 and ten days.

It has also been mentioned that Smith has been involved as plaintiff in several libel and slander cases. According to newspaper accounts in March of 1939 he instituted a $500,000 slander suit against the March of Time Newsreel Company for having allegedly slanderously associated him with Father Divine as a "Rabble Rouser".

Another account is to the effect that in 1935 Smith filed libel charges against the Washington Times, Washington, D. C. This suit, it was stated, was subsequently dropped by the plaintiff without any active effort toward prosecution.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Helloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

RECORDED
62-43818-82

FJS:klb June 2, 1942

[redacted]

National Broadcasting Company, Incorporated
RCA Building
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

In connection with our telephone conversation of June 1, 1942, there is enclosed herewith for your confidential information a summary setting forth available background data and the activities of Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit, Michigan.

As a matter of interest the activities of this individual are presently under investigation by this Bureau.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/12/93 BY

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Hellman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 7
JUN 3 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-8486

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
WASHINGTON, D. C.	6/4/42	6/1,2/42	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH; COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Copies of SMITH'S broadcasts over Station W O L from October 29, 1941 to December 24, 1941 and a copy of "The Cross and the Flag", Volume 1, Number 1, April, 1942, were obtained, and are being forwarded to Bureau.

ENCL BEHIND FILE

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2/17/83 BY SP8BTT/MC

REFERENCE: Bureau letter to the Detroit Field Division dated April 23, 1942. (62-43818)

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

In accordance with instructions contained in the above reference letter, the writer contacted [redacted] of the American Broadcasting Corporation at Station W O L, 1627 K Street, N.W. [redacted] advised that he was also the representative of the Mutual Broadcasting Company and that he personally had been contacted by the subject in making arrangements for the broadcasting of transcriptions of his speeches. He also stated that he censored each and every broadcast, a typewritten copy of which was forwarded to him from Detroit before the transcription was made and that after corrections by him they were returned to SMITH and the transcriptions made. He made available the transcription records and also typewritten copies of all speeches made by SMITH.

The writer listened to the recordings and followed the text of

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: L. K. Moyer SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES: 62-43818 83 RECORDED

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2 - Detroit
2 - Washington Field

ccD. office 12/26/42

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OCT 13 1964

JUN 6 1942
289

of the speeches by the typewritten copies and learned that they are substantially the same except for a few minor differences in words and language used which in no way changed the text of the speech. Photostatic copies of these speeches are being forwarded to the Bureau together with this report.

In brief, the speeches made by SMITH have all been directed to the President, members of Congress and members of the Cabinet. During these speeches, SMITH has taken it upon himself to point out various controversial issues of the day, stating his opinion in this regard as to the actions of the President and Congress on these matters and advised that the statements made by him were formulated from letters forwarded to him by the members of the organization known as The Committee of One Million.

The electrical transcriptions carried identification tags as set out below, all of which are the same except for the dates and length of time of the program:

"Date of program Program #
Program time
Title
GERALD L. K. SMITH, Radio Station W O L
Date
Essex Broadcasters, Inc.,
330 Union Guardian Building,
Detroit, Michigan"

A photostatic copy of these broadcasts is being maintained in the Washington Field Office files and two copies are being sent to the Bureau.

[redacted], Periodical Reading Room, Library of Congress, telephonically contacted this office in order to make available to Special Agent [redacted] a copy of the publication "The Cross and the Flag". The writer contacted [redacted] and at that time he advised that he would make available the above referred to publication and on the following day this was forwarded to the Washington Field Office for its use.

b7c
b7D

ENCLOSURE TO THE BUREAU

Two photostatic copies of radio speeches made by GERALD L. K. SMITH

One copy of "The Cross and the Flag", Volume I, Number 1, April, 1942.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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☒ For your information: Per your March 18, 1982 letter this enclosure was not xeroxed for release.

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818 - 83 Enclosure

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FBI/DOJ

CC-285

PUBLICATION

FJS:WMJ
6-10-42
62-43818-83 Date:

RECORDED

To: Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Subject:

GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/12/83 BY SP-FOIPA

JUN 15 1942

There is enclosed herewith for your consideration a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] Washington, D. C., dated June 4, 1942, in the above-entitled matter, together with photostatic copies of subject's weekly radio broadcasts from October 29, 1941, to December 24, 1941.

Enclosure

★ JUN 11 1942 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
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☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) NAVAL INV SERVICE, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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62-43818-84

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FBI/DOJ

ALIEN ENEMY CONTROL UNIT

TO: Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Mr. Burling
Mr. Cooley
Mr. Ennis
Mr. Gitlin
Mr. McKnight
Mrs. McLean

Mr. Moe
Mr. Tubridy
Mr. Wasserman
The Docket Room
Stenographic Pool
ATT:—

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gandy
Miss

MEMORANDUM

RECORDED 62-43518-85

INDEXED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
2 MAY 2 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

1 ENCLO.

For your kind consideration and appropriate action.

EX-7

[redacted]

4/22/42

b7c

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
RECEIVED
APR 23 1942

To the Honorable
Francis Biddle
Attorney General
Of the United States

Dear Sir

I beleive it was Last Sunday That I mailed A letter To your Office Regarding the Broadcasting of Jearld L.K.Smith who as I see it is Broadcasting just the way the Nazies and there allies Want Him to Brodcast .and In my Own Mind I beleive he is either Directly or indirictely in the employe of the enemies of the American Form of Goverment.and is doing all in his power cause hatered in the hearts and Minds of the People against the Goverment of this United States.

On account of my fight against Unamerican activities and on acco of Uncovering much Pro Naxie Activities and Pro Nazie Propoganda why Of course I am Classed as A Rat I am classed as Brainless I a Classed as A person who is far from being Intelligent.and I have Received A Challenge From an anti Roosevelt Man who is Conected with One of the Bigest News papers in the State to take an Intel test This Man alougth A Busisness Man hates Roosevelt .I am Hate so badly here By the Anti Roosevelt Gang and the Pro Nazie Gang and the Enemies of Democracy that some times it is Impossible Fo me to Earn enough Money to Buy Food For My Family.But Regardless and My Family are Going to Continue to Fight all Unamerican Acti and do all in Our Power to Help Win this War even if we have to Give our Lives in Doing so .so Mr Biddle I am Sending this lette By Special Delivery and Air Mail so that it will Reach your Depa and I am Incloseing A Clipping taken out Of this Morning.s Free and I ask You are You Going to let this Pro Nazie Jearld K Smit Continue to use the Reido for the purpose of Destroying True Americanism that Our Forefathers Gave there Lives For and which O Boys are Fighting on the Field of Battle Right now to Defend.

DEFERRED RECORDING

For the Best Intrest of America and Liberty and Freedom and For The Protection of Our Boys who are to day Fighting and Dieing on the field of Battle so that America may always be A the Land of the Free. I ask You to put this Man Smith off the Air.and put hi Where he Belongs in some Unamerican Prison Camp.in My own Mind I think this Man Smith is A Traitor and an Allie of the enemies True Americanism and Democracy.

Yours For Supreme Victory
For The Armies of the United States
and there Allies Glory will Not and
and Shall Not Ever Go Down.

APR 24 1942

[redacted]

RECD

Predicts a Backfire

He also predicted that the sedition accusations made against Social Justice were the prelude to acts which would cause a sweeping revulsion against American Jewry, the newspaper said.

"Why do they fear Father?" Ward was quoted as saying. "He's been silent for two years. He hasn't written, or spoken on the radio. They're afraid of what he'll divulge, I tell you."

Ward's service as editor of Social Justice ended in June, 1940.

Dies in Station

Death came to him suddenly in a railroad station. Funeral arrangements for him were not complete Tuesday.

Meanwhile, Gerald L. K. Smith, national chairman of the Committee of 1,000,000, announced that he would speak Friday night on the subject:

"Will we permit the Reds to jail Father Coughlin?"

Smith's speech will be in the Maccabees Building auditorium.

REGISTERED

FJS:WMJ
62-43818 — 85

June 4, 1942

EX-2

[redacted] b7c

Dear [redacted]

Your letter and enclosure dated April 22, 1942, directed to the Attorney General, has been referred to this Bureau.

I want you to know that the content of your letter has been carefully noted and is being made a matter of official record in the files of this Bureau for such consideration as may be deemed appropriate.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 2/17/93 BY SP-18TJ/mlm

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JUN 4 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-WIRE ROOM

JUN 2 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/11/83 BY SP-8845/pb

Federal Bureau
Of investigation
E.J. Hoover,
Dear Sir,

There is another magazine that's being sold, which has taken the place of social Justice and is named the Cross and the flag an assumed name - social injustice
Both magazines are on the same order and should be stopped at once by our government - Yours Very Truly

[redacted]

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 13
☆ JUN 17 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED & INDEXED

JUN 22 RECD

1 JUN 22 '42

Ack #1 6-16-42
-86
17 JUN 6

[redacted]

All b7c

NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY, INC.

A RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA SERVICE

RCA BUILDING · RADIO CITY

NEW YORK, N. Y.

June 5 1942

Mr J Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D C

Dear Mr Hoover:

Your letter and memo regarding Gerald L K Smith has been received and will be treated confidentially. Many thanks.

Sincerely yours

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/12/83 BY SP-8BTJ/MW

[redacted]

b7c

10 JUN 15 1942

RECORDED

INDEXED

62-43818-8
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
15 JUN 8 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUN 13 RECD

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

June 4, 1942

EGF:MLC

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith;
Sedition

Call: 9:10 a.m.
Dictated: 10:20 a.m.

[redacted] b7c

Number One Man Boyd of the Detroit Office was contacted while he was in touch with the Bureau concerning other matters and was questioned concerning the duplication of symbols used by the Detroit Office for the technical surveillance on Smith. Mr. Boyd had reported the symbols [redacted] would be used for this surveillance but on the morning of June 1, 1942 SA [redacted] of the Detroit Office advised Supervisor [redacted] that symbol [redacted] would be used to designate this surveillance. b7D b7c

ACTION: After checking the records of his office, Mr. Boyd stated that symbols [redacted] should be disregarded and that symbol [redacted] should serve as the designation in this instance. b7D

Respectfully,

E. G. Fitch

E. G. Fitch

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/17/83 BY SP.8005/MC

RECORDED

62-43818

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 JUN 8 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FOR DEFENSE BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

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83 OCT 13 1964

[redacted] June 8. 1942.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover.
Washington D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover: I have received letters and literature from Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit Mich. (GERALD L.K. SMITH) of which you no doubt know, and know also of his writings and radio talk.
We are really a free country or his talk would not be tolerated in time of war.
It may be, I don't know of how far and can go, but this is one thing sure, if I had the power, I would stop him.
Any-way, he needs watching.

Very Respectfully yours
[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/17/83 BY SE 1BT/pt

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 13
☆ JUL 1 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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62-43818-89
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
1 JUN 11 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

7 JUL 7 1942

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
[redacted]
AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
[redacted]

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice
Detroit - Michigan
June 6, 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY - Sedition

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/6/82 BY SA6BJA/DMS
204,433

Dear Sir:

This will confirm telephone conversation between Special Agent (A) Milton J. Boyd and [redacted] on June 6, 1942, at 2:30 P.M. b7c

[redacted] confidentially advised Agent Boyd that GERALD L. K. SMITH had given out a press release to be made public after six P.M. June 7, 1942. The press release consisted of a letter to Attorney General BIDDLE, advising BIDDLE that SMITH had learned of a plot by which certain people were going to plant ammunition and firearms in the homes of SMITH's followers and then tip off the Federal Bureau of Investigation so that they would then be raided and SMITH discredited. [redacted] said that SMITH claimed he got this information from Mr. HUIE of the American Mercury Magazine, New York City, New York. Beside the letter to Attorney General BIDDLE which was dated June 5, 1942, SMITH also released his radio speech which was to be delivered over radio station WJR, Detroit, Michigan, on June 7, 1942. A photostatic copy of the letter as well as a photostatic copy of his radio speech is being forwarded herewith. b7c b7D

DEFERRED RECORDING

The following information was given by [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. b7D

HUBERT LUCKER telephoned BERNARD BOMAN, manager for GERALD L. K. SMITH, who told him that he, LUCKER, had received a call from a fellow from the Justice Department named [redacted] and he wanted to speak to SMITH about it. HUBERT LUCKER told SMITH that [redacted] of the Justice Department called again, but did not say what he wanted to speak to him about. LUCKER verified the telephone number by calling Randolph 2905, and ascertaining that that was the telephone number of the Detroit Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. SMITH ad- b7c

INDEXED

ENCL BEHIND FILE

1 ENCLO. 15

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~~83 OCT 18 1964~~

[redacted]

vised LUCKER not to respond to the telephone call and to wait until he received an official letter requesting an interview with LUCKER or else a subpena. SMITH said he had other things to talk with LUCKER about, and inasmuch as LUCKER was suffering from a severe cold and after effects of drunkenness (which resulted in arrest by Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan, Police Department), SMITH visited LUCKER's home. LUCKER suggested to SMITH that [redacted] must have urged the Department of Justice to investigate SMITH. [redacted] also told SMITH that a man named [redacted] at Randolph 2905 wanted him to call. Inasmuch as he did not know anybody by that name, he wanted to ask SMITH about it first. SMITH advised [redacted] to ignore the telephone call and to wait until he got an official letter from the Federal Bureau of Investigation or else a subpena inasmuch as he feared it might be someone improperly trying to gain information. SMITH arranged an appointment with HARRY BENNETT of the Ford Motor Company for the afternoon of June 3, 1942 at BENNETT's office. b7c

On June 2, 1942, according to [redacted] SMITH received a telegram from WILLIAM HUIE, Associate Editor of the American Mercury Magazine in New York City and a friend of GEORGE ZISUCOSKI of the New York Sun. According to the telegram, HUIE wanted SMITH to telephone him to make an appointment since HUIE expected to come to Detroit. On June 3, 1942, SMITH advised his manager, DOMAN, that HUIE was coming to Detroit on June 4, 1942, and that DOMAN should find out where HUIE was staying and to be nice to him but not "to slobber all over him". b7D

On June 4, 1942, SMITH telephoned [redacted] of the [redacted], Ford Motor Company. SMITH told [redacted] that he had a friend in New York City, an editor of a magazine and an important fellow who called up a number of organizations, including Burkhead's Organization, and told them that he was going to write an article about GERALD SMITH if they had any material. BURKHEAD got chummy with this New York editor (HUIE) and told him that within the next ten days, machine guns, munitions, and other such materials would be placed in picked homes in Detroit, that tips would then be made to the Federal Bureau of Investigation who would raid these homes. The owners of the homes which were raided would then say that they were associated with GERALD L. K. SMITH, members of the Committee of One Million, great admirers of CHARLES LINDBERGH, etcetera. By this way the Jews hoped to demonstrate that SMITH was head of an underground revolutionary conspiracy. SMITH asked [redacted] if he knew anything about such b7c b7c

a plot. [redacted] said he did not; however, that everything was being done against the National Workers' League. In fact there was a Grand Jury investigation going on right now in Detroit under an attorney from the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice. [redacted] told SMITH that he understood that [redacted] had received orders from New York "to get the National Workers' League and SMITH too". SMITH said that was fine, [redacted] would be a dandy one to do it, but [redacted] said that [redacted] wouldn't do it himself because he always got other people to do such things for him. [redacted] suspected that [redacted] was in some way responsible for causing SMITH to be investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. [redacted] said he knew there was an investigation in progress concerning SMITH, but he didn't think there was anything to it and that he thought it had been dropped by now. [redacted] advised SMITH to call HARRY BENNETT and tell him about the plot. SMITH agreed that he would call HARRY BENNETT. [redacted] suggested that it was a good idea because he knew that BENNETT was "plenty thick with BUGAS and that he could do it all right". SMITH thought that most of the talk concerning an investigation of himself was attributed to WALTER WINCHELL. SMITH asked [redacted] if he had heard of any of SMITH's friends being questioned, and [redacted] said that he had. [redacted] refused to mention names over the telephone but said they had been questioned more than once but hadn't done any talking. [redacted] told SMITH that he should forget that he even told him this. [redacted] stated that "HOOVER and WINCHELL were close friends" as everybody knew and that WINCHELL was "using HOOVER".

SMITH telephonically contacted WILLIAM HUIE in Detroit, Michigan again, and HUIE asked SMITH to arrange an appointment with HARRY BENNETT and also wanted to arrange an interview with HENRY FORD within the next month. HUIE said that he had already spoken to [redacted] HARRY BENNETT's personal secretary, and SMITH said that [redacted] was a responsible man. SMITH and HUIE met at the Statler Hotel, Detroit, Michigan at 1:30 P.M. on June 5, 1942. On the morning of June 5, 1942, SMITH called HARRY BENNETT's office and explained apparently to [redacted] that a friend whom he formerly knew in Louisiana had come from New York, that he was a very nice fellow and a very important writer, and that the fellow brought in some very serious information concerning a plot that BURKHEAD is planning on SMITH and others in Detroit. He said that the plot involved everybody and was too important to talk about over the phone even though [redacted] wanted some idea what it was about so that he could pass it on to HARRY BENNETT. SMITH continued that BURKHEAD and his fellow conspirators in New York,

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through [redacted] and others, were to plant machine guns and ammunition in a number of homes in Detroit, that the Federal Bureau of Investigation would then be tipped off and requested to raid these homes. When the homes were raided, the occupants were supposed to say that they were followers of GERALD SMITH, HENRY FORD, HARRY BENNETT, FATHER COUGHLIN, and others. SMITH said that his informant was not the ordinary newspaperman, but was a very fine type. He wouldn't dare use the name or he would lose him as a source of information. SMITH assured that this was not an exaggeration, nor a phony story, but that he knew it was being planned. SMITH suggested that HARRY BENNETT should call JOHN BUGAS right away and tell him that there is a plan to use the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a "stooge" and embarrass them. SMITH also suggested that HARRY BENNETT ought to "put somebody on this [redacted] because he was working on all of them all the time". SMITH urged prompt action on this suggestion and was assured of it. SMITH said that [redacted] was mad because SMITH wouldn't give him a job and because he couldn't get a job at Fords, and HARRY BENNETT warned him about [redacted] nearly four years ago. SMITH concluded by saying this was no spook story but that HARRY BENNETT should take action immediately because this was no spook story.

On the morning of June 5, 1942, HUBERT LUCKER telephoned SMITH and said that he had previously stalled off the Federal Bureau of Investigation Agent and refused to contact him, but that they finally came to see him at his home and asked him about the paper and where the money came from, and that he had said that they could find this out from anybody and that he had answered all questions in generalities. He stated that he was also asked if he were still president and that he replied that he supposed so. (It should be stated here that, with my consent, Agents [redacted] and [redacted] interviewed LUCKER exclusively about the "Free Romania" movement and made no reference at all to GERALD SMITH or anything pertaining to his organization). SMITH advised LUCKER that the Federal Bureau of Investigation had also questioned one of his printers. SMITH then told LUCKER about HUIE, the magazine editor from New York who had been collecting information in order to write an article about SMITH and that he had interviewed several of SMITH's enemies and one of them who is also an editor and friendly with BURKHEAD, told him that within the next ten days a plot would be carried out whereby guns and ammunition would be planted in the homes of various people about town by the Jews, and that the Federal Bureau of Investigation would then be called upon to make raids and it would be publicly announced that the parties arrested were friends of GERALD SMITH, and that he was

ALL 67

sponsoring some kind of underground revolution. SMITH advised LUCKER to keep his basement locked so that nothing could be thrown into it when he wasn't there. SMITH informed LUCKER that [redacted] believed [redacted] had a hand in all of this plot. SMITH had called their mutual friend who was "not very tall" (undoubtedly HARRY BENNETT) and told him that he ought to get in touch with Mr. BUGAS and advise him that this plot was a conspiracy against HENRY FORD, CHARLES LINDBERGH, FATHER COUGHLIN, and all of us who have been leaders in this community, and HARRY BENNETT agreed with him. SMITH then asked LUCKER what kind of a looking fellow [redacted] was and if he was a Jew, and LUCKER said no and that they had been very nice in questioning him and did not make any effort to embarrass him. LUCKER said the Federal Bureau of Investigation Agents were attempting to tie in some silly gossip relative to "the king" (meaning King CAROL of Rumania) coming to the United States and said that he thought they should know all about this as it was a matter for the United States Government for whom he hoped the Agents were still working. LUCKER said that he had the Agents right in a corner in this. SMITH said that this was [redacted] work. LUCKER then said that he asked them outright if they had spoken to [redacted] about these matters, suggesting that he knew a lot about them and that one of the Agents had said, "You mean the investigator working for DIES?" LUCKER had then asked if he did work for DIES and was told that as a matter of fact he did not, but merely did work for him when he wanted some done in Detroit. SMITH then told LUCKER that [redacted] really works for the Jews, the Anti-Fascist League, and that they gave DIES all that stuff. SMITH said the Federal Bureau of Investigation hates the Dies Committee anyway. LUCKER then said that this chap, referring to [redacted] was all right but what he did do about seeing other people, he could not say, and that he had tried to appear evasive so that LUCKER would not get the full drift of what they were driving at. SMITH suggested that they would try to get information from LUCKER's "little Greek preacher friend" and he said that they had already about four days ago, and that the preacher had not called him.

In the evening of June 5, 1942, SMITH attempted to call HUIE in Room 835 at the Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, Michigan, but was unsuccessful. When [redacted] later contacted Mr. SMITH telephonically, he was told the details of the guns and ammunition plot story.

AL b7C

Please be assured we will promptly receive advice as to any further developments in this matter.

Very truly yours,

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted]jt
62-1126
Enclosures

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/6/82 BY SP6 BJM/DMS
94,393

JUN 12 1942

RECORDED 62-43818-98

FJS:WMJ
6-10-42
100-43818

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

It has been determined that Gerald L. K. Smith, Detroit, Michigan, delivered a radio address over the facilities of a Detroit broadcasting station on the evening of June 7, 1942. Prior to this date, the Detroit Field Office of this Bureau came into possession of a copy of the radio script which Smith contemplated delivering on June 7, 1942.

The prepared contemplated speech of Smith, a copy of which is enclosed herewith, pertains to an alleged plot whereby his enemies intend to plant damaging exhibits such as guns and ammunition in certain homes in Detroit. According to this contemplated speech, after the exhibits have been planted, the authorities of the Government are to raid the homes and the owners of the premises raided would say that they are supporters of Gerald L. K. Smith, and that this is a part of the Gerald L. K. Smith plan.

There is also enclosed herewith for your information a typewritten copy of a letter prepared by Smith directed to you, which he contemplated sending on June 5, 1942. It is reported that a copy of this letter was given to a representative of the press at Detroit, Michigan, in the form of a press release, but it was not to be released before 6:00 P.M., June 7, 1942.

I wish to advise that this Bureau has no information concerning this alleged plot. It is noted that Smith is presently under investigation by this Bureau to determine if he is engaged in the violation of any statute within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau, and it is possible that you may desire to entertain prosecution against him in the future. Will you kindly advise me if you desire to have Smith interviewed concerning the plot to which he refers. Since such an interview might deter him from making statements relative to this plot in the event his allegations are without foundation, it is suggested that the possibility of future prosecutive action against him should be considered in determining whether or not he should be questioned at the present time relative to this plot.

Respectfully,

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tolly
Mr. Coson
Mr. Carson
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Hoover
Miss Gandy

Enclosures

cc - Assistant Attorney General
Wendell Berge

JUN 11 1942

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
June 11, 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,
aka GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 11, 1942, in the above-captioned matter, which states that copies of the radio speeches of subject and stenographic transcripts of subject's meeting held May 12, 1942, and the May, 1942 issue of "The Cross and the Flag" are being forwarded to the Bureau under separate cover.

The above-mentioned items are being forwarded to the Bureau under separate cover.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted] b7c

62-1126

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/17/83 BY SP-8B3/MC

1 ENCLOSURE

JUN 19 1942

RECORDED

COPY IN FILE

62-42818-91
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
6 JUN 13 1942

JUN 16 REC'D

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

WB:NML:BGL

146-28-43

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Fenlon
Mr. Hoover
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
File

June 12, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR,
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,

Re:

GERALD L. K. SMITH,

Re:

COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION.

The Criminal Division is in receipt of a letter dated June 5, 1942, from Gerald L. K. Smith, addressed to the Attorney General, with reference to an alleged plot to embarrass and ruin Mr. Smith. Two photostatic copies of Mr. Smith's letter and a copy of a letter dated June 12, 1942, from the Criminal Division to Mr. Smith are transmitted herewith for your information.

Respectfully,

Wendell Berge

WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General.

Inc. #33103

RECORDED

INDEXED - 15

62-43818-92

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
19 JUN 15 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

1 ENCLO. 19

JUN 19 1942

JUN 16 RECD

WB:NML:AEM

146-28-45

June 12, 1942

Mr. Gerald L. K. Smith
Post Office Box 459
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Mr. Smith:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter to the Attorney General dated June 5, 1942, concerning an alleged plot by certain unnamed individuals in Detroit and New York City to fix responsibility on you for certain exhibits which you state will be "planted" in the Detroit area.

If you will make available to the Department the names of your informant and the other individuals said to be involved, as well as other information in your possession bearing on this reported plot, the Department will of course be glad to consider any action warranted by the facts.

Respectfully,

WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General

ENCLOSURE

62-4[illegible]

Committee of 1,000,000 Gerald L. K. Smith NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

"For God and Country"

Headquarters: POST OFFICE BOX 459 Detroit, Michigan

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL RECEIVED JUN 9 - 1942

June 5, 1942

The Hon. Francis J. Biddle
Attorney General of the United States
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Biddle:

A very responsible editor of a very important magazine visited me this week with this report. A certain organization in New York City has planned to plant damaging exhibits, such as munitions and so forth in certain homes in Detroit and in the area of my influence.

When the exhibits are properly placed, my informer tells me that the scheme is to call the Department of Justice, stimulate a raid, and when the raid has been consummated the theory is that some of the individuals raided will attempt to fix the responsibility on me.

The plot is a cold-blooded frameup, designed to embarrass me and ruin me, if possible.

I am writing this letter to you to advise you that this scheme is being planned by individuals in New York City in cooperation with Detroit individuals in violation of the laws against a conspiracy. I, therefore, call on you, as attorney general of the United States, to give me protection against these plotters.

An immediate reply is desired.

RECEIVED
JUN 9 1942
CRIMINAL DIVISION

Sincerely,

Gerald L. K. Smith

GERALD L. K. SMITH

GLKS/U

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Origin DETROIT, MICHIGAN — DETROIT File No. 62-1126

Office	Date	Period	Made by
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	6/11/42	5/22-28/42	[redacted] b7c

Title	Character
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, Also known as GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY SEDITION

Synopsis of Facts: Subject in radio speeches admitted by reading fan mail that broadcasts over radio station WJR reach members of the armed forces and also national defense workers. Copies of radio speeches submitted to Bureau. Subject works in collaboration with HARRY BENNETT, of Ford Motor Company; GERALD B. WINROD, Wichita, Kansas; Mrs. ELIZABETH BILLING, of Chicago, Illinois; and certain members of Congress. Subject obtained free office space in Industrial National Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan, and has been maintained by contributions from prominent industrialists. Subject believed formerly to have negotiated with German Embassy. Subject participated in "Peace Committee," urging isolation, in 1940 and 1941, in collaboration with Reverend CHARLES E. COUGHLIN, America First Committee, No Foreign War Committee, and Mothers of United States of America.

- P -

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE ON DUMMY RAMP

EXCLUDED

DATE: 10/15/57

4

Duplicate Copies in Encl. Envelope 5-26-54 [illegible]

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] b7c dated May 23, 1942, at Detroit, Michigan.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/6/82 BY SP6 BIA

Approved and Forwarded:	Special Agent in Charge	FBI — DETROIT	RECORDED & INDEXED
John S. Burger		62-1126-93	

Copies

5 - Bureau
2 - Chicago
2 - Kansas City
2 - Cleveland
2 - New Orleans
2 - New York
3 - Detroit

JUN 18 1942

SECTION

COPIES DESTROYED

OCT 13 1964

COPY IN FILE

(Detroit file 62-1126)

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan: b7D

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that subject is maintaining contact with the following individuals:

[redacted]
Superior 4613;
Senator ROBERT R. REYNOLDS, Washington, D. C.; b7c
Dr. GERALD B. WINROD, Wichita, Kansas;
LAWRENCE ASHMUN, editor, news advertiser,
St. Louis, Missouri;
HARRY BENNETT, Ford Motor Company, Detroit, Michigan;
Captain EDWARD SOUTHARD, 77 West Washington, care of
Citizens Committee, Chicago, Illinois, telephone
State 798;
Colonel GEORGE WILKES, Flint, Michigan, telephone
3-1333;
Congressman ROY WOODRUFF, Washington, D. C.;
J. WILLIAMS, Cass Company, telephone Superior 4030,
Chicago, Illinois;
Mrs. ELIZABETH DILLING, telephone Andover 4000,
Chicago, Illinois;
[redacted]
Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, United Mothers of America, b7c
348 Arcade, Cleveland, Ohio;
Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN
Dr. LELAND WINION, Pontiac, Michigan.

A review of the files of the Detroit Field Office revealed the following information concerning subject:

[redacted] directs the activities of the Mothers of America in the Detroit area for Father COUGHLIN and GERALD L. K. SMITH. She also stated that J. B. BOOK, JR., 1702 Industrial Bank Building, who is generally known as IRVING BOOK, JR., and whose father owns the Book Building in Detroit, stated that he is financing GERALD L. K. SMITH, and that he set SMITH up in the Industrial Bank Building and actively promotes his work. [redacted] gave this information to Special Agent [redacted] and it is filed in Detroit file 65-618, entitled, "NEUTRAL MOTHERS OF AMERICA." b7c b7D

(Detroit file 62-1126)

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[redacted]

Also Detroit file 100-0-726 consists of an 8 page pamphlet dated January 7, 1941, entitled, "As We See It, Defend Our Country First and Always." The context of the pamphlet is purely isolationist and non-interventionist; and is signed by ALFRED P. ADAMO, 11711 Oakland Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, and undersigned by the "Peace Committee," consisting of GERALD L. K. SMITH, National Chairman of Committee of One Million, Detroit, Michigan; Mothers of United States of America, 535 Book Building, Detroit, Michigan; VERNE MARSHALL, Chairman of No Foreign War Committee, 515 Lexington Avenue, New York City; ROBERT WOOD, Chairman of America First Committee, 806 Board of Trade Building, Chicago, Illinois; and Reverend CHARLES E. COUGLIN, Royal Oak, Michigan.

[redacted]

When SMITH left New York City and came to Detroit via Toledo, Ohio, on his arrival in Detroit, [redacted] was introduced to him by [redacted] of the National Metal Trades Association. [redacted] said he was anxious to meet SMITH, because he had had several inquiries about SMITH from [redacted] of the Detroit Citizens Committee for Industrial Relations and [redacted] Detroit Board of Commerce. [redacted] said he was immediately interested in finding out what SMITH'S purpose was in coming to Detroit. SMITH knew about [redacted] previous investigations on the Communist activity and immediately offered him a job as investigator. [redacted] said that there was no written contract and that the employment was not on any permanent basis. He said he accepted the offer because he was attracted by SMITH'S personal magnetism. [redacted] said that soon he brought in JOHN KINDERMAN as SMITH'S manager and KINDERMAN later brought in his partner HUBERT TUCKER as SMITH'S general manager.

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(Detroit file 62-1126)

SMITH told [redacted] he wanted to have a mass meeting arranged in order that he could get newspaper publicity, and on the basis of this publicity he would be able to go to Cleveland and collect some money for radio broadcasts. A mass meeting was arranged in Flint, Michigan, in the Industrial auditorium by [redacted] Considerable publicity was received at this meeting, and SMITH took the press releases with him to Cleveland, Ohio, where he contacted Colonel WILLIAM FREY LONG, Secretary of the Employers Association. Colonel LONG solicited contributions to finance SMITH'S radio talks and obtained money from KULIS, of Otis Steel Company, Cleveland, Ohio; DEAN SOLINBERGER, President of Perfection Piston Company, Cleveland, Ohio, and seven other leading industrialists for a total of fourteen or fifteen thousand dollars, which he turned over to SMITH. [redacted] added parenthetically that [redacted] said that he knows that [redacted] financed WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY, GERALD B. WINROD, and others. [redacted] said that SMITH used the fourteen or fifteen thousand dollars, which he accumulated in this way, to pay for expenses of his Cleveland broadcasts over a period of thirteen or fourteen weeks.

[redacted] said that SMITH then told him to obtain some office space in a downtown office building in Detroit, Michigan. [redacted] approached [redacted] of the Citizens Committee for Industrial Relations, who contacted BURGESS BOOK, who operates the Industrial National Bank Building, and BURGESS BOOK provided free office space for SMITH'S organization on the twentieth floor of the Industrial National Bank Building. It has been previously noted by the writer that SMITH occupies almost the entire twentieth floor of the Industrial National Bank Building, although no name appears on the doors of his offices. [redacted] was unable to say whether SMITH enjoys this enlarged office suite free of charge at the present time.

[redacted] said that JOSEPH PEW, President of Sun Oil Company, was interested in GERALD SMITH. [redacted] believes that through JOSEPH PEW, LOWELL THOMAS, President of the New York Advertising Club, who is, and has been employed for a long period of time, employed by Sun Oil Company as a daily news commentator, invited SMITH to talk in New York City before the New York Advertising Club. [redacted] explained that he did not think LOWELL THOMAS had any further connection with SMITH except to help him "break the ice" in New York and overcome the unfavorable reputation which New Yorkers had of SMITH by reason of his former association with HUEY LONG.

[redacted] also stated that HENRY L. MENCKEN, editor of the Baltimore Sun newspaper, has a high regard for SMITH'S ability as a public orator. [redacted] said that [redacted] of the Manufacturers

ALL INFO. HERE

and Merchants Association, Toledo, Ohio, a former post office inspector, has also been one of SMITH'S principal contacts. [redacted] in fact, recommended BERNARD DOLAN and SMITH'S present manager to SMITH. According to [redacted] of the American Vigilanti Association of Chicago, Illinois, has been a valuable associate of SMITH. While [redacted] is not believed to have contributed any money for SMITH'S support or solicited any for him, he has been of considerable assistance to SMITH, by reason of the fact that he is close to Colonel McCORMICK, of "Chicago Tribune," and has a very complete file of the Communist activity throughout the United States.

[redacted] said that the first manager SMITH had when he came to Detroit, Michigan, was [redacted]

[redacted] continued that another person, who might be able to give some light on SMITH'S activities, is Reverend BORUKER, of Alma, Michigan, author of the book "Too Much Roosevelt," which was distributed by SMITH. [redacted] said that BORUKER was also well acquainted with the activities of GERALD B. WINROD.

[redacted] related that by reason of his subsequent investigation made while in the employ of [redacted] of New York City, he learned that both SMITH and his wife ELEANORE [illegible] SMITH were members of WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY'S Silver Shirts, and that SMITH corresponded with PELLEY, reporting to PELLEY the progress he was making with his organization, The Committee of One Million [redacted]

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[redacted] said that he knows that SMITH made negotiations with the Ford Motor Company and received direct financial support for his activities in combating the CIO, which was then attempting to organize the employees of the Ford Motor Company. [redacted] that the radio programs over radio stations WJR were already paid for a period of four weeks in advance. [redacted] believed that under the arrangements with the Ford Motor Company this was renewed every four weeks. He did not know whether the Ford Motor Company was still paying for the broadcasts over radio station WJR.

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[redacted] said that SMITH was very intimate with [redacted] who when he was in trouble consulted SMITH for advice. [redacted] also said that SMITH worked in very close contact with [redacted] of Omaha; ~~National Bank;~~ ELIZABETH DILLING, of Chicago, Illinois; and GERALD B. WINROD, of Wichita, Kansas.

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[redacted]

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[redacted]

(Detroit file 62-1126)

In a letter from the New York Field Office, in the case entitled, [redacted] the Detroit Field Office was advised that an anonymous informant quoted ROBERT VIETIG as saying in a speech at an America First rally in the Redford High School auditorium in Detroit, Michigan, on August 27, 1941, "that the Committee of One Million is doing an excellent job in Detroit." ROBERT VIETIG was executive secretary of the America First Committee in Detroit, Michigan. b7c

[redacted] said that he was well acquainted with SMITH'S unfavorable background, having known that he was a preacher somewhere in the South and collected money for improvements to a church and then absconded with the money. He knew also that SMITH was connected with the HUEY LONG dictatorship in Louisiana, and after HUEY LONG'S death, became an agitator against labor organizations, principally in eastern United States. When SMITH came to Detroit, he was brought into [redacted] office by [redacted] and SMITH asked [redacted] to recommend him to his contacts so that he could derive some financial support from them.

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SMITH said that he had enough funds for either three or six broadcasts, which would cost him $375 for each half hour program. [redacted] suggested that SMITH should broadcast first, so that [redacted] could find out what sort of an appeal he had, and SMITH did so. [redacted] said that the broadcast was very well received in Detroit, because it was a very forceful attack on the influence of Communists in local labor unions. At the end of his broadcast, SMITH requested that his listeners send him contributions through the mail, so that he would be enabled to make future broadcasts. [redacted] said he was well impressed with SMITH'S work, and told him he would recommend him to his contacts among industrialists, provided he would keep on the same subject, attacking subversive activities by Communists in the labor unions, and not branch out into politics. [redacted] admitted that he did recommend SMITH to his friends, but he said he did not know whether they ever responded to his recommendations by lending some financial support to SMITH, and he consistently denied that he ever solicited funds for SMITH or actively collected funds.

[redacted] said that he requested SMITH on numerous occasions to send him reports of his financial condition, but he said SMITH never complied with this request. He stated that SMITH'S principal income was in the form of cash which went immediately to Mrs. SMITH, and thereafter nobody else ever saw the cash except SMITH and his wife. [redacted] said that SMITH has the reputation of being a very poor credit risk, because he has left many of his printers, collectors, and other creditors unpaid.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

[redacted] was unable to say whether SMITH was connected with any organization except his own Committee of One Million. [redacted] said that he withdrew from SMITH any support he had ever given him when he observed that SMITH was shifting from his criticism of subversive activities to criticisms of the present political administration.

[redacted] admitted that he made only one direct contact in behalf of SMITH, and that was with BURGESS BOOK, who was interested in SMITH and gave SMITH two small offices in the Industrial National Bank Building, rent free. [redacted] said he does not know if SMITH still enjoys the same rent free privileges while occupying a much larger suite in the Industrial National Bank Building. He was unable to explain what BOOK'S interest was in SMITH, unless it was the fact that SMITH was attacking Communists.

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[redacted] recommended [redacted] as a potential informant about SMITH, [redacted] However, he said that [redacted] would not know much about SMITH'S financial situation, and he said [redacted] would never get paid in full for his services. [redacted] said he never had any reason to doubt that SMITH was a true 100 per cent American, but he said he never had any faith in SMITH'S business ethics, and he considered him a "cheap chiseler," who was very selfish and money-mad and would probably do anything in order to make money.

As previously reported in the reference report, the management of radio station WJR has submitted to the writer stenographic transcriptions of the recorded transcriptions by which SMITH broadcasts. Photographic copies of these speeches have been made, and three copies of each speech made since December 7, 1941, are being submitted to the Bureau under separate cover. It should be noted that SMITH did not speak on Sunday, December 7, 1941, because of the special news programs that were carried on that day. The portions of these weekly speeches, which may be relevent to this investigation, are pointed out as follows:

December 14, 1941 "I am sorry that the America First Committee ~~has disbanded~~. It was my opinion that they should have transformed their organization immediately into a great educational and morale building mechanism for the purpose of uniting America for victory. Any of the America First people, who would like to attach themselves to the Committee of One Million in order that they may be associated with us in this crusade for victory and this campaign for the preservation of America, we invite you to write in for our literature and our new bulletins, which are being issued in the light of our new slogan; namely, "America Unite for Victory."

(Detroit file 62-1126)

January 4, 1942

"This is a solemn hour, this is a midnight hour. The blood of our sons is beginning to flow on the battlefield in defense of the stars and stripes....

"Men lost legs at Pearl Harbor. They are losing eyes and arms as well as lives in the jungles of Luxon tonight. I overheard a man today complaining about his food in a restaurant. Others are complaining about the lack of golf balls. One man sounded like he was ready to start a revolution because he lacked a spare tire. How ridiculous these little soft complaints sound when we think of the boys who have lost their arms, their legs, their eyes, their bodies defending us against merciless assaults."

This broadcast was heard by members of the armed forces of the United States as was admitted by SMITH in his next Sunday's address.

January 11, 1942

"I wish I could read you a few of the thousands of letters I have received within the past few days. For instance, - here's one from a young soldier at Selfridge Field, the Department of the Quartermaster, who says: 'Mr. Smith: I want a picture of the face of Christ to hang over my bunk. I listen to every broadcast. The entire personnel of our barracks thank you for your address of January 4th, - sincerely R.K.'"

[redacted] Military Intelligence Division, Selfridge Field, Michigan, was telephonically contacted on May 27, 1942, in order to ascertain the identity of "R.K." [redacted] said that he thought it would be possible to ascertain the identity of "R.K." without too great difficulty, and that he would report his findings to the writer. b7

January 18, 1942

"This is one of the most impressive emblems I have ever looked at. Men will want to wear this emblem to work. Mothers will want to wear it in the home. Children will want to wear it to school. Soldiers will want to pin this emblem in their wallets or wherever it can be placed in conformity with army regulations.

"Now to all that write to me a letter postmarked not later than January 22, I will not only send you this beautiful emblem, but I will send you a minature copy of the artist's conception of the face of Jesus. This minature picture is especially designed for those who carry wallets.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

It can be inserted in a soldier's purse, it can be kept among the precious and private possessions of any individual....

"If you have a soldier or a young man in your family who may become a soldier, this picture of the beloved Christ may some day become his most precious and conforting possession."

The above quotations are set forth merely as an indication that SMITH'S radio addresses are designed to reach members of the armed forces of the United States.

February 1, 1942

"Ten million American boys are willing to face, if need be, the same cross which this boy faced, in the years that are ahead. Every American boy, whether he be your brother, sweetheart, or son who is shot out of the sky, or sent to the bottom of the ocean, will leave behind from one to a hundred bleeding hearts."

March 1, 1942

"One hundred thousand boys were captured by the Japanese at Singapore. These one hundred thousand British, Australian, Canadian, American boys will now be consigned to prison labor. A dispatch came out of Washington today revealing that the mechanics and workmen and soldiers captured at Guam and at Wake Island have been assigned to Prison labor in Japan. Their task is to reclaim swamp lands and untillable soil....

"The recent disturbance in Los Angeles is still a mystery. Our Secretary of War insists that fifteen unidentified planes flew over the city and menaced it for more than an hour. The Secretary of War is now suspicious that these planes were enemy planes based within the borders of the United States.

"The steamship 'Lafayette', formerly the Normandie, large enough to transport from ten to twelve thousand soldiers, mysteriously burned in New York Harbor. Right while our President spoke last Monday night an enemy vessel fired on our West Coast.

"These shocking reports added to a long line of Military defeats by the United Nations on foreign battlefields wear on the morale of a great people. Added to these problems are the fears and apprehensions of sixteen million mothers--proud to give their sons in defense of the Stars and Stripes but nevertheless heavy hearted at the thought of their departure."

(Detroit file 62-1126)

March 29, 1942

In this radio address SMITH admitted that his audiences included national defense workers and some members of the armed forces.

April 5, 1942

"the black cloud of pagan tyranny has fallen over Europe. It is agreed by all expert observers that within a few days, and at most a few weeks, flood rivers of human blood will flow on the European battle fields. It is assumed that at least 5,000,000 men will be slaughtered between now and September 1. Many of them Americans."

It should be added at this point that pursuant to this radio address, the Detroit Field Office received an anonymous communication entitled, "Fifth Column Propaganda," and referring to this last quoted statement and commenting "How do you suppose my wife and I felt, with our boy in the army and the rest of the mothers who heard it? This man's name was GERALD K. SMITH, and if you don't think this is purely a case of un-American and Fifth Column activity, I believe he should be investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which I think he will."

April 12, 1942

"America has never faced a darker hour than she faces today. No human wisdom available is powerful enough to direct our course in this dark hour. 36,000 American soldiers have been trapped by the enemy in the Philippines. It is assumed that of these 36,000 men, those who do not die from the effects of their wounds and the tropical pestilences, which they have been suffering due to a long period of privation, will be taken prisoner for the duration of the war.

"The Chicago Tribune for Friday, April 10, says, 'The hard truth is that never before in the history of our country has so large a force under our flag been crushed and captured.'"

April 26, 1942

"If the American people are unable to get tires for their cars, we may lose this war. I am making a thorough study of this rubber situation and I am convinced that the rubber trust is responsible for the scarcity of rubber in America, and that if we would take this rubber program out of the hands of the bureaucrats, the international bankers and the Rubber Trust and turn it over to some outstanding and intelligent leader like Mr. Henry Ford--we could have tires by New Year's or not later than next Easter, and I have exprert evidence to support what I am saying.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

"Before December 7 the people in our Committee were known as Isolationists. There is a disposition in Washington among certain political bureaucrats to persecute and harass, some even desire to imprison and silence, those of us who dared to lift the battle cry, "America First in Peace and War."

May 10, 1942

"But, we agree with certain Congressmen who protested last week against the idea of taking men who have never served a day in the Army, or the Navy, or the Marines, and have no special skill or talent, and making them high officers and giving them commissions such as colonels, majors and generals, merely because they have political pull."

May 16, 1942

"In order to win the war, we must have morale, national unity and munitions. We cannot win it without sugar - we cannot win it without gasoline - and we cannot win it without automobile tires and automobiles.

"Today, we have a sugar problem, a rubber problem, a gasoline problem - and we are told that these problems are merely hints of more problems to come....

"The first question, therefore, is - Why is it a criminal offense to buy five pounds too much sugar when the Government is paying the farmer $40 per acre notto grow sugar?"

As previously stated in reference report, stenographic transcripts were made of the GERALD L. K. SMITH meeting on May 12, 1942; and five photographic copies are being forwarded to the Bureau under separate cover. The May, 1942 issue of "The Cross and the Flag," founded by GERALD L. K. SMITH, is being forwarded to the Bureau under separate cover.

- P E N D I N G -

(Detroit file 62-1126)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE KANSAS CITY FIELD DIVISION:

At Kansas City, Missouri, will report any information known to Kansas City Field Office concerning GERALD L. K. SMITH, which has been ascertained through the investigation of [redacted] It is noted that [redacted] and SMITH are in close contact.

If necessary will interview informants to ascertain the nature of the relationship between [redacted] and SMITH.

THE CHICAGO FIELD DIVISION:

At Chicago, Illinois:

Will report information concerning the relationship between Mrs. ELIZABETH DILLING and SMITH. It is noted that DILLING and SMITH are in close contact.

If necessary will interview informants to ascertain the nature of the relationship between SMITH and Mrs. ELIZABETH DILLING, and also to ascertain the nature of the activities of SMITH.

Will report information concerning the relationship of GERALD SMITH with [redacted] of Chicago Tribune, and with Colonel McCORMICK, of Chicago Tribune.

If necessary will interview informants to ascertain the nature of these relationships and the nature and purpose of the activities of SMITH.

Will report known information concerning Captain EARL SOUTHARD of Citizens Committee, 77 West Washington, Chicago, Illinois, telephone State 7298, and if necessary will interview informants to ascertain the relationship of SOUTHARD and SMITH.

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION:

At New York, New York, will interview [redacted] to determine information in his possession relating to the activities of SMITH.

ALL
b7C

(Detroit file 62-1126)

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION:

At Detroit, Michigan:

Will maintain further contact with [redacted], for information concerning SMITH.

Will interview [redacted] for information concerning SMITH.

Will maintain contact with [redacted] G-2, Selfridge Field, Michigan, to ascertain identity of "R.K.," Quartermaster Department.

At Alma, Michigan, will contact Reverend ____ BORUKER relative to information in his possession concerning activities of SMITH.

- P E N D I N G -

AW
DTW

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818 - 93 Enclosure

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FBI/DOJ

WMJ
6-17-42
62-43818-93 Date:

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 7/6/82 BY SP6BJA! PMS
2104, 437

To: Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge

DATE 10/15/57
4

From: J. Edgar Hoover -- Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with alias
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 9
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

There is transmitted herewith for your information a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, da' June 11, 1942, in the above-entitled matter.

b7c

Enclosure

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 5

PAGES REVIEWED: 54

PAGES RELEASED: 45

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

CC-287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E.A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Harbo
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

J. EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

RPK:TD
2:30 P.M.

June 6, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Agent M. J. Boyd called from Detroit to advise relative to a matter in which he believed the Bureau would be interested.

[redacted] brought to Boyd a press release which was given to him this morning by Gerald L. K. Smith and a copy of a letter which he has sent to the Attorney General dated June 5, 1942, which letter reads as follows:

"Dear Mr. Biddle:

Concerning a responsible editor of a very important magazine who visited me this week with this report. A certain organization in NYC has planned to plant damaging exhibits such as munitions etc. in certain homes in Detroit and in the area of my influence when the exhibits are placed, my informant tells me, that the scheme is to call the Department of Justice, stimulate a raid and when the raid has been consummated the theory is then some of the individuals raided will attempt to fix the responsibility on me. The plot is a cold blooded frame-up designed to embarrass me and ruin me, if possible. I am writing this letter to you to advise you that this case is being planned by individuals in NYC in cooperation with Detroit individuals in violation of the laws against conspiracy. I therefore call on you as the Attorney General of the United States to give me protection against these plotters. An immediate reply is desired.

Sincerely yours,

Gerald L. K. Smith"

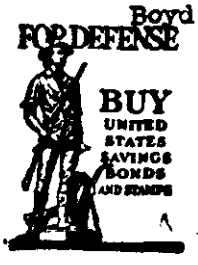
RECORDED 62-43818-94
INDEXED
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
8 JUN 14 1942

He has written in pencil on the copy "Not for release before 6:00 P.M. Sunday, June 7, 1942."

EX-13

Boyd advised that they picked up the same information over the surveillance on this individual to Harry Bennett and others.

He also gave [redacted] a release as to why the enemies of Gerald L. K. Smith hate him. This is a copy of a radio speech which he is going to



JUN 23 1942

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83 OCT 13 1964

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DATE 7/6/87 BY SP6BJAL/ms

204,433

give tomorrow night. Boyd advised he has to return it to [redacted] and I told him to get a copy of it into us air mail.

b7c, b7D

Respectfully,

R. P. Kramer

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

WB:NWL:emc

146-28-43

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

June 16, 1942

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Ts
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tam
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith
"Committee of One Million"
Sedition

The Criminal Division is in receipt of your memorandum to the Attorney General, dated June 12, 1942, with reference to Smith's allegations concerning a plot to embarrass and ruin him. It may be noted that the Criminal Division, by memorandum dated June 12, 1942, has already transmitted to you a photostatic copy of Smith's letter to the Attorney General dated June 5, 1942, as well as a copy of the reply of the Criminal Division to Smith, dated June 12, 1942, relative to this matter.

In answer to your inquiry, please be advised that it is the opinion of the Criminal Division that Smith should be interviewed with respect to his allegations concerning this plot.

Respectfully,

Wendell Berge

WENDELL BERGE
Assistant Attorney General

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DATE 9/24/82 BY SP-8B5/bb

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JUN 19 1942

JUN 19 REC'D

FJS:WMJ
62-43818 -95

June 20, 1942

RECORDED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 9/28/82 BY SP-8B75/MK

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

For your information, a copy of the letter prepared by subject directed to the Attorney General and dated June 5, 1942, which copy you received from a representative of the press at Detroit, Michigan, and which you referred to the Bureau, was made available to the Attorney General for his information, and a request was made as to whether the Department was desirous of having Smith interviewed by this Bureau relative to this alleged plot.

By memorandum dated June 16, 1942, Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge advised, in response to this Bureau's memorandum to the Attorney General, that it is the opinion of the Criminal Division that Smith should be interviewed with respect to his allegations concerning this plot.

In view of the desire of the Criminal Division that Smith be interviewed, it is my desire that this interview be conducted by two representatives of your office, including yourself, if possible, and another experienced agent. Under no circumstances should this interview be conducted by agents with limited field experience, and it is further suggested that this interview only relate to subject's allegations concerning this plot.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
JUN 22 1942
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

191

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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FBI/DOJ

DAF:IS

June 11, 1942

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury
Washington, D. C.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Attention:

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I have been advised confidentially that the Treasury Department possesses a list of names of individuals who have contributed more than $1,000.00 to Father Charles Edward Coughlin, Gerald L. K. Smith and others, for the years 1937, 1938 and 1939.

This same source states that
is reported to have contributed $100,000.00 through six secretaries, and that many other prominent people are also listed as supporting the above individuals.

The above-mentioned list of financial contributors would be of vital interest to this Bureau in connection with matters coming within its jurisdiction as related to the national defense.

It will be appreciated if you could supply me with a copy of this list at an early date.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
JUN 12 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LBN:FML

May 30, 1942

MR. TOLSON

[redacted] confidentially advised me that Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., sent his father a list of names of individuals who have contributed more than $1,000 to Father Coughlin, Gerald G. K. Smith, and others for the years 1937, 1938, 1939. [redacted] is reported to have contributed $100,000 through six secretaries. On this list are such people as [redacted] of [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company, and others whose names he did not know. [redacted] told me the Treasury Department also has a copy of this list.

b7c
b7D

I pressed [redacted] for the source of his information and he finally confidentially told me that [redacted]

Respectfully,

L. B. Nichols

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Boone
Mr. Troy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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62-43818-97

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 19 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FIVE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/6/82 BY SP6BJAI OMS
264,433

JS:WMJ
6-18-42
62-43818 Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

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There are transmitted herewith for your consideration a photostatic copy of the transcript of subject's speech, delivered at the Maccabees Building, Detroit, Michigan, May 12, 1942, and photostatic copies of his radio addresses delivered over Station WJR, Detroit, on the following dates:

December 14, 1941	March 1, 1942
December 21, 1941	March 8, 1942
December 28, 1941	March 15, 1942
January 4, 1942	March 22, 1942
January 11, 1942	March 29, 1942
January 18, 1942	April 5, 1942
January 25, 1942	April 12, 1942
February 1, 1942	April 19, 1942
February 8, 1942	April 26, 1942
February 15, 1942	May 3, 1942
February 22, 1942	May 10, 1942
	May 16, 1942

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Candy

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62-43818-99

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 20 1942

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JUN 19 1942
P M
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

227
35 JUN 25 1942

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
June 12, 1942

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DATE 7/6/82 BY SP6 BJA1 DMS
204,433

~~PERSONAL - CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080/LEDMC
ON 8/19/82

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

Dear Sir:

On May 23, 1942, I interviewed [redacted] in my office in an attempt to convince him that it was his duty to furnish me with information in his possession concerning GERALD L. K. SMITH and also to ascertain whether he actually believed that information was leaking out of the Detroit Field Office and getting to HARRY BENNETT of the Ford Motor Company.

The interview lasted approximately two hours. The entire discussion has been transcribed and is being retained in the file of the Detroit Field Office.

RECORDED & INDEXED
62-43818-99
JUN 26 1942

In order that you may have the full benefit of my interview as an aid in forming your own opinion concerning [redacted] as an informant, I am setting forth a summary of the interview.

I asked [redacted] if the reason he was not giving information was because he feared the information would leak out. [redacted] replied that if he gave any information at all it could easily be traced back to him because people would know that he was the only one who had it. [redacted] then said that only GERALD L. K. SMITH knew that he had the complete story. He said other persons who knew part of his information about SMITH were Special Agent Milton J. Boyd, [redacted] Mr. LAMB (Tolan Committee), and JOE McNULTY, of the Criminal Division, Department of Justice. [redacted] said that one reason why he didn't want to come to the F.B.I. at all was because of HARRY BENNETT although HARRY BENNETT did not know what information he had. [redacted] then went into a long explanation of the relationship between HARRY BENNETT and himself and admitted that [redacted] He had no evidence that information given to the F.B.I. or to LAMB was getting back to HARRY BENNETT or the Ford Motor Company through the F.B.I., but he thought it might be throug[redacted]

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF declassification
DATE 7/6/82

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JUL 3 1942

COPY IN FILE

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said that [redacted] didn't even know LAMB, but that [redacted] had meetings with SMITH. In fact, [redacted] introduced [redacted] to SMITH, and [redacted] still believes that [redacted] is giving information back to SMITH. [redacted] said that MARTIN DIES ordered his investigators, [redacted] and [redacted] not to do anything to GERALD SMITH. [redacted] then said that [redacted] knew some of his information about SMITH because they had frequently discussed SMITH.

[redacted] asked how I got information from LAMB and I declined to answer. [redacted] then said that he was not keeping any secrets from me [redacted] then said that the principal reason for not giving information is that it might result in the issuance of a subpena upon HENRY FORD, and that that was one very tender spot in the Ford Motor Company. [redacted] admitted that SMITH must have told HARRY BENNETT that [redacted] knew a lot about him, but he said that HARRY BENNETT had very little regard for SMITH, because when BENNETT refused to give SMITH as much money as SMITH thought he should have, SMITH went directly to HENRY FORD and BENNETT resented this. [redacted] also had very little faith in HARRY BENNETT.

[redacted] then explained that from [redacted] of the Detroit Police Department, he got the idea that [redacted] was carrying tales to the Ford Motor Company, specifically to HARRY BENNETT and [redacted] I then asked [redacted] in many different forms whether [redacted] had ever heard that any information given to the F.B.I. has ever gotten back to HARRY BENNETT or the Ford Motor Company through the F.B.I. [redacted] steadfastly refused to answer the question and finally told me that there was no use in asking it anymore because he just wouldn't answer it. Between refusals [redacted] said frequently that he regretted ever getting mixed up with GERALD SMITH and he would like to forget about the whole affair and just go off to some faraway place and start all over. [redacted] explained that [redacted] could not be trusted because he was serving more than one master, that [redacted] was working for the Dies Committee and MARTIN DIES gave him orders not to do anything to GERALD SMITH, but [redacted] was also working for the Jewish Anti-Nazi League in New York City which was anxious to urge prosecutive action against SMITH. [redacted] therefore, was trying to make a case against SMITH so that he could tell the Jewish Anti-Nazi League in New York that he had performed a service for them and still be able to answer MARTIN DIES that he had not done anything against SMITH, but that the F.B.I. had made its own case. [redacted] also intimated that other pressure to prosecute GERALD SMITH was being brought by the DuPont interests because of enmity between DuPont and the Ford Motor Company.

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Letter to the Director June 12, 1942

[redacted] intimated that [redacted] of National Workers League might know something about the leak out of the F.B.I. Detroit Office because [redacted] once told him that he fears only the Dies Committee because he would always be tipped off about any action the F.B.I. would take.

[redacted] said also that [redacted] asked him to get six men placed in various plants. [redacted] inferred that the purpose was Sabotage, and turned the proposition over to [redacted] after conferring with somebody in the Federal Building, Chicago, Illinois, said he could not arrange to help out with the "Sabotage plot" even for the purpose of exposing the men before any damage was done.

[redacted] then asked me to arrange an appointment for him with HARRY BENNETT. I refused on the grounds that this would look like connivance. [redacted] repeated that he had not seen BENNETT since June or July of 1941, and refused to answer directly whether he had heard BENNETT had received information from the F.B.I. [redacted] then asked me to go to HARRY BENNETT and MARTIN DIES and tell them to keep [redacted] quiet. [redacted] denied that [redacted] told him that there was a leak out this office to HARRY BENNETT.

[redacted] said that he had heard in the middle of May, 1942, that in the case of indictment, HENRY FORD would put up a $1,000,000 defense fund; that he also heard that HENRY FORD was going to finance CHARLES LINDBERGH who was going to run for President or Vice President in 1944 on the Nationalist Party ticket supported by GERALD SMITH. [redacted] argued that he would not be willing to give any information concerning GERALD SMITH or allied Subjects since this might result in a subpena upon HENRY FORD. He feared that the same thing would happen to him that happened to DON MILLER (MILLER was a CIO investigator who disappeared six months ago and is believed to have been murdered because of information which he gave out).

I pointed out that any decision as to the prosecution of individuals did not rest with [redacted] but was up to the United States Government and consequently [redacted] had no power to weigh such decisions. Still [redacted] refused to give any information.

When I finally refused to arrange an appointment for [redacted] with HARRY BENNETT, [redacted] said he would try to see HARRY BENNETT himself in order that he could discuss the situation with BENNETT. [redacted] made it clear that he did not want to be responsible for causing "important people" to be subpenad. He also wanted to discuss with HARRY BENNETT the manner in which [redacted] is mixed up in this whole situation. [redacted] said he couldn't talk at all until his hands were untied. He said he was not holding out for money, but that it might be a different thing if I offered him a

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Letter to the Director June 12, 1942

job [redacted] concluded by saying that if he could get his hands untied by HARRY BENNETT, he would give all the information he could, and then if I wanted to use my influence through HARRY BENNETT or somebody else to get him a job someplace else, that would be entirely up to me.

It is noted that in accordance with [redacted] statement, he was supposed to have spoken to me again on May 29. However, up to the present moment, he has not come to see me; and it has been impossible to contact him despite repeated efforts.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted] jt
62-1126

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Detroit - Michigan
June 29, 1942

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DATE 7/6/87 BY SP6 B/A1 DMS 204,433

~~PERSONAL - CONFIDENTIAL~~
DECLASSIFIED BY 6080/LCDM
ON 8/18/87

Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that this office has received the following additional information from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. b7D

SMITH is now sending out his literature only to those persons who have made two or more contributions to him. The June '42 issue of "The Cross And The Flag" has just been released and copies will be furnished to you shortly. SMITH is still using the same printer who is under investigation by this office for alleged Nazi sympathies. The printer's name is [redacted] operating as "Merchants Press." Besides the much publicized Post Office Box #459, Detroit, Michigan, SMITH also receives a small quantity of mail through Post Office Box #697 which is not at all publicized. SMITH is still receiving correspondence marked "Personal" from Kansas which undoubtedly is from GERALD WINROD at Wichita. b7C

On June 3, 1942, SMITH after a five-hour conference with Mr. CHARLES SORENSON, Vice President of the Ford Motor Company, commented to his wife that he had had a fine afternoon, lunch, and they treated him royally at the Ford Motor Company. Mr. SMITH continues to confer with HARRY BENNETT, Personnel Manager, Ford Motor Company, several times weekly and SMITH and his wife are mingling socially with Mr. and Mrs. HARRY BENNETT. Mrs. SMITH told SMITH'S manager, BERNARD DOMAN, that if necessary, he would have to pay current office expenses with cash that was received through the mail, but she hated to have to do it.

Mr. WILLIAM HUIE, Associate Editor of American Mercury Magazine, New York City, New York, visited Detroit and immediately got in touch with SMITH in accordance with a prior appointment by telegram. HUIE asked SMITH to arrange an interview for him with HARRY BENNETT on June 5, 1942 and to arrange an interview with HENRY FORD some time within the next month. SMITH suggested that HUIE call HARRY BENNETT'S assistant, [redacted] HUIE also told SMITH that he had interviewed [redacted] (prominent Jewish attorney in Detroit, Michigan) and told [redacted] that he was writing an article about SMITH. HUIE told SMITH that [redacted] b7C

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was rather receptive and gave the impression to HUIE that if SMITH had referred HUIE to him, it was all right. SMITH told HUIE to ask [redacted] in subsequent interviews whether or not the Dodge family had ever taken any interest in SMITH'S work. SMITH told HUIE to tell [redacted] that HUIE had asked SMITH if they did and SMITH had denied it. SMITH later contacted HUIE telephonically and added that HUIE should tell [redacted] that he thought very well of [redacted] and that if people who pose as leaders of the Jewish race had as much common sense as [redacted] had there wouldn't be any Jewish problem.

SMITH called HARRY BENNETT'S office and spoke to [redacted] advising him that a friend of SMITH'S whom SMITH used to know in Alabama and Louisiana had just come from New York. SMITH described this fellow (HUIE) as an awfully nice fellow and a very important writer. SMITH stated that this fellow brought some very serious information which he had learned in New York. SMITH related that BIRKHEAD (probably Reverend Dr. L. M. BIRKHEAD of Friends of Democracy) was planning a very serious plot. SMITH urged [redacted] to get in touch immediately with HARRY BENNETT about it. At [redacted] request, SMITH then gave the following information so that [redacted] could relay it to BENNETT. BIRKHEAD and his friends planned through [redacted] and others to plant machine guns and ammunition in the homes of certain persons in Detroit. The conspirators were then to tip off the F.B.I. which would then raid the homes. After the raid the occupants would then say that they were followers of GERALD L. K. SMITH, HENRY FORD, HARRY BENNETT, Father COUGHLIN and others. Mr. SMITH then suggested that HARRY BENNETT should call John Bugas right away and tell Bugas that the Conspirators were planning to use him as a stooge. SMITH also suggested that they (the Ford Motor Company) "ought to put somebody on this [redacted] because he is working on all of them all the time." SMITH then advised [redacted] that this plot was supposed to happen within a week and that HARRY BENNETT should take action on it immediately. SMITH then resumed, saying that [redacted] was operating on a very vicious basis because he was mad at SMITH for not giving him a job and angry at the Ford Motor Company where he could not get a job. [redacted] then answered that HARRY BENNETT warned SMITH about [redacted] nearly four years ago. SMITH said that he would leave it up to HARRY BENNETT and he, himself, would not call John Bugas or anybody.

SMITH'S manager, DOMAN, told SMITH that an F.B.I. Agent named [redacted] had been over to interview their printer [redacted] asking all sorts of questions about the magazine such as who edited the magazine, whether he printed it here, if that was the only one printed, how many were printed, and all the details. In short, the Agent wanted to

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be sure that SMITH wrote everything in the magazine and that nobody else contributed anything. SMITH asked if the Agent had been nasty and DOMAN replied that the printer said no, although the printer regretted that he told him how many copies he printed because it was really none of their business. DOMAN also advised SMITH that these two agents also interviewed the typesetter. SMITH later called the printer and got the same information from him including the denial to the question whether the Agent was nasty.

HUBERT LUCKER then called SMITH and SMITH told him the same story about the plot with the following additions. SMITH told HUBERT that the planting of guns and ammunition would be done in Detroit by Jews. SMITH advised LUCKER to keep his basement locked so that nothing could be thrown into it. SMITH said that he believed the whole plot was being arranged by [redacted] and was being done to discredit FORD, LINDBURGH, COUGHLIN, GERALD SMITH, HARRY BENNETT and all the leaders of this community. LUCKER then told SMITH that the Agents who questioned him were very nice and did not make any effort to embarrass him. LUCKER said the Agents should know all about King Carol coming to the United States because this was a matter for the United States Government for whom the Agents were working--he hoped. LUCKER then said that the Agents, after finishing with their questioning about King Carol, then switched over to questions about GERALD SMITH (the Agents actually questioned LUCKER exclusively about Carol of Rumania and did not mention SMITH.) LUCKER said that he answered very evasively and the Agents got nothing but generalities about SMITH from him. SMITH suggested that the complaint about SMITH must have come to the F.B.I. from [redacted] LUCKER then told SMITH that everyone who was opposing the Free Romania Movement was a Communist and the F.B.I. could easily get records on Communists because a chap here on the Police Department has one of the best records of Communists in the world and that John Bugas was a good friend of HARRY BENNETT who had a complete Communist file. LUCKER said that the Agents left when they heard this and knew there was no sense in talking about it.

SMITH then asked LUCKER if John Bugas and HARRY BENNETT were good friends and LUCKER said "yes." SMITH then said Bugas has furnished HARRY BENNETT most of the good stuff they have. SMITH suggested that the purpose of the F.B.I. investigation was to prove that LUCKER was a "friend of somebody," and that LUCKER was in the SMITH organization and then that angle could be built up. SMITH said that this was [redacted] idea.

On June 6, 1942, SMITH in discussing his campaign for United States Senator said that he had a "sort of natural help" on the upper

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peninsula of Michigan because SMITH'S enemies criticize him as being pro-Axis and pro-Hitler and there are a large number of Finns and Italians on the upper peninsula and that "smear" would not hurt him at all. SMITH then told [redacted] of radio station WJR of the plot to discredit SMITH, FORD, LINDBURGH and COUGHLIN as Fascist-revolutionists. He said that persons such as those who planned to conspire were causing dis-unity by trying to make trouble for pre-Pearl Harbor Isolationists. SMITH said that all his contacts were wholesome and that he had no underground contacts. SMITH then said that there was once a whispering campaign that [redacted] was taking 15% of everything sent to Father COUGHLIN and the whispers had to be "scientifically blocked." SMITH said that [redacted] of the Defense Program, has been one of SMITH'S most sincere backers since he started in Detroit.

SMITH added to his mailing list, [redacted], Chicago, Illinois. On June 6, 1942, SMITH sent for a reporter from United Press and gave to a reporter named [redacted] a copy of his letter to BIDDLE and SMITH'S radio speech for June 7, 1942. Immediately before the broadcast, Mrs. SMITH called Mr. and Mrs. HARRY BENNETT and told them to listen in to the radio broadcast of Mr. SMITH. On June 8, 1942, SMITH related the "plot" to Colonel GEORGE MAINES, Flint, Michigan. MAINES tried to find out who the principal conspirator was and asked if it was [redacted] SMITH said "no." MAINES then asked if it was WINCHELL'S crowd and SMITH replied "no, although you never know who WINCHELL'S crowd is." SMITH then said that "they" had closed the deal with one of his best friends and the conspirators would never get away with their plot in Detroit. SMITH told Colonel MAINES also that the Finnish and Italian vote would take care of itself when the election came. SMITH also said that [redacted] had gone to see Attorney-General BIDDLE in order to have the COUGHLIN matter dropped, adding that if it was followed up it would eventually involve [redacted] and bring much discredit to the Catholic Church.

In SMITH'S June, '42 issue of "The Cross And The Flag" SMITH publicly urged Attorney-General BIDDLE to look over the list of SMITH'S opponents and to compare them with a list of HARRY BRIDGES supporters and he would find a marked similarity.

SMITH is continuing to contact HARRY BENNETT and on June 9, 1942, he also attempted to contact HENRY FORD'S personal secretary, [redacted] On June 10, 1942, HARRY BENNETT had a conference with GERALD SMITH. He took a copy of his magazine "The Cross And The Flag" with him for BENNETT'S approval. Traffic Court Judge CUTLIFF, called Mrs. SMITH on June 10, 1942 and told her that his brother had got three nominating

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petitions filled at the Ford Motor Company by workers on the assembly line and a number of persons who are more or less executives. Judge CUTLIFF reported that SMITH was making a hit by championing the cause of Father COUGHLIN. Judge CUTLIFF complained that he put in an emergency call and still was not able to get through without waiting. He suggested to Mrs. SMITH that the line must be tapped and Mr. SMITH should have his telephone number changed. SMITH later congratulated Judge CUTLIFF on the fine piece of work his brother did. SMITH said that he was confident of getting the vote of the union members because he is an honorary member of thirteen labor unions. He said he was not going strong on the unions because the primary vote depends on farmers, but that he was going to concentrate on labor unions in the final election. On June 12, 1942, SMITH telephonically advised Colonel GEORGE MAINES of Flint, Michigan, that he had contacted MAINES' friend in the Dime Bank Building, (who is undoubtedly ED BARNARD, local political leader) and that he was for SMITH 100%. SMITH promised that if the Republicans win in 1944 he would make GEORGE MAINES Postmaster of Flint, Michigan.

SMITH made numerous complaints that his program was displaced on Sunday night June 14, 1942 by the President's transcribed address. SMITH said several times that he believed the President picked 7:15 P.M. on purpose in order to prevent SMITH from talking over the radio that night.

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On June 12, 1942, SMITH called [redacted] and discussed with him the political campaign. SMITH said that the Republican Party was going to win some time and that he thought the New Deal had betrayed the country. SMITH said that the public sentiment should re-act. The people would want to drink blood and they did not want to stand for any middle-of-the-roadists but would want extremists like SMITH himself. SMITH said that he was going to conduct a campaign which was going to be a cross between a political campaign and a revolution and that it was necessary to have a few more who were willing to do this at a critical time and that SMITH was willing to pay the price whatever it might be to save America. SMITH said that the New Deal had many enemies and that the New Deal was out to crucify all of them, including COUGHLIN, the FORD Motor Company, FRANK McKAY and GERALD SMITH and that they had all agreed that they should make a unified effort to save themselves. SMITH said that when this group was assembled he said to them all, "Let's all get together and whip these (obscene) right up and down the line." SMITH then said that he wants to be remembered by his grandchildren as the one man that stood unsullied in the days of Sodom and Gomorrah of the New Deal. SMITH said that that was what he wrote to Attorney-General BIDDLE.

Letter to the Director
dated June 29, 1942

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY-SEDITION

In speaking to [redacted], SMITH said that the conviction of FRED FRAHM, former superintendent of the Detroit Police Department was one of the worst things in the history of jurisprudence and that nothing that Hitler was doing was any worse than that.

SMITH is presently getting out campaign propaganda characterizing SMITH as a persecuted martyr for defending the Americanism of Washington and Lincoln.

On June 15, 1942, [redacted] of New York City, New York, arrived at Detroit, Michigan as the guest of Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH in accordance with previously arranged appointment.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted]
62-1126

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Origin: DETROIT, MICHIGAN — Detroit File No. 62-1126

Made At:	Date:	Period:	Made By:
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	6/29/42	5/29; 6/1,2,4,12,15, 16,17,18/42	[redacted] b7c

Title	Character
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, also known as GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY SEDITION

Synopsis of Facts:

Subject busy with campaign for nomination as Republican candidate for United States Senate from State of Michigan. His monthly magazine "The Cross and the Flag" continues to criticize administration and alleged control of Communists and Internationalists. Copy for June, 1942, submitted. Subject continues similar attacks on radio station WJR, Detroit, Michigan, each Sunday night. Further collaboration with officials of Ford Motor Car Company revealed and also with GERALD B. WINROD, Wichita, Kansas and Mrs. ELIZABETH DILLING, Chicago, Illinois. Subject is publicizing alleged plot of his enemies to accuse him and his followers of fostering Fascist revolution. Subject's printer and typesetter interviewed. Membership of Subject's Committee of One Million includes prominent former members of America First Committee and Father COUGHLIN's Group. Subject made statement that United States needs a dictator and refused to criticize Fascism in radio addresses. [redacted] Public records of Federation of Americanization b7E

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Approved: John S. Rogge SAC

62-1126-101

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EX-9

(Detroit file 62-1126)

of Michigan, used by Subject, set forth. Subsequent radio addresses of Subject submitted.

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 11, 1942, at Detroit, Michigan.

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DETAILS: AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

[redacted] of Merchants Press, 442 East Lafayette Street, Detroit, Michigan, was interviewed by the writer, accompanied by Special Agent [redacted] As explained in reference report, [redacted]

b7c

[redacted] stated that his principal work is done for the Ford Motor Car Company and that he has never been anxious to print publications because they are generally bad pay. He said that one of his salesmen told him that he could get the contract to publish SMITH's magazine, "The Cross and the Flag" and [redacted] insisted on speaking to SMITH himself. [redacted] stated that he negotiated an oral contract with SMITH for the printing of 10,000 copies of the May, 1942, edition of "The Cross and the Flag", to be paid for $300.00 in cash immediately and the balance, which was somewhat in excess of $200.00, upon delivery. [redacted] stated that the $300.00 cash was paid down and BERNARD DOMAN, SMITH's manager, delivered the typewritten materials that were to be printed. [redacted] said he then requested bids from various typesetters and eventually sent the typewritten material in exactly the same condition that he received it to the Standard Typesetting Service, whose bid he received from [redacted] [redacted] continued that he received the type set-up in page form from Standard Typesetting Service and ran off the proofs without making any change in the type. He said extensive changes were made in the proofs by SMITH and DOMAN, but the only correction that he could describe was that a letter of Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN of Michigan was deleted. [redacted] stated that SMITH insisted that all the proofs be returned to SMITH himself and consequently [redacted] said he did not have any of the original proofs.

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[redacted] said that on May 10, 1942, he delivered 10,000 copies of the May, 1942, edition of "The Cross and the Flag" to SMITH's office. He said during the last week in May, SMITH paid him an additional $100.00 in cash and at the time of this interview on June 1, 1942, [redacted] said that SMITH still owed him more than $100.00. [redacted] stated that SMITH was trying to get him to print the June, 1942 issue but [redacted] told him that he wouldn't take the job until SMITH paid in full for the May, 1942 issue. [redacted] was

very explicit in saying that he did not make any change at all in the material to be printed unless it was specifically authorized by SMITH or his manager, DOLAN.

[redacted] Standard Typesetting Service, stated that he received the typesetting job on the May, 1942, issue from [redacted] of Merchants Press. He said he merely received the typewritten material that was submitted to him and set it up on his Linotype Machine exactly as it was received and redelivered the typewritten material and the pages of type to [redacted]. He was clear that he did not make any changes in the typewritten material but merely set it up in the exact form that it was given to him.

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that [redacted] telephoned SMITH as soon as the Agents had left [redacted] office. [redacted] described in detail the questions that were asked by the Agents and the answers that he gave. He stated that he was sorry that he informed the Agents that he printed 10,000 copies because that was none of their business. b7D

[redacted] further stated that SMITH is continuing to contact HARRY BENNETT, personnel manager of the Ford Motor Car Company, both, in a business way and socially. Informant added that SMITH has made some contacts with [redacted] personal secretary to HENRY FORD and had a five-hour interview one afternoon with CHARLES SORENSON, vice president of the Ford Motor Car Company. Informant was unable to state whether financial support is being received by SMITH from the Ford Motor Car Company at the present time. b7D

Informant stated that SMITH expects to receive the vote of the German, Italian and Finnish population in the State of Michigan by reason of the attack that has been made upon him by his enemies who term him pro-Nazi and Fascist.

Informant stated that MR. WILLIAM HUIE, associate editor of American Mercury Magazine, New York, New York, visited GERALD SMITH in Detroit, Michigan, and told him that he was planning to write an article about SMITH in the American Mercury Magazine. SMITH was made to understand that the article would not be entirely complimentary to SMITH but he understood also that "it had to be that way". HUIE disclosed to SMITH that during his investigation in order to get material for this article in New York City, he spoke to Reverend L. N. BIRKHEAD of the organization known as Friends of Democracy. BIRKHEAD told HUIE, who in turn told SMITH, according to [redacted] that there was a plot that would ripen within ten days from June 5, 1942, in accordance with which guns and ammunition would be planted in the homes of certain persons in Detroit, Michigan. The Federal Bureau of Investigation would then be tipped off to raid these homes and the occupants b7D

upon being raided, would then say that they were followers of GERALD L. K. SMITH, FATHER COUGHLIN, HENRY FORD, HARRY BENNETT and CHARLES A. LINDBERGH. SMITH gave wide publicity to this alleged plot to many of his friends and then broadcasted the substance of the plot without mentioning names in his weekly radio address on June 7, 1942.

According to [redacted], SMITH immediately b7D got in touch with HARRY BENNETT and told him to forewarn Special Agent in Charge JOHN S. BUGAS of Detroit Field Office. Up until the date of dictation, which is June 18, 1942, no such plot has ripened and no such warning has been given to Mr. BUGAS by HARRY BENNETT.

Also according to [redacted] GERALD SMITH, HUBERT LUCKER, [redacted] and other persons close to SMITH, believe that [redacted] who is in the employ as investigator of certain Jewish, anti-Nazi groups in New York City, is responsible for both, the investigation of GERALD L. K. SMITH and also the alleged conspiracy to discredit SMITH and others.

By letter dated June 5, 1942, SMITH advised Attorney General Mr. BIDDLE of this conspiracy without mentioning any names of conspirators or informants. The letter concluded with a demand upon the Attorney General to give SMITH protection against the plotters. SMITH desired an immediate reply. According to Informant SMITH subsequently received a reply signed by Mr. BIDDLE's assistant, Mr. BERGE.

According to [redacted], SMITH is very b7D optimistic over winning the Republican nomination for United States Senator for the State of Michigan, but he is at this time greatly concerned over whether or not Judge HOMER FERGUSON will run against him.

On June 12, 1942, SMITH told [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, that the Republican Party was going to win some time and that he thought the New Deal had betrayed the country. SMITH said that when public sentiment would react, the public would want to drink blood and they would not stand for any compromises but they would want an extremist like SMITH himself. SMITH swore that his campaign would be close between a political campaign and a revolution and that SMITH was willing to pay whatever price was necessary to save America, and that it was necessary to have a few men who were willing to do this at such a critical time. SMITH further said that a New Deal was out to criticize himself, the Ford Motor Car Company, FATHER COUGHLIN and FRANK MC KAY and that it was necessary for all of them to unite to quit the New Deal. b7C

[redacted] also said that SMITH showed b7D great disappointment when the broadcast of the President's radio address on

(Detroit file 62-1126)

June 1, 1942, conflicted with his weekly radio program and made him miss a week on the air when he had "something very important to say".

The June, 1942, issue of SMITH's publication "The Cross and the Flag" was released on or about June 16, 1942. The principal editorial is entitled "We, The People, Are Still Here" and concludes with the following paragraphs:

> "And, while we whip you at the polls and expose you to the people, we shall not only survive your dastardly smear campaigns, but we shall resolutely make sure that your conspiracies shall not divert us from our determination to be loyal to the war effort. Even though some of your clique may be in power in Washington, we shall continue to refuse to judge our government by these exceptions. But we shall determine that the exception shall not become the rule--and that the exceptions shall not become the rulers.
>
> "Get off your high horses, you potential tyrants, you over-ambitious bureaucrats, you traitors to America! WE, THE PEOPLE, ARE STILL HERE!"

Another article entitled "Biddle Burns 'Bridges' Behind Him" compliments the Attorney General for making one of the most constructive decisions in history by printing Communism as a crime. It also suggests that the Attorney General should compare the opponents of SMITH with the sponsors of HARRY BRIDGES and he would discover a striking resemblance in the two lists of names. The remaining articles are "Smear Killers", A Survey of the Most Dastardly Attempt at Character assassination in the History of American Politics, "France Lost Christ", An Interpretation of Internal Decay Which Preceded Military Defeat, "The Hon. Herbert Hoover Says:", A Constructive Statement by Former President Hoover on How to Win This War and Save Our American Way of Life, "Cane Sugar and Political Gravy", The Sugar Trust Reaches Into the Public Purse, "$60,000 To One Farmer For Not Raising Cotton", An Interpretation of Why the Solid South is So Solid, "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington", The Editor, a Candidate for the United States Senate, Takes His Stand.

Two copies of the June, 1942, issue of "The Cross and The Flag" are being submitted with this report.

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

(Detroit file 62-1126)

[redacted] also exhibited several issues of a newspaper entitled "The Herald" the motto of which was Future and Independent American Destiny. The newspaper was published by Lake Geneva Publication, Incorporated, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. It was also apparent from a rubber stamp impression on copies of these newspapers that they had been distributed by members of the America First Committee. A perusal of the newspapers made it clear that the policy of the editors was pro-German, anti-administration, anti-English, anti-Jewish and anti-Communist. It was noted that the editor of this newspaper was DOUGLAS M. STEWART and that one of the managing editors was FREDERICK KISTER. It is believed that DOUGLAS M. STEWART is now editor of Scribners Commentator Magazine published at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. b7c b7D

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, stated that Subject has recently been in contact with [redacted] of the Commentator Magazine at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, telephone number 464. b7c b7c

[redacted] also exhibited to the writer a clipping from the Detroit News dated July 16, 1941, describing a "No Foreign War Rally" at Cass Technical High School, Detroit, Michigan, on June 17, 1941. Two thousand two hundred persons were present. SMITH was the principal speaker and he uncovered the plot to annex the United States to Great Britain and to make "union now" with FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT as an Honorary Member of Parliament. SMITH criticized the administration and urged that soldiers' wages should be increased. During the meeting he made two appeals for contributions to support his weekly broadcast. Other speakers at the meeting were EARL J. SOUTHARD, Departmental Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars-Illinois, and WILLIAM J. GRACE, Chicago Attorney and chairman of Citizens Committee to Keep America Out of War. Three resolutions were passed at this rally. b7c b7D

1. To impeach Secretary of Navy FRANK KNOX.
2. To oppose lengthening construction of any American expeditionary force.
3. To oppose anything in the nature of a military alliance with Russia.

[redacted] stated that the America First Committee worked very closely with The Committee of One Million. At a meeting of The Committee of One Million in September, 1941, SMITH interviewed ROBERT T. VIETIG, executive secretary of the Detroit chapter of America First Committee, and invited VIETIG to sit on the platform. VIETIG, however, declined to sit on the platform. [redacted] believes since the America First Committee is now enacted that VIETIG is working for it. b7c b7D

(Detroit file 62-1126)

[redacted] said that in the beginning of 1941 he spoke with [redacted], Ford Motor Car Company and a discussion wandered to the subject of GERALD SMITH. Informant suggested that the Ford Motor Car Company should stop lending financial support to SMITH. [redacted] agreed and said that the Ford Motor Car Company was not going to pay SMITH another dime.

[redacted] said that Subject is maintaining contact with the publication entitled "The Defenders", Wichita, Kansas, which is the publication of GERALD WINROD. Informant stated that some of SMITH's publications were printed in Wichita, Kansas, specifically a pamphlet entitled "The Hoop of Steel".

On January 12, 1942, according to [redacted] Subject telegraphed [redacted] Radio Station WOL, Washington, D. C. as follows:

> "Our Committee considers it advisable to recess broadcast in Washington for at least two more weeks and perhaps four. We consider this advisable due to the fact that subjects for discussion have not completely crystallized. We are anxious to do or say nothing that might in any way affect the war effort. We believe that within one month domestic issues will so crystallize as to merit honest, fearless and patriotic discussion.
>
> /s/ GERALD L. K. SMITH"

Informant also stated that Subject has been in contact with ROBERT T. REYNOLDS, Washington, D. C.

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b2c, b2d with no segregable material available for release to you.

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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☐ For your information: _____

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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-101 Pgs 8 & 9

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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

(Detroit file 62-1126)

[redacted]

[redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau revealed that SMITH, aside from the Post Office Box #459, Detroit, Michigan, which he publicizes widely, also uses Post Office Box #697, Detroit, Michigan.

[redacted] Post Office Department, Detroit, Michigan, advised that Post Office Box #697 was rented to BERNARD DONAN for use in the advertising business. The quantity of mail receipt through this box is comparatively small. The references on the application for this Post Office Box rental were IRVING BOOK, Industrial Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan, and [redacted] 2006 Industrial Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan. [redacted]

In accordance with Bureau letter dated June 4, 1942, [redacted]

REPORTED TO IRS

[redacted]

[redacted]

(Detroit file 62-1126)

[redacted]

RETURN TO IRS

[redacted] said that he first became acquainted with GERALD SMITH when SMITH came to Detroit. He said SMITH's purpose was to expose the influence of Communists at the CIO and he believed that SMITH came to Detroit because it was a great industrial center. [redacted] of the Federation of Americanization of Michigan, which was organized for the purpose of combating Communism in Labor Unions. He said the corporation was organized about five or six months after SMITH came to Detroit and that its business was to handle the distribution of pamphlets and radio time for SMITH. [redacted] said that JOHN RINDERMAN was connected with SMITH when SMITH came to Detroit. [redacted] explained that PEABODY was introduced to SMITH by RINDERMAN at the same time [redacted] was. [redacted] said that PEABODY is presently a Lieutenant Commander in the United States Navy. RINDERMAN is a former salesman, now probably living in Detroit, Michigan. [redacted] himself did not describe his own business activity more particularly than to say that he was engaging in miscellaneous business enterprises. The enterprises known to the writer are [redacted] present connection with GERALD SMITH and his present connection with King KAROL of Roumania in attempting to gain KAROL's admission to the United States and negotiations on his part for lend-lease transactions.

[redacted] stated that the original donations which SMITH received from his incorporators were enough to pay for four weeks of broadcasting on radio station WXBC at $45.00 per program. [redacted] was unable to give a satisfactory explanation of why SMITH kept himself in the background. At first he said SMITH contributed only his services and not money, then he corrected himself and said SMITH contributed some money sufficient to pay for telephone calls, office rental and office expense

amounting to about $125.00. [redacted] said that after about three months SMITH switched over to radio station WJR at a cost of $375.00 per week. He said the three incorporators put in about $60.00 each.

The first office SMITH had in Detroit was in the Leland Hotel. The first few programs were very well received and listeners sent generous contributions through the mail. SMITH also collected cash contributions at his meetings. Soon SMITH moved his offices to the Industrial Bank Building. [redacted] reluctantly stated that the rent for SMITH's offices in the Industrial Bank Building was probably donated by the BOOK family who operates that building. [redacted] was extremely evasive in answering questions concerning SMITH's financial support. He suggested that the writer look in the Detroit City Directory and practically everyone in there would have been a contributor. He then stated that practically every industrialist in Detroit contributed to SMITH's support, but did so in the form of group contributions so that it would be impossible to say what persons made a certain contribution. He said that the industrialists were all very anxious to support SMITH's fight against Communism in the Labor Unions. [redacted] said that none of the industrialists now support SMITH since he has embarked on a political campaign for the United States Senate.

[redacted] said he has not discussed finances recently with SMITH and has only spoken to SMITH three times in the last year. He said in the last of these conversations SMITH informed [redacted] that he was running for the Senate and asked [redacted] to work for him but [redacted] said that he was "too busy".

[redacted] continued that JOHN RINDERMAN resigned in 1941 from his connection with SMITH and PEABODY resigned in 1940. He said that BERNARD DONAN and Mrs. ELEANOR SMITH, SMITH's wife, were elected to the Board of Directors to fill these two vacancies. [redacted] said thereafter he became inactive and dropped out. [redacted]

[redacted] insisted that SMITH had never received any outright support from Ford or Chrysler or any other leading industrial establishment. He did suggest that Ford might have called upon his own "sources" and recommended to them that they support SMITH. [redacted] denied having any knowledge of the amount of money that SMITH received. He denied that the Ford Motor Car Company ever paid for any of the radio programs but again suggested that some sympathetic persons might have made a group contribution which might have been used in payment of the radio program.

ALL 670
67C, 67D

(Detroit file 62-1126)

b7c, b7D

[redacted] said he knows nothing of any Fascist, Nazi or subversive association of SMITH.

LUCKER expressed surprise over the fact that SMITH, in his May, 1942, issue of "The Cross and the Flag", named WINROD as an outstanding American. He said as far as he knows GERALD SMITH, he had an intense dislike for WINROD because WINROD tried to make him join the Silver Shirts. He expressed similar surprise over SMITH's public praise of ELIZABETH DILLING.

Photostatic copies of the articles of incorporation of the Federation of Americanization of Michigan state its purpose to be to aid in movements and support with funds patriotic programs of known integrity. The location of the corporation was said to have been Room #1927, Detroit Leland Hotel, Detroit, Michigan. The corporation did not issue stock and had no real estate and its only personal property were books, pamphlets and literature. Finances were said to be from donations. The corporation was incorporated as a no profit organization. The incorporators were HUBERT H. LUCKER, L. NAVARRE PEABODY and JOHN RINDERMAN. The same persons were the initial Board of Directors. The term of the corporation was fixed at 20 years. The date of the incorporation was April 14, 1939. It was stated that additional membership in the corporation can only be received by unanimous vote of original incorporators and their duly elected successors.

The 1939 annual report shows the office address to be 2006 Industrial Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan, and the officers, H. H. LUCKER, President, E. M. SMITH, Secretary, and JOHN RINDERMAN, Treasurer. The corporation showed a deficit of $900.00.

The 1940 annual report shows the officers to be H. H. LUCKER, President, E. M. SMITH, Secretary and BERNARD A. DOMAN, Treasurer. The deficit was listed as $1,100.00.

The 1941 return showed the officers to be BERNARD A. DOMAN, President, and E. M. SMITH, Treasurer. The directors were BERNARD DOMAN, E. M. SMITH and HUBERT H. LUCKER. The deficit was reported at $2,000.00. [redacted]

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

(Detroit file 62-1126)

[redacted] b7c b7D

[redacted] was also evasive and said that he had never driven SMITH out to the Ford Motor Car Company and had no idea that SMITH had any connection with the Ford Motor Car Company. He said that in his opinion SMITH was as honest a man as any one could be and had no Fascist sympathies but was merely a good, true American. He knew of no source of SMITH's income except cash contributions received in mail and at meetings.

Despite persistent questioning in the presence of Special Agent [redacted] continuously denied that SMITH had any contacts except with all the good people that were interested in him. He said that he never drove SMITH anywhere except to his office, to his home and out for a drive. [redacted] did admit, however, that The Committee of One Million now included most of the former members of the America First Committee and Father COUGHLIN's Group. b7c

[redacted] added that [redacted] and [redacted] were still in very close contact with SMITH and even to the extent of reporting to SMITH that they were telephonically contacted by the writer and they tried to follow SMITH's advice not to respond to any telephonic contact by any one. b7D

[redacted], Military Intelligence Officer, Selfridge Field, Michigan, reported to Special Agent [redacted] who was interviewing him in connection with another investigation, that he was unable to ascertain the identity of the soldier who wrote a letter to Subject and signed it R.K., Department of Quartermaster, Selfridge Field, Michigan. b7c b7D

Subject's radio speech over station WJR on May 31, 1942, opened with the following statements:

> "We cannot win this war without tires and gasoline. This war must be won on two fronts -- the Battle front and the Home front. We need tires and gasoline both places. Every loyal American is willing to give his life, or the life of his son, to win the war on the battle front. Every patriotic American must do everything in his power to win the battle on the home front."

Thereafter SMITH continued to criticize the administration's policy along his usual lines and argued that it was necessary to take the Nazis and Communists off the pay roll of the United States Government. SMITH announced that he was going to be the friend of the Coughlinites.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

In SMITH's speech over station WJR on June 7, 1942, SMITH spent all his time exposing the plot of character assassins that were going to frame him and his followers as Fascist revolutionists.

On June 14, 1942, SMITH did not go over the air because of the President's Flag Day address.

Verbatim copies of SMITH's speeches dated May 31, 1942 and June 7, 1942, are being forwarded herewith to the Bureau.

ENCLOSURES 1

TO THE BUREAU

Two copies of "The Cross and the Flag", June, 1942 issue.

Two copies of radio speeches dated May 31, 1942 and June 7, 1942.

- P E N D I N G -

(Detroit file 62-1126)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

MILWAUKEE FIELD DIVISION

Will report information concerning [redacted] and newspaper known as "The Herald", especially in reference to any connection between the above and GERALD L. K. SMITH and any Fascist activity that may be engaged in by the above.

DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At ALMA, MICHIGAN, will contact [redacted] relative to information in his possession concerning the activities of SMITH.

At DETROIT, MICHIGAN, will contact [redacted] relative to information in his possession concerning activities of SMITH and will maintain contact with other informants for further information relative to SMITH.

- P E N D I N G -

AVC
b7C

(Detroit file #62-1126)

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

[redacted]

A, C
b7c, b7D

4-750 (2-7-79)

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62-43818 - /01/ Enclosure

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FBI/DOJ

CC-285

4094

NJS:AJB
7-20-42
62-43818-1
RECORDED
Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General
Wendell Berge

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: Gerald L. K. Smith; "The Committee of One Million"; Sedition

b7c

There are enclosed herewith for your consideration a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, dated June 29, 1942, together with a copy of Smith's radio broadcasts from station WJR, Detroit, Michigan on May 31, 1942 and June 7, 1942, together with a copy of the June, 1942, issue of "The Cross And The Flag" which publication is prepared and disseminated by Smith.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/6/82 BY SP6 BJA/bm
204,433

PUBLICATION FILE

RECEIVED-MAIL ROOM
JUL 28 6 01 PM '42
RECEIVED-ROOM 5640
FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-MAIL ROOM
JUL 31 10 38 AM '42
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 1
★ JUL 21 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Boren
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gordon
Mr. Hoover
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gandy

4 JUL 23 1942

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) TREASURY DEPT, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-102

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FBI/DOJ

JPHa:JEA
62-43818-102

62-43818-102

July 20, 1942

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There are transmitted herewith photostatic copies of a list of reported contributors to Gerald L. K. Smith and the Committee of 1,000,000 during the year 1937 and the first three months of 1938.

This list was referred to the Bureau by a confidential source and the same is being sent you for your information and assistance in your further investigation of this case.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-8875/ab

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 13
JUL 20 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE NO. 62-1194

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
New Orleans, La.	6/29/42	6/12/42	[redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH	MISCELLANEOUS - Information Concerning

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted], is presently at Ft. Benning, Ga., attending Infantry Officers' Candidate School. Pertinent serials being forwarded Atlanta Field Division.

P

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, dated 5/20/41. Letter from Detroit Field Division dated 6/4/42 to New Orleans Field Division.

DETAILS: Reference letter advised that [redacted] was a Private, Headquarters Company, Reception Center, Camp Beauregard, Louisiana, and that he should be interviewed concerning activities of the subject.

AT CAMP BEAUREGARD, LOUISIANA:

[redacted], Camp Beauregard, advised that [redacted] is presently at Ft. Benning, Georgia, attending Infantry Officers' Candidate School.

In view of this information this matter is being referred to the Atlanta Field Division and pertinent serials are being forwarded to that Division.

ENCLOSURES: TO ATLANTA FIELD DIVISION;

One (1) copy of report of Special Agent [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, dated 5/20/41.

One (1) copy of report of Special Agent [redacted], Detroit, Michigan, dated 5/23/42.

One (1) copy of letter from Special Agent in Charge, Detroit, Michigan to Special Agent in Charge, New Orleans, Louisiana, dated 6/4/42.

P E N D I N G

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: R. C. Guerin SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-1431/2-103

RECORDED

INDEXED

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3-Bureau
2-Detroit
2-Atlanta (Encs.)
2-New Orleans

JUL 2 1942

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SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED

8 OCT 13 1964

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 7—2034

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE CLEVELAND FIELD DIVISION:

* At CLEVELAND, OHIO will investigate the character and background of [redacted] and the organization known as "United Mothers of America", 348 Arcade, telephone Michigan 8838. It is noted that [redacted] has been in frequent contact with GERALD L. K. SMITH.

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION:

* At LANSING, MICHIGAN, will obtain full information concerning the incorporation and activities of the Federation of Americanization of Michigan, Inc.

* At DETROIT, MICHIGAN, will consider interviewing the following persons if advisable concerning activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH: [redacted]

* Will continue inspection of Subject's bank account at the Detroit Bank main office particularly near the end of each calendar month.

* Will continue this investigation vigorously in order to ascertain the sources of Subject's financial support, Subject's business associates, and future activities. Will make a special effort to ascertain if Subject is making any attempt to propagandize any particular group of persons in violation of the Selective Training and Service Act.

* Will continue to collect Subject's propaganda for transmittal to the Bureau.

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION:

* At NEW YORK CITY will interview [redacted] former associate of GERALD L. K. SMITH, who may be located through [redacted] should be questioned principally concerning the financial support received by SMITH with particular emphasis on any support received from any interest which may be subversive.

THE NEW ORLEANS FIELD DIVISION:

* At NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, will ascertain information concerning the background and activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH from approximately 1929 to 1935 when he was said to have been a bodyguard and close friend of HUEY LONG with particular reference to any activities which may have been in concert with present enemies of the United States. Will interview [redacted] said to be of New Orleans, Louisiana and former associate of HUEY LONG, concerning SMITH'S activities in Louisiana.

ALV
b7C

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E.A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Harbo
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Call 3:00 p.m.
Dictated 9:30 a.m. 6/2/42
HMK:VGG

June 1, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

RE: TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCES,
Detroit, Michigan

b7c

SA [redacted] of the Detroit Office called to advise that the symbol [redacted] will be used in connection with the technical surveillances maintained in the investigation of Gerald L. K. Smith. These surveillances cover lines Randolph 9547, Clifford 1582 and Fitzroy 8264. [redacted]

b7D

b7c

Respectfully,

Harry M. Kimball [redacted]

Harry M. Kimball

b7c

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-8013/MC

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-45818-104

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 JUL 8 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FOR DEFENSE
BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

57 JUL 15 1942

FILE

July 8, 1942.

F.B.I. Headquarters
Washington D.C.

Gentlemen:

Here is some dope on a couple of men that should be carefully checked viz;

They are supposed to be working for the Candidacey of Gerald L.K. Smith for Senator from Michigan in the next election. Smith is the Chairman of the Committee of One Million and is the author of the publication Too Much Rooseveldt"

is an expert photographer and has taken numerous pictures of the Soo Locks and other points in the upper part of Michigan.

I would Suggest that some one get in touch with at the Park Garden Cafe in for some interesting information about these two men.

I have two boys in the U.S.Army and consider it my duty to pass this along to the F.B.I.

Sincerely yours:

1 ENCLO.

P.S.The License No.of their Car is 1942.
1942 Plymouth Car.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 10 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FIVE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 8 1 29 PM '42
RECEIVED
MAIL DIVISION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Lester
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit - Michigan
July 17, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/7/82 BY SP6 BJM oms
204,433

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 LED/ld
ON 8/10/77

62-43811
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 20 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

Dear Sir:

The following additional information has been received from [redacted] b7D

GERALD SMITH received a package via railway express agency from Protestant War Veterans, New York City, New York and instructed his secretary, BERNARD DOMAN, to refuse it, inasmuch as it probably contained propaganda. SMITH has continued to contact HARRY BENNETT, Personnel Manager of Ford Motor Company and apparently confers with BENNETT concerning the "crusade" of the Committee of One Million and also concerning SMITH'S political campaign for the office of United States Senator from Michigan. SMITH commented on PEARSON and ALLEN'S newspaper comment that the Senate was wondering where SMITH was getting all his money to send out abundant literature and campaign propaganda. SMITH said he expected to invite PRENTISS M. BROWN to send a secretary to SMITH'S office every week and get an audited report and they would all be surprised how many thousands of small people had been sending him dollars and five dollars to keep him going. SMITH said that special contribution he had had would go back to two years ago and had nothing to do with the present. SMITH resented the fact that ROOSEVELT'S transcription was broadcast on June 14, 1942 at a time that conflicted with SMITH'S weekly broadcast at 7:15 P.M. Sunday. SMITH said that the choice of time indicated that it was spy work aimed at SMITH and it was unfortunate because SMITH had quite a bit to say. SMITH said that he read in the papers that the COUGHLIN investigation had been dropped. He commented that the world is now going through dark hours.

RECORDED & INDEXED

SMITH has had considerable assistance in getting his nominating petitions filled from employees of the Ford Motor Company. The former football player, JIM THORPE, filled one complete petition during one eight-hour shift at the Ford Motor Company. SMITH'S son, GERALD Z. SMITH, has obtained a job at the Ford Motor Company, through HARRY BENNETT'S office. SMITH advised his former chauffeur and body guard, WALLACE GAMBER, to tell the truth if any Government officers questioned him about SMITH.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF declassification
DATE 2/10/77 LED/ld

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83 OCT 13 1964

56 JUL 22 1942

SMITH said he had nothing to hide. SMITH has frequently expressed suspicion that his telephone wires were being tapped and has cautioned some of his friends not to mention any facts or figures over the telephone. At other times he has said that he had a lot of company when he talked over the 'phone but his company would merely hear him talk to some fine Americans.

SMITH stated that he had received a reply to the letter he mailed to Attorney General BIDDLE, advising of the "plot" of SMITH'S enemies to plant arms and ammunition in the homes of SMITH'S followers. He said the reply was from BIDDLE'S assistant, Mr. BERGE. SMITH said he would have communicated directly with the local F.B.I. office but he did not know anybody. SMITH said he did not know in what part of the country the "plot" might hatch.

HUBERT LUCKER informed SMITH that he had been interviewed by F.B.I. Agents but the exact details of the disclosure were not learned. There was some indication that SMITH sent his son, JERRY, to try to "spot" the F.B.I. Agent who was supposed to interview LUCKER. SMITH has become very bitter against Professor JOHN SHEPARD of the University of Michigan, Chairman of the Civil Rights Federation, which organization published a pamphlet "Smash Detroit's Fifth Column." One of the principal chapters violently attacks SMITH. SMITH freely exposes Professor SHEPARD as a fellow traveler of the Communists connected with the Civil Rights Federation. SMITH expressed these sentiments to President ALEXANDER RUTHVEN of the University of Michigan.

SMITH has been in touch with [redacted] in the b7c
office of the Collector of Internal Revenue, Treasury Department, Detroit, Michigan (this may be in connection with the investigation of SMITH for income tax evasion.) SMITH and his wife have been attempting to contact CHARLES A. LINDBERGH in room 49 of the Dearborn Inn, Dearborn, Michigan. They have made frequent telephone calls, but only once was SMITH connected with LINDBERGH who replied that he had no time to confer with SMITH since he was preparing to leave for Washington, D. C, and also because he had to get out a report.

The City Council of Cleveland, Ohio refused to rent the Municipal Stadium in Cleveland to GERALD SMITH. The leader of the opposition to SMITH was Professor BUSH of Western University. The Mothers of America under the leadership of Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, Cleveland, Ohio, engaged an attorney who represented the taxpayers and people who want to preserve freedom of speech. SMITH and his wife under the name of Mr. and Mrs. B. A. DOMAN, flew to Cleveland, Ohio on June 24, 1942 to attend the hearing on the resolution. SMITH had advised

that Professor BUSH was Jewish and was probably a Communist by reason of his affiliation with Russian War Relief. SMITH spoke before the Cleveland City Council and was well satisfied with his reception. In his speech before the Cleveland City Council, SMITH denied charges that he was anti-Semitic and challenged every Jew in Cleveland to prove that he is.

GEORGE _____ told SMITH that a fellow named [redacted] (probably referring to Special Agent [redacted]) spoke to SMITH, but gave him the wrong name. GEORGE _____ said he got this information from a man in New York named [redacted] whom SMITH knew to be a Communist. SMITH, however, said he did not have any such call. GEORGE _____ answered that [redacted] was supposed to have talked with SMITH. SMITH later referred to his own speech in Cleveland and said that he was not defending Father COUGHLIN, but instead was defending the only church which ordained him a priest. He contended that his own statements were not seditious, but if people thought they were, they should go to local United States Attorney or the Attorney General of the United States.

He told the Cleveland Councilmen not to be deceived by the snakes or SHEPARDS who are merely members of the Communist Party. SMITH has also been attempting to contact [redacted] who is presently in New York City, New York. Mrs. SMITH advised [redacted] assistant to HARRY BENNETT, that GERALD SMITH had already twice as many names as he needed on a nominating petition and that they were coming in at the rate of 500 to 1,500 daily. [redacted] said that he would check on the Ford dealers to see if they were circulating any petitions for Judge HOMER FERGUSON, SMITH'S most feared opponent, and would relay this message to HARRY BENNETT.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted]
62-1126

ALV
b7C

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
July 20, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-8BTJ/MC

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, a/k/a
Gerald L. K. Smith;
The Committee of One Million.
Internal Security - Sedition.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 6-29-42 at Detroit, Michigan, which report set forth a lead for the Milwaukee Field Division to report information concerning [redacted] and newspaper known as "The Herald," especially in reference to any connection between the above and Gerald L. K. Smith and any Fascist activity that may be engaged in by the above.

This is to advise that a review of the file in the Milwaukee Office, entitled, "The Herald, Lake Geneva Publications, Inc., Lake Geneva, Wisconsin - Registration Act," fails to reflect any reference to Gerald L. K. Smith.

Copies of the following reports, however, are being enclosed with this letter to the Detroit Field Division and these reports contain a history of the Registration Act case referred to above.

Report of Special Agen[redacted], dated 2-7-42 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin;

Report of Special Agent [redacted]., dated 7-15-42 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

This matter is being considered as Referred Upon Completion to the Detroit Field Division with this letter. It will be reopened in the Milwaukee Office upon the receipt of any information to the effect that Gerald L. K. Smith has any connection with Douglas M. Stewart or other individuals connected with the Herald newspaper.

Very truly yours,

H. T. O'Connor

H. T. O'Connor
Special Agent in Charge

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83 OCT 13 1964

RECORDED & INDEXED
62-43818-107
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 22 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

50 JUL 25 1942

[redacted]
cc Detroit (2)
Enclosures

COPY IN FILE

All b7c

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Post Office Box 812
Chicago Illinois
July 21, 1942

[redacted]

b7c

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir: RE: COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000;
GERALD L. K. SMITH -
INTERNAL SECURITY (G)

There are being transmitted herewith photostatic copies of certain articles and memoranda recently furnished to the Chicago Field Office by [redacted] of the Anti-Defamation League, 130 North Wells Street, concerning the above-named organization and individual. Three photostatic copies have been prepared, one copy of which is being sent to the Detroit Field Office for its information. One photostatic copy of this data will be retained in the files of the Chicago Field Office.

b7c
b7c

In accordance with [redacted] request, the originals of this material are being returned to him.

The indices of the Chicago Field Office failed to reflect information not already furnished to the Detroit Office.

Very truly yours,

A. H. Johnson

A. H. JOHNSON,
Special Agent in Charge.

ENCL BEHIND FILE

enc.
[redacted]
cc Detroit (enc)
100-7744

b7c

59 JUL 30 1942

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-8075/mlc

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~~83 OCT 13 1964~~

COPY IN FILE

62-43114-108

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

_____

_____

☒ For your information: Per your March 18, 1982 letter this enclosure was not xeroxed for release.

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818 - 108 Enclosure

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
July 18, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/7/82 BY SP6B301 DMS 204,433

~~PERSONAL~~

62-4511-109
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 23 1942

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION; b7D [redacted]
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION.

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080/LEDK ON 8/10/82

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that the following additional information has been received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau: b7D

GERALD SMITH and his wife are continuing to contact HARRY BENNETT, Personnel Manager, Ford Motor Company, both at his office and at his home but they rarely speak to Mr. BENNETT personally and customarily leave their messages with and obtain their messages from BENNETT'S Assistant, [redacted] SMITH has some copies of ELIZABETH DILLING'S book entitled "The Red Network" which he distributes upon special request.

A [redacted] of Washington, D. C., who writes for the newspapers, privately told [redacted] of Detroit, Michigan that he was going to be sent to England and further stated that ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL are the biggest blunderers he ever heard of and the United Nations have a very good chance of being licked. b7C

SMITH was visited by [redacted] of Baton Rouge, Louisiana on Friday, July 10, 1942 and the two of them had dinner and a conference for several hours with CHARLES AUGUSTUS LINDBERGH at the Dearborn Inn in Dearborn, Michigan.

~~DEFERRED IN~~

SMITH was considerably concerned about newspaper articles to the effect that SMITH was going to be involved in the Grand Jury Investigation being conducted at Chicago, Illinois into the subject of sedition in the midwest. SMITH claims to be a total stranger to Miss FRANCES DUSENBERRY by whom SMITH is being implicated. SMITH attributes this adverse publicity to the desire of his enemies, particularly WALTER WINCHELL, the Jews, and Communists to smear SMITH'S reputation.

Reverend LELAND HARRION of Pontiac, Michigan told SMITH that

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF declassification DATE 8/10/82 LEDK

INDEXED DATE: 10/15/57

COPY

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Letter to Director
July 18, 1942

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION.

"our friend" from the southwest is believed to have been arrested in northern California and put in a concentration camp. SMITH expressed his opinion that "our friend" may be out on a confidential mission and advised Reverend MARION not to worry. SMITH stated to MARION that he has appealed to the Federal Bureau of Investigation because he feels that a conspiracy is underway to exterminate him in some way. SMITH invited Reverend MARION to reside at SMITH'S meeting at Masonic Hall on July 17, 1942. SMITH said he called on [redacted] to release enough gasoline to take people to church on Sundays and to the election booths on election day. SMITH expressed that he was worried, that we are losing this war. Reverend MARION said in about thirty days Russia would be right back with HITLER. MARION then cited the eleventh chapter of DANIEL of the Bible, which predicted the downfall of Egypt. b7c

SMITH also accuses that he has some very merciless enemies among Jewish organizations which are preparing to turn over to SMITH'S political oponents material against SMITH. SMITH expressed confidence in the Federal Bureau of Investigation and specifically in Mr. BUGAS, saying that Mr. BUGAS would not allow SMITH'S enemies to create a lot of trouble for SMITH. SMITH stated that he was not afraid of smear campaigns but he was afraid of his enemies plotting against him to frame him. SMITH told his Secretary, BERNARD DOMAN, that he got the impression from his interview with Mr. BUGAS and Mr. SOLOMON that they did not want to hurt him, they wanted to protect him against his enemies.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 3 OF 18

FILE NUMBER : 62-43818

SUBJECT GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART II

FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
REQUEST

SUBJECT GERALD L. K. Smith

PAGES REVIEWED: 3994

PAGES RELEASED: 2979

NOTES: SECTIONS 6-9

NO DUPLICATION FEES FOR THIS PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 6

PAGES REVIEWED: 91

PAGES RELEASED: 90

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Case originated at DETROIT, MICHIGAN — DETROIT File No. 62-1126

Report made at	Date when made	Period	Report made by
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	7/22/42	6/20,25;7/6, 7/42	[redacted] EJG b7c

Title	Character
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, aka Gerald L. K. Smith; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION.	INTERNAL SECURITY SEDITION

SYNOPSIS: [redacted] Detroit, Michigan reveals statements of SMITH indicating that United States is going Fascist or Communist and he wants lead United States toward Fascism. [redacted] interviewed concerning alleged plot to defame him and so forth, no additional information, unable to state specifically original source of information about conspiracy. [redacted] contends that involving him in Chicago Grand Jury Investigation is part of same conspiracy. Subject occupied principally with political campaign to Wayne Republican Nomination for United States Senator from Michigan. Subject contacts [redacted] of Ford Motor Company and CHARLES LINDBERGH presently employed by Ford Motor Company. b7c, b7D

- P -

REFERENCES: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 29, 1942 at Detroit, Michigan. b7c

62-43818 Bureau letter dated June 20, 1942.

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35 OCT 20 1964

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/2/82 BY SP6 JA/cm 204,433

Approved and forwarded: SAC

J. E. Bugas

62-43818-110

RECORDED & INDEXED

15 JUL 25 1942

Copies:
5 Bureau
2 Chicago
2 Kansas City
3 Detroit
2 Cleveland
2 New York
2 New Orleans
2 Milwaukee

COPY IN FILE

(Detroit file 62-1126)

DETAILS: AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

[redacted] for Local Draft Board No. 10, 17th Floor Cadillac Square Building, Detroit, stated that GERALD LYMAN K. SMITH of 1753 Seyburn, Detroit, was born in Pardeeville, Wisconsin on February 27, 1898. He gave his occupation as "preacher-radio commentator". He is married and is employed by The Committee of One Million, 2001 Industrial Bank Building. On June 20, 1942, he had not yet been classified under the Selective Service and Training Act.

[redacted] Post Office Department, Detroit, advised that from June 15, 1942 until June 25, 1942 the only return address noted on mail received through Post Office Box 697, Detroit, Michigan was that of [redacted]

[redacted], Detroit, Michigan, was interviewed in his room at the [redacted] in Detroit and gave the following information:

He said he had previously conferred with Director HOOVER and L. B. NICHOLS, Assistant Director, concerning a large group of preachers and former preachers throughout the United States who are expressing seditious views. He said that the leader of this group and the one who is most instrumental in recruiting new members is [redacted] of Chicago, Illinois. [redacted] said that [redacted] is a woman who has considerable appeal and personal charm and she usually employs this asset to convert preachers so that they will utter her propaganda which very closely parallels Nazi propaganda. [redacted] said that [redacted] attempted to recruit him but he said he was well aware of her attempt and told her frankly that she had no chance of succeeding.

[redacted] At the conference it was determined that an attempt was going to be made to unearth Communist activity at the University of Michigan. [redacted] told [redacted] that she had received $5,000.00 from [redacted] for this purpose. [redacted] also told [redacted] that she was friendly with [redacted] and said that she would introduce [redacted] to [redacted] She explained to [redacted] that [redacted] was [redacted] right-hand man as well a[redacted] She said that [redacted] got ample money for all his expenses from [redacted] said that the last he heard of [redacted] was that he had become a Major in the United States Army.

ALL b7c, b7D

(Detroit file 62-1126)

[redacted] said that all of [redacted] clique have the same method of operating. They always have some campaign with a popular appeal which enables them to solicit cash contributions from large numbers of persons. He said [redacted] uses the Political Research Bureau of Chicago, Illinois; [redacted] of San Antonio, Texas uses a Prohibition Platform; GERALD SMITH uses his Committee of One Million. [redacted] said that they account to no one for the cash contributions they so receive and he believed that they do not report this income properly to the United States Treasury Department in filing their income tax returns with the Collector of Internal Revenue. [redacted] suggested that the most effective way for the Federal Bureau of Investigation to scare these people into being good Americans once more would be to openly interview them and demand an accounting of their income. He said he had formerly made this suggestion to Director HOOVER and Assistant Director NICHOLS. [redacted] gave the impression that he was a very close informant of Assistant Director NICHOLS and had recently spent half a day with him discussing this situation.

[redacted] that she twice attended the Neuremberg Conference of the Nazi Party in Germany. She also boasted that she was friendly with General FRANCO, Fascist leader of Spain. [redacted] said that [redacted] tells incredible stories about Russia and she has also told him that CHIANG KAI-SHEK and all the Chinese leaders were Communists. She also justified the Japanese aggression by saying that the Japanese were projected into a war of aggression by reason of over population. [redacted] said that all of [redacted] crowd preach the same line of propaganda, attacking the administration, criticizing any alliance with the atheistic Communists of Russia and all of them favoring a termination of the war by negotiating a peace and appeasing the Axis Powers.

[redacted] said that GERALD SMITH admitted to him that he had great financial backing from leading industrialists in Detroit, Michigan to fight Communism. SMITH told [redacted] that the United States is ultimately going to become either a Fascist state or a Communist state and all that was needed to defeat Communism was good leadership. SMITH told [redacted] he was a fool for not getting in for some of this Anti-Communist money. [redacted] was unable to recall the names of any specific financial supporter of SMITH except the senior [redacted] SMITH also complained to [redacted] privately about the alleged control of the United States by Jews and said that he intended to fight it. SMITH boasted to [redacted] that the American people were merely looking for a leader and he aspired to be a leader of the people when the United States would become a Fascist state. [redacted] describes SMITH as having the same delusion of grandeur as SMITH'S former boss HUEY LONG. SMITH also bragged that business men are looking to him as their spokesman to combat Communism and see that the United States would become Fascist rather than Communist.

ALL
b7c, b7D

(Detroit file 62-1126)

[redacted] said that he had no documentary proof of any of the activities of [redacted] GERALD SMITH, or any of that crowd. He explained that his understanding of their program was gained merely by observation.

[redacted] revealed that SMITH is continuously attempting to contact [redacted] of Ford Motor Company, both at his home and at his office but he is almost always confronted with [redacted] Assistant [redacted] who accepts messages for and delivers messages from [redacted] Their usual conversation is merely as to whether there is any news and the usual answer is that there is no news.

SMITH has continued to contact CHARLES AUGUSTUS LINDBERGH now in the employ of Ford Motor Company and on July 10, 1942 SMITH took [redacted] with him to a conference, which he had with CHARLES AUGUSTUS LINDBERGH for several hours at Dearborn Inn, Dearborn, Michigan. Special Agent [redacted] conducted a surveillance and observed that SMITH and his wife were driven up to Dearborn Inn and went into a private room and left several hours later. [redacted] did not see CHARLES LINDBERGH himself but it was reliably reported by [redacted] that the conference was planned to be between SMITH [redacted] and LINDBERGH.

[redacted] further reported that SMITH has distributed upon special request a copy of ELIZABETH DILLING'S book "The Red Network".

[redacted] further stated that on July 11, 1942 [redacted] Pontiac, Michigan told SMITH that "our friend" from the southwest was rumored to be arrested in northern California and placed in a concentration camp. He told [redacted] that "our friend" may be out on a confidential mission and he should not worry.

In accordance with Bureau letter dated June 20, 1942, the writer telephonically contacted Subject and requested him to appear at the Detroit Field Office for an interview by Mr. BUGAS and the writer concerning the alleged plot which Subject reported to Attorney General BIDDLE. At 2:30 P.M. on July 7, 1942, SMITH was interviewed by Special Agent in Charge JOHN S. BUGAS and the writer in the office of the Special Agent in Charge. The interview lasted until 3:20 P.M. and Subject was asked to give all the information in his possession concerning the alleged plot which he reported to the Attorney General. Persistent attempts were made to confine Subject to this limited scope but he furnished practically no facts which were not already known to the Bureau. In short, he stated that he was visited by Mr. _____ HUIE, Associate Editor of the American Mercury magazine, which is largely owned by reputable Jewishpersons. HUIE told SMITH that he wanted information so that

ALL
D20,670

he could write a story about SMITH for American Mercury magazine and he explained to SMITH that it wouldn't be entirely complimentary but SMITH understood that "it had to be that way". SMITH invited HUIE, who impressed him as a sincere, conscientious young man of about thirty years, out to his house for luncheon. In the midst of a discussion, which, of course, centered about SMITH, HUIE'S expression changed and he asked SMITH if he really knew how vicious his enemies were. When drawn out, HUIE elaborated that in getting material for his story, he had interviewed officers of the Jewish Anti-Nazi League in New York City, New York and Reverend L. M. BIRKHEAD'S Friends of Democracy. SMITH explained that HUIE was favorably received by these two organizations since it was known that he represented the American Mercury magazine, which was largely controlled by Jews. At this point, SMITH went into a harangue of Reverend L. M. BIRKHEAD, whom he accused of being an insincere ex-preacher who found it profitable to pretend to protect wealthy Jewish people from Anti-Semitic attacks. SMITH then continued that he wasn't sure whether HUIE got the story of the alleged plot from the Jewish Anti-Nazi League or from Friends of Democracy, but knowing Reverend BIRKHEAD he assumed that HUIE got the story from Friends of Democracy. He admitted several times that he was not sure that this was the source of HUIE'S information. SMITH was unable to name any person in Detroit, who was to participate in the plot and merely repeated information that was already known to the Bureau and the Department that within ten days after his interview with HUIE, said enemies of his planned to locate arms and ammunition in the homes of certain Detroiters, the Federal Bureau of Investigation was then to become anonymously involved by being tipped off to raid these homes and the occupants would then say that they were friends of GERALD SMITH, HENRY FORD, FATHER COUGHLIN, [redacted] b7c and any of the real leaders of Detroit.

SMITH said he deemed it necessary to act quickly in that situation and that is why he had to expose the plot over the radio that following Sunday. He said he felt that this exposure either broke up the plot or more likely made the conspirators lie in wait for some later opportunity to smear SMITH'S reputation.

During this interview the writer did not speak at all but all the questioning was done by Special Agent in Charge JOHN S. BUGAS, who exerted a continuous effort to gain further particulars about the alleged plot from the Subject and also to confine Subject's discussion to this alleged plot nevertheless SMITH frequently referred to his vicious enemies who would do anything to harm him and he gave numerous examples of his need to defend himself.

SMITH presented Mr. BUGAS with one copy of "The Cross and the Flag" for June, 1942 and one copy of "The Cross and the Flag" for May, 1942. He submitted a five-page typewritten composition entitled "Common Lies

(Detroit file 62-1126)

About GERALD L. K, SMITH", which is as follows:

"Lie Number 1 - His name used to be SCHMIDT.

"Answer: His name has always been SMITH, and the SMITH side of his family are all English.

"Lie Number 2 - He was run out of the ministry.

"Answer: He resigned voluntarily as pastor of one of the largest churches in the South. Is now a member in good standing of the Christian Church in Pontiac, Michigan, where he frequently fills the pulpit.

"Lie Number 3 - He is a Democrat.

"Answer: The SMITH family have always been Republicans. It is impossible to be a Republican in Louisiana, where Mr. SMITH lived for a few years, because the Republican Party has not been on the Louisiana ticket - except in Presidential elections - for more than 25 years. There just is no Republican Party in Louisiana.

"Lie Number 4 - He is discredited.

"Answer: Among the many organizations that GERALD L. K. SMITH has addressed recently are the following: Detroit Advertising Club, Executive Club of Chicago, Optimist Club of Detroit, Lions Club of Detroit, State Convention of the Daughters of the American Revolution of Ohio, State Convention of the Chiefs of Police for the state of Michigan (he was introduced by Captain DON LEONARD, now in charge of Home Defense) and, literally, scores of other gatherings representing every faith and every walk of life.

"Lie Number 5 - He hates the foreigners.

"Answer: Both the father and mother of Mrs. SMITH were immigrants who came to America from Denmark. He believes that all foreigners who come to America should become real Americans, and the moment they become citizens they should put America first in every thought.

"Lie Number 6 - GERALD SMITH is rich.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

"Answer: He owns no property. His debts exceed the few little personal possessions which he has. If he were to die, the only protection his wife would have would be a modest insurance policy.

"Lie Number 7 - He is pro-Fascist.

"Answer: As chairman of the Committee of 1,000,000 he carried to Washington a petition bearing 1,000,000 signatures, asking Congress to outlaw Fascism and Naziism. These petitions were presented by United States Senator ARTHUR H. VANDENBERG.

"Lie Number 8 - He is a Communist.

"Answer: The same petition which called on Congress to outlaw Fascism and Naziism called on Communism.

"Lie Number 9 - GERALD SMITH is unpatriotic.

"Answer: Mr. SMITH says he is willing to have this question answered by Mr. HERMAN LUHRS, State Commander of the American Legion.

"Lie Number 10- GERALD SMITH is a rabble rouser and a renegade.

"Answer: Recently, he was invited to address the New York Advertising Club by its President, Mr. LOWELL THOMAS. Do renegades get such invitations?

"Lie Number 11- He gets his money from a mysterious source.

"Answer: The money used by Mr. SMITH comes from the contributions of his followers, who are all good Americans. Ninety-eight per cent of the contributions he has received thus far for his campaign has come from people giving $10.00 or less.

"Lie Number 12- GERALD SMITH is anti-Semitic.

"Answer: He answers this by saying that if any person can find a written or public utterance he has ever made against any race or any creed, he will retire from public life.

"Lie Number 13- His "CHRIST FIRST" slogan is used for political purposes.

"Answer: He comes from four generations of Christian ministers. For him to exalt the name of CHRIST is the most natural thing in the world.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

"Lie Number 14- He was a part of the corrupt HUEY LONG machine.

"Answer: As a minister of the Gospel, he was invited by Senator LONG'S family to deliver the funeral oration over his grave. The convicted criminals of the so-called HUEY LONG organization now in the penitentiary were all Roosevelt New Dealers. They deserted the HUEY LONG organization and went over to the New Deal party. No real HUEY LONG man who was a friend of HUEY LONG before his death and after his death has ever been convicted of any crime.

"Lie Number 15- He is against the war effort.

"Answer: Before Pearl Harbor, 80% of the American people were against our entrance into a foreign war. SMITH was one of the leaders of this 80%. Since Pearl Harbor, 99% of the American people have given themselves wholeheartedly to the war effort. GERALD SMITH is one of these. It is his conviction that HITLER'S best friends in America are the boondoggling bureaucrats in Washington who would rather keep their New Deal political machine together than to win the war. The first plank in his platform for the Senate is - "100% Support for the War Effort."

"Lie Number 16- He is a Silver Shirt.

"Answer: In 1933, the so-called 'Silver Shirt' organization was headed by WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY, who called his organization "The Christian Militia." SMITH was urged to become a part of this movement. He studied it for one month, and in August, 1933, in a lengthy letter to PELLEY he repudiated the whole scheme. This letter is now a matter of record. Thus he condemned PELLEY'S organization in 1933. He has not seen PELLEY or had any contact with any agent of the PELLEY organization in the nine years since he condemned the Silver Shirts.

"Lie Number 17- He is a lunatic and an erratic personality.

"Answer: Recently, he has been invited to address Harvard University, the University of Minnesota and the Yale Club of New York City. After he had addressed the Press Club of Washington, the most outstanding organization of newspaper men in America, Mr. MARK SULLIVAN, the eminent writer for the New York Tribune, said - 'GERALD SMITH is the greatest orator on the American platform. He combines the best qualities of WILLIAM

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JENNINGS BRYAN, BILLY SUNDAY and LA FOLLETTE, the Senior.'

"Lie Number 18- He is against organized Labor.

"Answer: He is an honorary member of thirteen Labor unions because of his loyal friendship for organized Labor. He has believed for years that the Communist Party has conspired to take over organized Labor. Therefore, he has fought Communism in government, education and other phases of our national life.

"Lie Number 19- He is a Southern 'hill-billy'.

"Answer: Wisconsin is his native state. While pastor of a large Indianapolis church, Mrs. SMITH was taken seriously ill. The pine woods atmosphere of northern Louisiana was prescribed for her recovery. When the SMITHS went South, they expected to return North, which they did. The whole SMITH family has a background of Northern tradition. Mr. SMITH'S grandfather on his mother's side and his uncles on his father's side served heroically with the Union army during the Civil War.

"Lie Number 20- He is a pacifist and a slacker.

"Answer: When the last war ended, he was 20 years old. Though exempted because he was a theological student, he refused to accept the exemption, enlisted, and was on his way to Camp Fremont, California, when the war ended.

"Lie Number 21- He is living with his seond wife.

"Answer: GERALD SMITH has been married but once. His loyal wife was ELEANOR SORENSON. On the 21st of June the SMITHS celebrated their Twentieth Wedding Addniversary. They have one son, age 18, and they have aided in the education of five children not their own.

"Lie Number 22- He is an opportunist.

"Answer: Although he has spoken before many different kinds of organizations, representing all phases of opinion, he will never accept an invitation from any organization which asks him to compromise his convictions.

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"Lie Number 23- He is a demagogue (a speaker of half truth).

"Answer: He invites the public to underline one sentence in anything he has ever spoken or written that did not prove to be basically sound. To illustrate, when he announced his candidacy for the United States Senate, he promised tires for everybody. This was branded as demagoguery. But a few weeks later, the most eminent scientist in America announced that with 5% of our corn crop we could produce all the rubber America could use.

"Lie Number 24- He is the head of a secret organization.

"Answer: No person associated with GERALD SMITH is bound by secrecy, and he frequently says that any person associated with him is free to tell everything he knows about the Committee of 1,000,000 and his activities.

"Lie Number 25- He is a hypocrite.

"Answer: Every person who has ever worked for Mr. SMITH or around him will say that his enthusiasm over his convictions is just as intense in his personal life at home as when he enunciates his beliefs in public."

SMITH submitted a letter dated March 26, 1942 which he had written to Attorney General BIDDLE arguing for freedom of the press, freedom of speech, which is as follows:

"March 26, 1942

"The Hon. FRANCIS J. BIDDIE
Attorney General of the United States
Washington, D. C.

"Dear Mr. BIDDIE:

"The attached clipping is self-explanatory. As you will observe, Messrs. PEARSON and ALLEN pose as semi-official spokesmen for you and the President. They serve notice on me in this column that you have been ordered by the President of the United States to crack down on GERALD L. K. SMITH. In the first place, I don't believe it. I think the story is a fabrication - but the purpose of this letter is to interpret briefly the sort of damage that

I think such stories do to the present war effort.

"I am head of an organization with 3,000,000 constituents in forty-eight states, but mainly in five middle western states. It is no secret that I belong to that political faction which has, since 1932, been bitterly anti-ROOSEVELT. As you of course know, I was with HUEY LONG when he was shot. I was one of several who sat in on the negotiations when very shocking agreements were reached between certain Louisiana politicans and certain governmental officials. As you know, this negotiation has been frequently referred to as the "Second Louisiana Purchase". It has now become almost an open secret that certain immunities were offered in this conference which, in my mind, were positively scandalous and un-American. Others who sat in this conference became rich and powerful. I was the only one who refused to go along with the 'deal'.

"This experience, plus many untold facts behind the assassination of HUEY LONG, of course embittered me.

"I spoke to 72,000 people Election Eve, 1936, in New Orleans. I spent Election Day in jail - was held incommunicado because I had violated an old Napoleonic code ruling, forbidding anyone to speak in the open after midnight. I had spoken from 9:00 to 12:15. During this time I gave these humble people rather a detailed description of what had happened, plus a prophesy of what was about to happen.

"Turning my back upon the corrupt opportunities that were offered me in Louisiana, I proceeded, though penniless, to build a following which has now been accomplished. I have passed through every known type of smear campaign and physical hazard. Prior to the Pearl Harbor incident, I was a collaborator with the most respected and prominent isolationists, including NYE, REYNOLDS, WHEELER, LINDBERG and others. I attach herewith a copy of the first address I made after the Declaration of War. Since Pearl Harbor, I have taken as the precedent for my behavior the conduct of those British statesmen who feel free to criticize men and policies, while at the same time, pledging their loyalty to the war effort. Every Gallup Poll, dealing with the subject and the voting record of the Congressional delegation within the area influenced by our organization proves that this is the most isolationist area in America, while at the same time, we have a rare and healthy type of patriotic loyalty. A study of Income Tax collections for this area, Red Cross drives, etc. reveals that we are at the top of the list in promptness of payment, volume of sales, etc.

"More than 50,000 members of the C.I.O. in Detroit are affiliated with my Committee. A survey would demonstrate that these people are the consistent workers and the most conscientious producers in this city.

"Of course, the Reds are now whooping it up for the war, but a study of their factional following will demonstrate that their loyalty to the production program has been the most spotted of all. I frequently advise my people to give generous cooperation to all the humanitarian and civil defense enterprises. In a meeting of one thousand leaders this week I urged everyone of them to become air raid wardens. No mother who has ever written to me, expressing the sadness of her heart over the absence of her son, has ever been encouraged to be embittered. On the contrary, I have always reminded such mothers that it is an honor for them to be able to give a son to their country in defense of the Stars and Stripes.

"Please remember, Mr. BIDDIE, that I am writing this letter because I believe you to be a man of substance and philosophically inclined - enough so to be realistic. Yes, I am an irreconcilable leader of the Loyal Opposition. I expect to be very active in the coming Congressional campaigns. I expect to criticize domestic policies, including boondoggling, partisanship in the war effort, and numerous other political practices in Washington and elsewhere, with which I conscientiously and patriotically disagree. Now, you and your coordinates have two courses which you can follow. You can follow the course which, up until this time, you apparently have followed in dealing with the irreconcilable opposition which, though opposed to political policies, is loyal to the war effort. On the other hand, you can follow the course of the extremists. But, remember, that deep in the sub-conscious mind of our people is an overwhelming agreement with what we are saying. Even right in the Government in Washington I have man clandestine friends who admit that they agree with my philosophy. Although I have always conducted myself as a patriot and a Christian, perhaps if you hold over me the microscope of prejudice and political persecution, you can find some technicality which can wound me, smear me, and eventually imprison me.

"Should you follow this course, you would find in my heart the spirit of the martyr and the sacrificial attitude of the crusader. Let me remind you that I have been tested as by fire. The same gun that was drawn on HUEY LONG was pointed toward me, and by the measure of a split second the killer was killed before he could pull the trigger.

"As for money and power, every offer that could be made to a man has been made to me by the spokesmen for the present administration. I presume no man in Washington is more familiar with my crusading courage than Mr. JOSEPH KEENAN, who was the first Assistant Attorney General under Mr. CUMMINGS. If, however, your natural attitude toward the 'GERALD SMITHS' of America is overruled, I shall be only too happy to let my misfortune and pain and loss of liberty symbolize and emphasize and personify the fact that something serious has happened in America, which only great sacrifice can correct. Here is Detroit, the Arsenal of America, the home of three nationally known isolationists - HENRY FORD, FATHER COUGHLIN and GERALD L. K. SMITH. At this writing, it is rather reliably rumored that Mr. LINDBERGH is coming to live in Detroit. We four have no organic connection. I have not talked to FATHER COUGHLIN for nearly six years, but the combined following of these four men in this area is such that I believe that any program of persecution that might be released on any one of us by any agency of the Government would result in making literally millions of good patriotic Americans sad and disillusioned.

"Early in the war I wrote a letter to the Office of Civilian Defense offering to do anything that they considered wise in helping to interpret the needs of our nation in this terrible crisis to my 3,000,000 bitterly isolationist constituents. All I received was a form.

"If I were running this war and knew a political enemy who had 3,000,000 followers, I would send somebody to see him in order that he might be utilized constructively in helping to bring about national unity. But, no instead of that we get gossip and smear and vicarious and direct persecution through the grapevine route of such scandal-mongers as PEARSON and ALLEN.

"Of course, if you and your superious want 'rubber-stamp' and spineless agreement with everything you do, whether it be right or whether it be wrong, even though it involves political racketeers, boondoggling and Communist propaganda -- if you want that from me, you are not going to get it. I would rather lose my liberty inside a prison wall, suffering to regain it, than to surrender it voluntarily outside a prison wall because I lacked the olf-fashioned American courage to fight for it. The words of PATRICK HENRY still sound good to me - 'Give me liberty, or give me death.'

"I have a son, eighteen, ready to accept the call.

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Not one thing will be said by me to discourage him from giving everything he has to the winning of this war. I don't propose, however, to mix my loyalty to the war effort with a set of propaganda schemes now being opportunized on by numerous presumptuous individuals who seem to have altogether too much influence over our national policy. If my son is willing to die in Iceland or on the English Channel, that doesn't mean to me that he must swallow the "Union Now" propaganda. If it seems to be wise military strategy to collaborate with the Russian Army, that doesn't mean that I have to be bulldozed by a set of Detroit Reds and Communists who did everything they could to paralyze industry while STALIN was in bed with HITLER, and are now doing everything they can to sabotage industrial leadership under the cloak of the war effort.

"I am sending you under separate cover a copy of our new magazine THE CROSS AND THE FLAG. There are many things in this magazine with which you will disagree. In my opinion, there is nothing in it disloyal to the war effort. If so, would you please point it out to me. The purpose of this letter is not to ask any favors of the Attorney General's office. A realistic student of national affairs, as I believe you to be, will see in this letter a constructive motive - no boot-licking, of course, but a sincere appraisal of a state of mind which not only exists in America, but exists in large quantities. There are millions of us.

"Please tell your coordinates and your superiors to test us with a cold-blooded bid for our money, our blood, our time and our comforts in behalf of the war effort. Tell them to ask us for these things separate from propaganda, political philosophies, partisan politics and Congressional campaign strategy. Tell them to challenge our people to rise and die for America, and contrast our response with the Communistic boot-lickers who are opportunizing on the war effort as a chance to wound and paralyze us, their worst potential foes. Don't forget that Sergeant YORK was opposed to the last war. Suppose he had been handled like some people want my people handled.

"You may not like everything in this letter, but it will be a long time before you receive one containing more sincerity and genuine patriotism.

"Yours truly,

"GERALD L. K. SMITH."

"GLKS:U
mbc

(Detroit file 62-1126)

SMITH also submitted a press release of his dated April 29, 1942 in which he set forth an open letter to Attorney General BIDDIE asking whether WALTER WINCHELL should be allowed to create the impression that he is the vanguard voice of the Department of Justice, which is set forth below:

"Press Release
Committee of 1,000,000
Detroit, Michigan

"Detroit, Michigan
April 29, 1942
Immediate Release

"GERALD L. K. SMITH WRITES OPEN LETTER TO ATTORNEY GENERAL BIDDIE RELATIVE TO WALTER WINCHELL.

"Only too happy to appear before any recognized agency of the Government," says SMITH.

"Below is an exact copy of an open letter GERALD L. K. SMITH wrote to the Attorney General of the United States today:

"The Hon. FRANCIS J. BIDDIE
Attorney General of the United States
Washington, D. C.

"Dear Mr. BIDDIE:

"On Sunday night, April 26, in his regular weekly broadcast, Mr. WALTER WINCHELL announced that I was to be called before a Federal Grand Jury now sitting in Washington, D. C. Mr. WINCHELL said that I was next on the list. He allowed the impression to go out that I would be questioned concerning the Christian magazine THE CROSS AND THE FLAG, of which I am the editor.

"On Monday, April 27, the Detroit Free Press carried a special dispatch from its bureau to the effect that the Department of Justice was quoted as saying that they had no knowledge of any plan to call me to Washington.

"As you perhaps know, Mr. BIDDIE, I have made myself a student of subversive activities for many years, and I welcome any and all opportunities that may come to me to appear before any committee or department or agency of the Government seeking to benefit by any knowledge that I have at my command concerning these enemies of America.

"I write this letter, however, for the purpose of inquiry. Is it the policy of the Department of Justice, or any of its agencies, to give advance information to WALTER WINCHELL and other gossip columnists concerning its proposed activities? Do you consider it just for the impression to go out over America that Mr. WINCHELL has some sort of an inside track of information concerning the proposed activities of your Department?

"Furthermore, I suggest to you, Mr. BIDDIE, that Mr. WINCHELL and other gossip columnists have aided in the creation of the impression that to be called before a Federal Grand Jury is dishonorable. As you and every lawyer in America knows, a Grand Jury could not function if it did not have the opportunity to obtain information from the innocent and the honorable and the intelligent patriotic citizen, as well as the suspected criminal.

"I am not disturbed over any thought of being called to Washington by any department of the Government. A thorough investigation of my activities will reveal that a list of my supporters in Detroit will read like a duplicate list of contributors to the Community Chest from the top to the bottom.

"The thing that humiliates me is that a disreputable scandalmonger like WALTER WINCHELL, who has served his journalistic apprenticeship in the night clubs of New York, should be allowed to create the impression over the radio that he - WALTER WINCHELL - is the vanguard voice of the Department of Justice.

"I, therefore, request of you, Attorney General BIDDIE, that you issue a statement to the nation describing and defining the activities of a Federal Grand Jury as it relates to the guilty and the innocent, and that you make clear to the people that which we already know, namely - that Mr. WALTER WINCHELL and his 'klan' of gossip journalists have no inside track with the Department of Justice.

"Sincerely,

"GLKS/U "GERALD L. K. SMITH."

Also spoke about the recent accusation of the City Council of Cleveland on the proposed resolution to prevent GERALD L. K. SMITH from using the municipal auditorium. SMITH submitted a copy of the speeches which he delivered before the City Council of Cleveland on June 24, 1942 against the resolution, which is being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Office.

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He also submitted the first and second pages of the Cleveland Plain Dealer for June 25, 1942, which contained a description of the meeting before the City Council, at which the resolution to forbid SMITH from speaking in municipal auditorium was defeated as a result of the opposition of "more than a hundred shouting members of the United Mothers of America and the Committee of 1,000,000 and other supportors of GERALD L. K. SMITH". This also is being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Office.

SMITH also submitted an undated letter, which he issued in connection with his political campaign for the Office of United States Senator from the state of Michigan and inasmuch as this letter contains some statements which are as radical as anything admitted by SMITH it is reproduced herewith:

> "LET IT BE UNDERSTOOD that the writer of this letter, like all patriotic Americans, considers that no sacrifice is too great in order that the war effort be supported 100%. If to win the war requires poverty, bankruptcy, bloodshed, of course we are all willing to pay that price. The writer is attempting to bring out in this letter the argument that every time we close an industry or cripple an independent enterprise or destroy the profitable activities of any group of our citizens, it must be done with the thought in mind that rulings effecting these conditions are to be only temporary. If I go to the United States Senate, I propose to fight for all provisions which will restore our American way of life and protect independent enterprise after the war. The reader of this letter surely knows that a certain Communistic clique in Washington is attempting to make all these programs of wartime regimentation permanent.

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"My dear friend:

"This is a long but interesting letter from GERALD L. K. SMITH.

"I wonder if you can see the handwriting on the wall. Inasmuch as you are an intelligent businessman, I am confident that you can. We are faced with a danger in this country of complete regimentation - not the ordinary and justifiable wartime regimentation, but a form of bureaucratic regimentation which is a sort of a cross between Fascism and Communism.

"EARL BROWDER has just been released from the Federal Penitentiary. This No. 1 Communist has been attempting to overthrow

our government for twenty-five years. His agents here in Detroit have so thoroughly sabotaged industry in the past, and are so infiltrated into our industry at this very moment, that if HITLER and STALIN should happen to make up again -- I doubt seriously if many of Detroit's important industries could operate. You will recall when EARL BROWDER was sentenced to the penitentiary, the Communist party was cooperating with HITLER; and their outstanding stooges - like the alien Red, HARRY BRIDGES - were doing all they could to paralyze shipping and manufacturing.

"Well-informed observers tell me that a Communistically-inclined brain trust operating in Washington is determined to take advantage of the war emergency to produce a form of regimentation which cannot be discontinued after the war is over. These bureaucrats, influenced by Communists, who in some instances are Communists themselves, are determined to destroy the entire profit system.

"A Communist revolution rests on three basic principles:

1. Destroy the profit system.
2. Transfer management from ownership to labor.
3. Liquidate the middle class by (a) encouraging the monopolies which can easily be taken over by the Government, and (b) putting the little manufacturer, the middle man and the little businessman out of business through Federal rulings, red tape and priorities.

"All over Michigan, and Michigan is no different from any other state in the Union, little independent manufacturers and businessmen are being ruthlessly destroyed without any provision being made for their protection, without any insurance being provided against their complete bankruptcy and destruction. The priority rulings alone will bankrupt 17,000 middle-class businessmen in the Detroit area within the next twelve months.

"Michigan's second largest industry, the tourist trade, will very likely be destroyed this summer by the exercise of priorities and rationing rules.

"Michigan's first largest industry - the manufacture of automobiles - has already been destroyed. The larges automobile factory in the world, The Ford Motor Company, has but one customer - the Government.

"Hundreds of thousands of tire dealers are being

driven into the breadline.

"Thousands upon thousands of automobile dealers, who usually help make up the backbone of the American main street, are standing with their backs to the wall. Dealers and brilliant salesmen, who have spent a lifetime qualifying themselves for their part in these constructive enterprises, are being driven into a threadbare existence.

"Little storekeepers and independent merchants, who cannot afford to take frequent inventories and who haven't the money to buy roundtrip tickets to Washington and who cannot retain expensive lawyers, are falling like corn stalks before a blight.

"Yes, I am aware that these emergencies and these dire circumstances have been brought on by the war emergency. Every patriotic American is prepared to make any sacrifice necessary to victory. But, you will observe that special provisions are being made for the organized pressure groups, which have always been favored by the New Deal politicians. These organized pressure groups have arranged with the politicians to underwrite any calamity that they might face - but, the thousands of little businessmen, who are being driven into the breadline, have been forgotten by the New Deal politicians and are being driven to the wall and liquidated to the complete satisfaction of the Reds and the Communists.

"What's to become of a little manufacturer with a ceiling on the prices of his merchandise and no limit on the wages he must pay? The answer is simple.

"The bureaucratic tyrants who have no more patriotism than a louse are all set to smear any courageous fighter like myself as a defeatist, a pro-Nazi, a breeder of disunity.

"A new class of poverty-stricken individuals is being developed. They are the old-time substantial, independent, middle-class Americans.

"A new class of rich and powerful is being developed in America. They are the bureaucrats, the political racketeers and the petted and favored 'fat cats', who are bootlegging their way to wealth with the cooperation of corrupt politicians.

"It is really dangerous to fight these people. They are ruthless, desperate, unscrupulous and without mercy.

"Yes, I am running for the United States Senate, but I never dreamed five years ago, or even one year ago, that I would do it. In fact, I vowed I would never run for any office. My life has been colorful and dangerous. I have fought without fear, through the years, a crusading fight against the most dangerous criminals of this century. I have been an enemy of New Deal communism from its very inception. In the face of gun squads, killers, political smear artists, I exposed the attempt made by the Communist Party to seize control of the great industrial labor movement. I have had a bad press. I have been smeared, lied about, ridiculed. I have been branded as a demagogue, an opportunist, a leader of the lunatic fringe. Even certain so-called intelligent people, who should know better, have allowed themselves to believe these lies that have been invented to destroy not only myself, but the profit system, independent enterprise and the American way of life.

"I searched the entire state of Michigan for a man of character and courage, whom I could support for the United States Senate. There are many good men in the state who are qualified for this high office, whose background is conventional and polite and unspotted by smear, unfavorable publicity or false accusations.

"But a conventional citizen refuses to seek office. He knows what I know - that the moment he begins to attack EARL BROWDER, the boondogglers, the bureaucratic Reds, the New Deal profiteers - he will be smeared. The politicians in power will go back over his life to the day of his birth and they will resurrect every little mistake he has ever made. They will attempt to find in his life or in his business conduct some minor infraction or law violation on which they can opportunize. Most of these good solid men with conventional backgrounds have wives and families who dread the thought of having to face their neighbors and friends who may, in some instances, believe these vicious, bureaucratic, smear artists.

"As far as I am concerned, I have scars all over my body. I have been accused falsely of every crime in the calendar. I have a lovely Christian wife who has adjusted herself philosophically to the terrible things that are said about men who fight the fight as do I.

"A survey reveals that I have the largest independent following of any plain citizen in America. In my files are the original signatures of 610,000 Michigan citizens. Frankly, I don't think an ordinary, inexperienced, good citizen can stand up under

the fight that must be fought if we are to dethrone these New Deal bureaucrats and these communistically inclined regimenters. It requires a man who is tough and fearless and, to use the vernacular, 'who can take it'.

"Question your friends, not in the presence of a third party - question your friends one at a time and you will be surprised to find the number that agree with me on most matters. I could tell you of a thousand flagrant practices that are being indulged in, but I give you here just one little one as a sample. You wonder why so many Southern congressmen seem to be 'rubber stamps'. Have you made a study of the appropriations of money that have been made for Southern farmers? I call your attention to the state of Mississippi. I have made a study of the money that has gone to farmers in the form of bonuses for not raising cotton. While 10 farmers in Michigan received more than $1000 last year for not producing crops, and while the Michigan farmers received 3% of their income from the Government - the farmers of Mississippi received 23% of their income from the Government and 2,095 Mississippi farmers received more than $1000 each; many of them $5000; others $10,000; and others received as high as $60,000 per farm for not raising cotton.

"Is it treason for me to suggest that Michigan businessmen are being put out of business by a taxation program which subsidizes such lunacy in government?

"More disgraceful even than the amount of money donated to certain farmers for not producing crops is the fact that in certain counties the Agriculture Department has spent as high as 52% of the subsidy for distribution costs. In one county it cost the government $4000 to distribute $7630. In several counties the distribution cost was 40% and in many counties it was 33%. Imagine $7630 being appropriated for the little farmers in a county - with $4000 going to the political jobholders and only $3630 going to the farmers. (For confirmations of these statements concerning agriculture waste, see the Congressional Record for May 14, page 4333, and the Congressional Record for May 12 and 13.)

"Yes, I'm behind the rationing program 100%, but right this minute farmers are being paid $40.00 per acre not to produce sugar and, while your wife is asked to clip the cuffs off your pants, Mississippi farmers and millions of other farmers are being paid millions of dollars not to produce cotton.

"In the days that are ahead, you will hear many vicious things about me, but suppose you resigned your job and I would withdraw from the Senate race and you would announce that you were going to expose the things I have referred to in this letter - what do you think would happen to your reputation in about six weeks, and maybe in about six days? This New Deal house-wrecking crew, these political torture-chamber boys would start on you. They would send out reports concerning your behavior and your past conduct, which would very likely bring tears to the eyes of your loved ones and apprehension to the hearts of your neighbors.

"This war broke out just as the Red revolutionists were beginning to get their teeth into our flesh, and they are determined that instead of slowing down because of the war, that they are going to make a revolutionary cleanup right during the war - and they stand a good chance of accomplishing their aim. If you have been a consistent listener to me over the radio, you may have heard me say a few things with which you disagreed, but you know very well that my radio addresses have been sound and logical and I have been right on practically every major issue - so much so, that the senior member of the Michigan delegation in Congress, Mr. ROY WOODRUFF, has praised me on the floor of the lower house, and the senior senator from Michigan, ARTHUR VANDENBERG, has praised me on the upper floor of Congress.

"The person who is against me has doubtless thrown this letter into the waste basket long before he came to this paragraph. My reason for sending this letter to you is to tell you how you can help me if you believe it is important to put a fearless, fighting man in the United States Senate. I'm going to conduct my campaign in three sections:

1. The period of petition circulation.
2. The Primary campaign.
3. The General Election.

"If you would like to give me money with which to meet some of these expenses, here's what it will be used for:

1. The expense of visiting many communities in Michigan.
2. The purchase of radio time.
3. The mailing out and the collecting in of petitions.
4. Inasmuch as most of the newspapers will not have the courage to print many of the things that I shall say, it will be necessary to mail out circulars which deal

with the burning issues of this hour.

"Attached herewith is a coupon which provides for those who desire to mail in a contribution at once. Others may want to contribute a certain amount of cash immediately and so much a month during the campaign. The attached coupon provides for these contributors. Others may want to send in an anonymous contribution.

"It is understood that a contribution to my campaign in no way obligates me, if elected, to the giver of the contribution. I shall fight for the principles enunciated in this letter and which I shall enunciate over the radio station WJR every Sunday night at 7:15.

"If you think there is substance in this letter, read it again — and if you care to, I would appreciate a letter from you commenting on the ideas suggested in this letter. I would also be pleased if you would pass this letter on to a friend after you have read it.

"Sincerely yours,

"GLKS/U "GERALD L. K. SMITH."

SMITH also submitted a copy of page one of Chicago Daily Tribune dated May 21, 1942 giving the expose' of the plot to ruin Senator DAVID I. WALSH. This is being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Office.

SMITH also submitted a copy of the Daily Worker for June 30, 1942 on the first page of which an article entitled "Execute Them.'" appears, which alludes to the eight Nazi saboteurs who arrived in the United States during June 1942 and then says, "There are propagandists and schemers in American political life whose ides are not much different from those of the Bund. In fact, the Bund has applauded their speeches and policies. COUGHLIN is one of these. MARTIN DIES is another. SENATOR REYNOIDS, chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee is still another. GERALD L. K. SMITH is another. There are many more. Their names are no secret." The article -- then concludes, "These eight particular Nazi killers have been caught. There must be many uncaught. An example must be made. Let the Army handle these gents in double-quick order." SMITH pointed out that this article is a clear case of the Communists inciting people to murder him and other persons therein.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

This copy of the Daily Worker is being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Office.

SMITH later reported to his wife and to his Secretary [redacted] according to [redacted] that his interview with the Federal Bureau of Investigation was thoroughly satisfactory and he got the impression that the Federal Bureau of Investigation was going to protect him against the conspirators which he described in profane terms and that they were not out to hurt SMITH at all. b7C, b7D

As soon as SMITH read in the newspaper on July 10, 1942 that he was being linked with the Chicago Grand Jury Investigation of Sedition in the midwest, he telephonically advised JOHN S. BUGAS, Special Agent in Charge, that this might be a culmination of the conspiracy of his enemies to smear his reputation. SMITH advised Mr. BUGAS that there was no truth to his alleged affiliation with WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY but he feared that it might be used by hateful people desiring revenge. SMITH explained to Mr. BUGAS that PELLEY wanted to see HUEY LONG in 1933 and SMITH interviewed him and manifested an interest long enough to find out what PELLEY had in mind and then wrote a letter repudiating PELLEY'S organization.

In accordance with an arrangement, previously reported, with radio station WJR, the following copies of GERALD L. K. SMITH'S radio broadcasts for June 21, 28, July 5, 12, 1942 are set forth.

"SUNDAY, June 21, 1942

"Thanks to the sacrificial support of my faithful and loyal friends - I am still on this radio. This is my 212th broadcast. I wish I could walk into the home of every one of my supporters all over America, speak to you personally and thank you for your prayerful and devoted support.

"The vicious determination of my enemies to completely destroy me is amazing. Most of my opposition can be traced to my consistent and fearless attack on Nazi-Communism and the vile enemies within our gates. I am one of a very few men who has had the courage in the face of every known type of threat to name and describe these serpents who have coiled themselves within the bosom of America.

"Fascist-minded bureaucrats in Washington, Communistically-inclined political jobholders, old-time racketeering machine politicians shudder at the very thought of my being in the United States Senate.

"If we old-fashioned, Christian Americans don't get busy and put more men in the United States Congress who fear God and fear no man -- our nation will be doomed to regimentation, bureaucratic tyranny and one-party dictatorship. The great two-party system in America must be kept alive. The Loyal Opposition is the only check and balance that American people have. It is the only protection they have against one-party tyranny.

"Until this week I was curious to know what instrument my enemies would use, through which to strike. 'Who', said I, 'Will they pick as the stooge through which to operate in their attempt to assassinate my character, menace this crusade for real Americanism which I lead?' Well, they have evidently chosen for that purpose a professor, yes, a professor, one JOHN S. SHEPHERD, now being paid out of the taxpayers' money to teach in the University of Michigan. Who is Professor JOHN S. SHEPHERD? He is the man who was exposed before the Dies Committee as encouraging and cooperating with the most radical elements and Communistically-inclined elements in Michigan, as well as in America. Who is Professor JOHN S. SHEPHERD of the University of Michigan? He is the gentleman who attended a Communist-front rally in a Detroit Hotel some months ago and recommended that the public schools of Detroit be opened to the teaching of Communism and to Communist rallies.

"Professor SHEPHERD'S comrade in his program of character assassination, in perfect harmony with the Communist party, is one HAROLD P. MARIEY of Ann Arbor, Michigan. I am informed that Mr. MARIEY is a Unitarian preacher. Now, that sounds pretty good, doesn't it? A university professor and a Unitarian preacher - but, ladies and gentlemen, it doesn't sound so good when I tell you that these two gentlemen for months and months have been addressing rallies set up by the Communist party or their stooges for the purpose of seeking the release of EARL BROWDER, the No. 1 Red, for the Federal Penitentiary.

"What does Professor SHEPHERD want to do to me? Well, here is the answer. I find Professor SHEPHERD'S name attached to a circular which reads as follows: 'A prison cell -- not a Senate seat - is the place for GERALD L. K. SMITH.' Well, ladies and gentlemen, no man on earth is above accusation, but I say to you, my vicious political enemies, if you are going to attack me before the American people, you'll have to do better than this. Let the attacks that are leveled against GERALD L. K. SMITH be leveled by Christian patriots - real Americans.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

"I'm proud of my enemies. I'm proud to be attacked by such men as HAROLD MARIEY, STANLEY NOVAK and Professor JOHN SHEPHERD, who have been cooperative, obedient stooges for the Communist party, lo - these many years.

"Yes, I know what you Reds had planned. You thought that because we were military allies with Russia you could abuse this circumstance by ramming the red hot poker of Communism down our throats and brand as treason any attack on Red, Communistic atheism. But the Attorney General of the United States, the Hon. FRANCIS J. BIDDIE, took the wind out of your sails when he ruled that Communism is a crime. In this ruling Mr. BIDDLE called for the deportation of the alien Communist, HARRY BRIDGES, and this is what the Attorney General said:

'The Communist party of the United States, a section of the so-called 'Third International', was founded in 1919; and, after its name was changed several times, finally became 'The Communist Party of the U. S. A.' in 1929. The Third International advocated the class struggle, which was described as entering the phase of civil war in America. Illegal methods were also advocated, where necessary, to carry on its work; systematic agitation in the Army; the renouncing of patriotism; and the revolutionary overthrow of capitalism. The American 'section' adopted a program declaring: 'The Communist party will systematically and persistently propagate the idea of the inevitability of and necessity for violent revolution and will prepare the workers for armed insurrection as the only means of overthrowing the capitalist state.' The Communist party teaches the violent overthrow of existing governments, including the United States....The Communist party....advocates and teaches the overthrow, by force and violence, of the Government of the United States.'

"There you have it, Professor SHEPHERD, You and your Communist friends sought the release of EARL BROWDER. You and your friends helped to set up a rally in Detroit addressed by EARL BROWDER'S brother two days before his release. Now you join in this attempt to assassinate my character and impugn my patriotism and slander and scandalize the 3,000,000 constituents of this crusade.

"Well, Professor SHEPHERD, you and your friends have been encouraging Communism on the campus of the University of Michigan — you know that you and this preacher MARIEY have been a thorn in the flesh of Pres. RUTHVEN of the University of Michigan. You have caused this great institution of learning no end of embarrassment because of your determination to encourage propaganda among our sons

and daughters. Then you came out with a program to release EARL BROWDER the No. 1 Communist in America, who is a part of the very movement which the Attorney General says is a scheme to over-throw the United States Government by force. But you put your name to a petition to lock GERALD L. K. SMITH in a prison cell.

"Well, Professor SHEPHERD, I don't blame the University of Michigan for you, and I don't hold that great educational statesman, President RUTHVEN, responsible for your behavior.

"But I'll tell you what I think of the Christian people of America and the Christian people of Michigan -- they are going to want to send to the United States Senate the very men that you would like to send to Atlanta Penitentiary. And I'll say something else to you, Professor JOHN SHEPHERD, I'd rather go to Atlanta Penitentiary that to the United States Senate if I had to compromise with the God-hating, church-burning Communism of your subversive associates.

"Ladies and gentlemen, now do you realize the burdens I have to carry? Now are you aware of the atheistic crosses on which the enemies of America are attempting to crucify me? But suppose I tell you that your prayers are being answered, that victory is in sight, that thousands of names are coming in signed to my petitions - the petitions which are necessary to put my name on the ballot for the United States Senate.

"Now you who are my lukewarm friends or my enemies, you might just as well turn off the radio now because I am going to talk to my very close and admiring friends. I cannot fight these racketeers, these Reds, these bureaucrats and these character assassins alone. I must have your help. I repeat, I must have your help.

"Now you people who do not live in Michigan. Write to me immediately and I will tell you how you can help me. You people who live in Michigan, if you have one of my blank petitions filled or partly filled, have it signed by a notary public and rush it to me immediately. I beg of you - please don't delay, send your petitions in immediately.

"If you are my friend and you don't have a petition, please write for one or as many as you desire and I will rush these petitions to you.

"I am a poor man - I am a persecuted man - I am abused. Character assassins and conspiring anoopers are working on me every hour of the day - but I am your voice - I am the voice of the little farmer, I am the voice of the worker, I am the voice of the independent businessman, I am the voice of those who believe in the American way of life. I speak for the speechless - I fight for the weak. I would rather die for the right than compromise with the wrong.

"You can expect anything to happen to me, anything. But be assured that I have made my peace with God. I fear no man - not even the Devil.. And I love that glorious slogan of this crusade 'CHRIST FIRST IN AMERICA' and 'AMERICA FIRST IN WAR AND PEACE'.

"Now, what should I say to you, my good friends, to tell you how doubly important it is for you to not postpone sending in those nomination petitions. Whether you have 5 names or 500 names, please send them in immediately. You know my address - GERALD L. K. SMITH, Detroit, Michigan. No street address is necessary. I repeat - address GERALD L. K. SMITH, Detroit, Michigan. No street address is necessary.

"Don't forget that as long as I can afford to buy the time, I will be on this radio at this same time every Sunday.

"God bless you. God bless and save America.

"AN INSERT:

"The sensational fact is, ladies and gentlemen, that Professor JOHN S. SHEPHERD of the University of Michigan is now - this very minute - the head of an organization which was originally formed for the purpose of getting the Communist party on the Michigan ballot."

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"<u>SUNDAY, June 28, 1942</u>

"I am a crusading candidate for the United States Senate, but in spite of this fact I have been approached in the past week by political horse traders with suggestions that I must go easy on this and go easy on that or I may lose a few votes here or there. Well, let me say a word to my good friends who have trusted me

through the years. I wouldn't trade off one of my deep convictions for one million votes if they could be delivered by parcel post. One such political horse trader said to me, 'Mr. SMITH, do you think it's good policy to hold on to that phrase 'CHRIST First in America?' My answer to him was this — It is my deep conviction that Christless atheism was the thing that destroyed France. I said to this man - there would have been no HITLER in Germany if CHRIST had been put first in the hearts of the people. And, said I further, the whole foundation of Communism itself rests on atheism and the denial of CHRIST.

"Now I warn my friends that from now on you are going to begin to read in the newspapers and see circulated on the streets and through the mails all sorts of peculiar things about me. The enemies of America are panic stricken over the idea that my campaign for the United States Senate is developing so dynamically.

"One good friend in the country wrote me a letter the other day and reported some terrible lie that had been told about me. In reporting this evil tale, my good friend used these words - 'I hope it won't make you feel bad, Mr. SMITH, for me to report this to you.' Of course, it didn't make me feel bad, and now I'm going to make a suggestion to my good friends.

"Follow me very carefully. No matter what anybody says about GERALD L. K. SMITH do not allow it to bother you and do not permit it to embarrass or anger you. Just sit right down and write me a letter, describing the accusation, and I will answer your letter very carefully and in detail. Not only that - whenever some individual says ugly things about me, take his name and address and I will write him a letter or I will send you the material that you can give to him. Just remember this - I am afraid of no man, not even the Devil, and I fear only God Almighty.

"Now, whenever you read anything in a newspaper against me, cut out the article, mail it to me and give me the name of the paper. If the accusation is serious, I shall either answer it over the radio, naming the paper, or I shall answer in a direct letter to the paper. Then I shall send you a copy of my answer. If you have a newspaper in your community that insists on saying ugly things about me, don't hesitate to write them a letter and remind them that perhaps many of my friends, as well as my enemies, are subscribers to their paper.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

"Now, remember, no matter what problem or question is raised concerning me and no matter how poor or humble you may be, you write me a letter and I will answer it the same as if you were the richest man in America, because I am the defender of the weak and I am the voice of the voiceless. The first plank in my platform is 100% LOYALTY TO THE WAR EFFORT. But to be loyal to the war effort is not to be a political rubber stamp. The President of the United States doesn't need any more rubber stamps in Washington - he has too many already. When a nation faces a crisis, the head of the government does not need to be surrounded by 'Yes' men. He needs patriotic but independent thinkers.

"Just observe what these rubber stamping bureaucrats have done to the rubber tire situation. They came out with a big story that we'd have no tires or re-caps until after the war. That we're going to have to take thirty million cars off the highway. This would bankrupt the tire dealers, it would bankrupt all the garages. It would bankrupt all the filling stations and all the supply houses. And here in Michigan, it would bankrupt every little tourist camp and every little hotel keeper and destroy the great tourist industry in Michigan.

"Then about this time I came out for the United States Senate. I announced that I was 100% behind the war effort. Second place, that I believe in free speech and free press for all good Americans, including FATHER CHAS. E. COUGHLIN. And, third, I announced that I believed that while we're sending billions and billions and billions of dollars across the ocean to China, Russia and Great Britain as a part of our honorable agreement, we must not forget the boys in the armed service. And so I promise, if elected to the United States Senate, to fight for $100.00 per month for every soldier, sailor and marine.

"I promised, to see to it that the old people get a square deal under the Townsend Plan.

"I went on and outlined other principles, including the seven principles on which this, the crusade of the Committee of 1,000,000 is founded.

"Then, as a final punch to my platform, I lifted up this slogan 'Tires for Everybody.' — if I go to the Senate.

"Well, the boondogglers and the bureaucrats had

themselves so badly worked up that they wanted everybody to think that it was treason and sedition to talk about having tires. We Americans were supposed to just lie down and be quiet about this tire business, because the Japs had taken the rubber plantations away from the Dutch and the British.

"Before I used those words, 'Tires for Everybody', I consulted some of the most scientific experts in America, and I knew what I was talking about. But someone said 'Yes, Mr. SMITH, but how can one man in the United States Senate get tires for everybody?' I'll tell you how I can get tires for everybody. The first thing I will do is to get up on the floor of the Senate and make about a ten-hour speech, and when I get through exposing the monopolies and the bureaucrats and the racketeers that have been working on this tire business - there won't be a bureaucrat, a Senator or a Congressman that will have the courage to defend them.

"To illustrate my point, here comes Dr. W. J. HALE, former instructor of Chemistry at the University of Michigan, now the expert chemical consultant of the great Dow Chemical Company, a man whose judgement on things scientific is always respected. Dr. HALE says, as quoted in the Detroit News from June 25 - 'Within one year we can have all the rubber we need, if given one hundred million dollars, the men and the priorities. And we can produce it at fifteen cents per pound. And with 150 million bushels of corn we can produce all the rubber we can use.'

"But what does Dr. HALE reveal? He reveals that this bureaucracy in Washington has already donated to the oil trust five hundred million dollars with which to make synthetic rubber. But it has produced practically no rubber in its first year. Ladies and gentlemen, what's going on here? Could it be that the oil trust is trying to prevent the honest scientific chemists from teaching America how to make rubber out of farm products?

"At any rate, this rubber situation is just a sample of the bureaucratic bungling that must stop if we are to save America and if we are to win the war.

"Now, just a word to you small businessmen. One hundred thousand manufacturers, little manufacturers, are in danger of going to the wall this year. Experts say that at least 75,000 will go broke on account of the war emergency. The figures

say that on account of price ceilings, priorities, and so forth, 17 thousand little businessmen in the Detroit area alone will go broke between now and Christmas.

"Who's fighting for you little businessmen in the United States Senate?

"Some of you businessmen think that GERALD SMITH it too common for you and you say to some of your stuffed shirt associates 'Oh, we can't afford to have GERALD SMITH as the Republican nominee for the United States Senate.' But, let me tell you something. If we had about 50 GERALD SMITHS in the United States Senate right now instead of these 'yes' men and rubber stamps, you wouldn't have to worry about the American way of life and there wouldn't be one hundred thousand little businessmen on their way to the bone yard today.

"If we don't get somebody up to Washington pretty quickly that's got enough old-fashioned courage to defend the American way of life - this nation of ours is going to be wrapped up in a dictatorial bureaucracy that won't end when the war ends. And instead of a return to the normal way of life after the war is over, we'll enter into a ruthless bureaucratic dictatorship.

"My enemies will tell you that I am against organized labor. That's a lie. I have been made thru the years a honorary member of 13 different labor unions on account of my loyalty to the working men. The only labor leaders that are against GERALD SMITH are the ones that are for Communism. Don't forget I said that.

"Now, what am I to do about you good people who have blank petitions right there in your home and who haven't sent them in? Well, all I can say is that I'm too poor to hire anybody to come around and knock on your door and ask you to send the petitions in. You plain, common people who live back on the rural routes and out in the little towns, up in the woods and on the busy streets of our great cities - if you workers and little businessmen and farmers don't circulate my petitions and send them in, I have no other way to get it done.

"Now, won't you please get your petition ready right away. The one who signs the petition as the circulator, must be a registered voter and you must have your petition signed by a notary.

"Yes, I am encouraged. The names are coming in by the thousands, but I want from two to three times as many names as is legally required so there's no chance of my enemies keeping my name off the ballot.

"If you haven't a petition and you are willing to circulate petitions for my nomination to the Senate, write to me immediately and I'll rush the petitions to you. If you want more blank petitions, don't hesitate to write saying so.

"Now, a word to my very true and loyal friends. Get out that petition, circulate it, have it notarized and send it in just as quickly as possible. If you stand with me, I'll win, but your failure to send in one petition might cause me to be defeated.

"And to my beloved listeners all over America - don't hesitate to write me about anything and I will write you a nice letter answering all of your questions. No matter where you live or who you are or how poor you are, whether you are black or white, old or young, remember that GERALD L. K. SMITH is your fighting friend and you can write me a letter and I will answer it personally. You don't even need to remember a street address. Just write me, GERALD L. K. SMITH, Detroit, Michigan. No street address is necessary.

"God bless you. God bless and save America."

* * * * * *

"SUNDAY, July 5, 1942

"A man can be judged by his enemies, as well as his friends. Beware of the man with no enemies. The apple tree with clubs under it is the fruit-bearing tree.

"As this crusading campaign for the United States Senate proceeds, study my enemies. Get their names and addresses, find out what their tie-up is and where they get their money. The more you learn about my enemies, the more you will respect me and the cause for which I stand.

"Who are the enemies of GERALD L. K. SMITH?

"1. The Axis. No one hates me worse than the Nazis and the Fascists who, before Pearl Harbor, attempted unsuccessfully

unsuccessfully to appropriate our natural love of peace to their own selfish ends. Remember that we of the Committee of 1,000,000 submitted a petition bearing more than one million names calling on Congress to outlaw everything that looks and smells like Fascism and Naziism.

"2. I am hated by the Fascist-minded bureaucrats.

"3. I am to be fought by the one-party propagandists who are conspiring to destroy the two-party system and the legislative branch of our government. If the time ever comes, ladies and gentlemen, when we have a one-party propagandists who are conspiring to destroy the two-party system and the legislative branch of our government. If the time ever comes, ladies and gentlemen, when we have a one-party system, so that the ruling party can do anything it wants to do without having a second party to watch its behavior, then you can kiss your Republic goodbye. The America of Washington and Lincoln will then be dead.

"4. I am to be fought by the boondogglers who would rather lose the war than to lose their political jobs.

"5. The Internationalists who would surrender our national sovereignty in order to set up a world government which would put the Stars and Strips second to some imperialistic flag, representing an international government which would compromise our sovereignty. Perhaps no outfit in America hates me worse than these international conspirators.

"6. The racketeers and the profiteers are fighting me, those who think only of themselves and would even prolong the war if by so doing they thought they could use the blood of our sons to their own profit. This war must be fought to a victorious finish, but we must put a stop to this profiteering on blood.

"7. Then there is the reprisal gang. These are the people who attempt to use the departments of government to destroy and persecute political opposition. We have recently had a striking example of this right here in Michigan. I shall discuss it in detail at some future time.

"8. The Communists, of course, the Communists hate me with a murderous hate. I hold in my hand an article which appeared in the Daily Worker, the official Communist paper, for

July 1. The glaring headline at the head of the article reads - 'Execute them! Execute them!' And in this article prominently displayed they list the names of FATHER CHAS. E. COUGHLIN, Congressman MARTIN DIES, Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS and GERALD L. K. SMITH. This paper, ladies and gentlemen, is sold on the streets of the cities of Detroit and Cleveland. In fact, it is sold all over America and sent through the mails.

"9. The old-time scandalmongers and character assassins who just have a natural fear and hate for anybody who is honest and courageous. They have an unholy dread of my being able to stand on the floor of the United States Senate and bring out the things that I have discussed on this radio through the years.

"10. The rubber trust is my enemy, this rubber trust which is willing to make us walk to work and do without our automobiles rather than to lose their monopolistic control over the international rubber market.

"11. The foreign sugar trust, and this sugar business is a subject all by itself.

"12. The stuffed shirt politicians will fight me in Michigan, these people who are willing to spend a million dollars rather than see the common people have a fearless voice in the United States Senate.

"When I come around to visit you in the communities where you live, I am going to discuss these things in detail. I want to meet you all personally. I want to shake hands with you. I want you to meet my lovely wife. Then, you can conclude for yourselves whether or not I am the vicious monster as portrayed by certain lying newspapers.

"There, my friends, is a summary of my enemies. Now here's a summary of what I stand for and what I fight for and what I am willing to die for:

"1. 100% support of the war effort. A group of high society women met in Detroit this past week and decided to throw their support to one of my opponents. These high society women said that they were going to fight everybody who was opposed to war before Pearl Harbor. Well, ladies, and I'm addressing these

society women, you have picked out a job for yourselves. Those of us who opposed war before Pearl Harbor were fighting these war mongers who were roving around over the world trying to get us into war. We favored a national defense second to none so that we could fight and defend ourselves whenever we were threatened or attacked by a foreign foe. That's exactly what we are now doing, and if you high society women think you're going to persecute all the good Christian mothers that were opposed to entering the war sooner than necessary, you're going to drive a million people right into the camp of GERALD L. K. SMITH.

"2. I am going to fight for $100 a month for every man in the armed services. We are paying the gun maker $300 a month and more, then why not pay the gun shooter $100 a month at least?

"3. I stand for the preservation of free speech and free press for all good Americans, including FATHER CHAS. E. COUGHLIN. FATHER COUGHLIN has been approved as a priest in good standing by the church through his Archbishop. Why should FATHER COUGHLIN be silenced when these Communists are selling their Red newspapers all over the place?

"4. I shall fight for a square deal for the Townsend Plan.

"5. I claim we can have tires for everybody, if we will use the wisdom of science instead of being victimized by these bureaucratic bunglers and these monopoly controlled politicians. These politicians were warned three years ago that we might face such a situation, and they didn't do anything about it. And now, thousands of people are sitting right there listening to me over the radio on this Fourth of July weekend, because you haven't got the tires to take a drive or go to church. Yes, we can blame it on the Japs, but why did our bureaucrats laugh at our scientists and allow us to get to a place where we could be tied up this way? More of this at another time.

"6. I shall fight for the preservation of our national sovereignty under the slogan - 'AMERICA FIRST IN WAR AND PEACE'.

"7. After this war is over, I favor the building of a hoop of military steel around America far enough out and far enough up and far enough down to guarantee protection from invasion

and strong enough to make future foreign wars unnecessary. That's my post war policy and I'll discuss that at length when I come to see you.

"8. I am reconsecrated to the basic principles of the Committee of 1,000,000.

"9. I favor a farm program based on the teachings of the Bible. My enemies will laugh at that, but I am willing to rest my case with the people who still believe the Bible.

"10. I shall fight without compromise for the preservation of Labor's right to organize and bargain collectively. And I shall continue to challenge labor to select only leaders who are patriotic and free from any tinge of Nazi-Communism.

"11. I shall continue to discuss the issue that revolves around this question - Why is there a limit on sugar and no limit on whiskey?

"12. I shall fight to save little business from complete destruction, which it now faces. LEON HENDERSON wants two hundred million dollars to pay political jobholders to watch sugar, watch storekeepers and watch rubber, but we have appropriated only one hundred and fifty million dollars to save the little businessmen. If the little businessman is destroyed, America will be destroyed. That's a big subject and I am going to discuss it in detail through the summer.

"13. Protect the great tourist industry by saving this great Michigan industry from being slaughtered by bureaucratic stupidity, unwise rationing and political boondoggling.

"14. I shall continue to cry out the slogan - 'CHRIST First in America'.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I do not have any hired political workers. I have great difficulty even getting the money to pay for this radio time. I must depend on my faithful, loyal friends to do the things that must be done.

"Now, I want all my petitions in this week -- tomorrow, if possible, and not later than Saturday. I not only want enough

names to file, but I want two or three times as many as necessary so there will be no chance of my enemies throwing out enough names to keep me off the ballot.

"That petition you have in your home which you have not sent in might easily be the difference between victory and defeat. As soon as I finish this broadcast, go out immediately and begin to ask registered voters, regardless of the party they belong to, to sign that petition. The petition does not need to be filled. If you can only get five or ten names, then have your petition notarized and send it in immediately. If you are filling several petitions, don't hold up the ones you have filled until you have filled the remainder. Send them in as rapidly as you get them filled. They are now coming in by the thousands.

"I'm not talking to my enemies or my lukewarm friends. I'm talking to my real, real friends. Please get your petitions ready and send them in immediately. If you are willing to circulate a petition and do not have a blank, write to me and I will rush it to you by the return mail.

"To my friends, I say, fill up your petitions, fill up your petitions and rush them in immediately. This speech I have just made which summarizes my enemies and summarizes my platform will be printed. All who write to me, regardless of where you live in America, will receive a copy of this address free. Don't worry about street address. Just write me GERALD L. K. SMITH, Detroit, Michigan. No street address is necessary. GERALD L. K. SMITH, Detroit, Michigan. No street address is necessary.

"God bless you....all...."

* * * * * *

"SUNDAY, July 12, 1942

"The professional and stuffed shirt politicians of Michigan are amazed and surprised at the number of friends we have. Thousands of names are coming in from all over the state signed to my petitions.

"If you have a petition either partially or completely filled, have it notarized and send it to me immediately. No petition should be mailed to me later than July 16. I repeat, all petitions

should be mailed not one minute later than this coming Thursday, July 16.

"In every little town and community there is at least one stuffed shirt politician who assumes that he has the right to do the thinking for the people. He looks upon himself as the local boss or the little HITLER of his precinct, his ward or his township.

"One morning a few days ago, these politicians all over Michigan awoke to find my petitions everywhere. They discovered that literally thousands of good Americans in Michigan, who seldom mix in politics, were circulating my petitions because of the deep convictions they have concerning the crusading principles for which I stand.

"I had a letter from a good mother whose son is in the Army, which reads as follows: GERALD L. K. SMITH, Detroit, Michigan. Dear Mr. SMITH: I certainly hope you get elected to the Senate so that you can fight for $100 per month for the man in the armed services. My husband was in the last war. When he was discharged, it was months before he could get a job. He came out of the Army broke, and we thought sure we would starve to death before he could get a job. Those who called him a hero when he marched down the street with the band soon forgot him when he put on his old clothes and went out to get a job. If the boys could be paid $100 a month and compelled to save $50 each month, then when the war is over they would have something on which to live until they could get readjusted. Sincerely Yours, Mrs. H. K.

"Doubtless, this mother remembers that as Chairman of the Committee of 1,000,000, I was the first American to appear before the United States Senate and request an increase in pay for the soldiers, sailors and marines. As an outgrowth of that hearing, they are now receiving $50.00 per month.

"After all, we are paying the boys who are making the guns from $300 a month up. If, out of the billions and billions and billions we are spending, we provide $100 a month for the men who shoot the guns, surely we will be doing a great service to our heroic fighters.

"President ROOSEVELT says that he may be compelled to conscript our tires if the war gets any worse. And I know that

every loyal American would be willing to let President ROOSEVELT take the tires off his car, if he thought by so doing it would help America to win.

"It is too bad that the President is compelled to take time out to discuss such things as rubber, sugar, and gasoline. It's too bad that the politicians of New York State are permitted to take the President's time discussing New York State politics. The President is the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, and his entire time should be left open to the job of figuring out how to win this war.

"Yes, it may be necessary for the President to do what he suggests - take the tires off our cars.

"The international monopolies and the boondoggling bureaucrats are to blame for the sugar situation and the tire situation. If I were in the United States Senate today, I would demand a complete expose of these people who have been developing foreign monopolies instead of American resources, resulting in present shortages.

"Our domestic sugar growers have been discouraged, while they have slipped in millions of tons of foreign sugar. They have plowed under our American cotton, while the South American cotton crop has been multiplied by thirty. They have discouraged the production of crude and synthetic rubber in the Western Hemisphere, while encouraging the British and Dutch monopoly in the East.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I am convinced that if a big stick could be waved and the bungling bureaucrats, plus the selfish interests, could be cleaned out of Washington - we could begin to have tires for everybody who needs them by Christmas and Easter.

"These boondoggling bunglers have destroyed the great tourist industry of Michigan for this summer. One tourist camp operator told me that he was afraid to paint his cabins - he was even afraid to repair his equipment - for fear of gasoline rationing and for fear the government would conscript even the tires on the cars that are now being operated.

"The damage has been done not so much by what has actually happened, but because no two bureaucrats seem to agree - and the ordinary citizen doesn't know what to expect or whom to

believe. No matter how bad the news might be, it wouldn't be so confusing if the bureaucrats could make up their minds and then stick to their decisions.

"Yes, I know that I am a common man and I have spent my entire life dealing with the common people. Certain so-called aristocrats in Michigan seem to dread the idea of my being nominated to the United States Senate on the Republican ticket. Well, I may be a little too outspoken for some of my sophisticated friends, but unless we get a few more fearless voices in the Senate, we won't have a Senate and we won't have a Congress. And unless we begin to replace some of these rubber stamps and 'yes' men with a few old-fashioned, fist-cracking Americans - this big super-duper bureaucracy that's been built up in Washington will take over all the branches of government and the people won't have anything to say about what goes on. I don't need to remind you, I'm sure, that already we have a large number of semi-Nazi-Communists in Washington, who would like to see our free way of life destroyed by the substitution of a bureaucratic dictatorship which, after this war, would tell us what we could do, when we could do it, what we could eat and where we could live. That's what you call regimentation.

"We accept the emergency powers of wartime as necessary to help produce victory but, remember, whomever you elect to the United States Senate this year will be there for six years, and someone has got to be on the job to see to it that a set of conspiring scalawags don't use the war emergency to lay the foundation for a peacetime dictatorship.

"I am being ridiculed by the Communists and the atheists because I said last Sunday night that my farm program was going to be based on the teachings of the Bible. In the first place, I consider it an honor to be ridiculed by these wire-whiskered Reds that have been trying to overthrow our government for 25 years, and I don't need the support of any atheistic Nazi-Communists in order to be elected to the Senate. In fact, I would be perfectly willing to rest my case with the people who still have enough old-fashioned Christian faith to believe the Bible, to believe in prayer and to believe in the church. I am sure that even you people who do not attend church regularly agree with me on that.

"One of these days I'm going to devote an entire address to the Bible plan for the farmer. I will say, however, that if we had followed the Bible plan, there would be no shortage of

sugar and there would be no sugar rationing. If it were not for the foreign sugar trust that exerts such an influence over certain bureaucracies in Washington, we could grow enough sugar cane and sugar beets in America to supply everybody in America with sugar. The leading scientists tell us that with 5% of our own crop we can make enough rubber to furnish all the tires that America can use, plus all the other rubber products we need.

"But, no, we spend billions of dollars on a Navy and billions of dollars on an Army and sit back while bureaucratic rulings enslave us to the foreign rubber monopoly and the foreign sugar trust.

"Nothing can cure these treasonable abuses of our American people excepting a courageous and fearless voice in the United States Senate. That's what the Senate is - to give the people a chance to defend themselves in unlimited debate against those who conspire to destroy the welfare of the people.

"Yes, if God is willing, I shall visit my friends in Michigan. I propose to speak all over the State, if I can find the money with which to pay transportation costs. As you know, my only source of support is from the modest contributions of my loyal friends.

"When I come to see you personally and speak in your community, I shall discuss many things, which I am not permitted to say over this radio for lack of time.

"Now, to you people who have been circulating my petitions or have blank petitions to circulate. Please get as many signatures of registered voters as you can immediately. Have the petition notarized and rush it to me.

"If your petition is put in the mail later than this coming Thursday, it will be too late. I repeat, all who are mailing petitions, they must be in the mail by tonight, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and not one minute later than Thursday.

"I have no hired circulators and I am depending on you to help me obtain thousands of names more than necessary in order that there be no chance of the enemies of the people keeping my name off the ballot by technical rulings.

"Here's an announcement for all my friends in the Detroit area. I am speaking in person in the Masonic Temple in Detroit this coming Friday night at eight o'clock. The subject of my address will be 'On My Way to Washington'. This will perhaps be the most fearless and important address I have ever delivered. Mine is a hard fight. My enemies are cruel enemies. I see victory ahead, thanks to the prayerful cooperation of the good people who are my friends.

"God bless you. God bless and save America."

A booklet circulated by the Communist Front Organization, Civil Rights Federation, 530 Insurance Exchange Building, Detroit, Michigan, on the streets of Detroit for $.05 entitled "Smash Detroit's Fifth Column!", containing an article "GERALD L. K. SMITH Takes Over". This article states that SMITH'S magazine "The Crossand the Flag" is merely a continuation of FATHER COUGHLIN'S "Social Justice" which was barred from the mail by the Department of Justice.

A photograph shows FATHER COUGHLIN playfully mussing GERALD L. K. SMITH'S hair and continues with a notation, "Pals during the Lemke-Union Party campaign, SMITH now defends COUGHLIN'S 'right' to spread Axis propaganda."

The article then alludes to SMITH'S affiliation with HUEY LONG at a salary of $650.00 a week.

It refers to SMITH'S membership in PELLEY'S Silver Shirts and his membership card #3223. It also calls SMITH an organizer for PELLEY'S SILVER SHIRTS and quotes from a letter dated August 15, 1933 written by SMITH to PELLEY:

"By the time you receive this letter I shall be on the road to St. Louis and points north together with a uniformed squad of young men comprising what I believe will be the first Silver Shirt storm troop in America."

It refers to SMITH coining the phrase "drive that cripple out of the White House" while speaking in 1936 from the platform of the Anti-ROOSEVELT "grass roots convention" sponsored by Governor GENE TALMADGE of Georgia.

The article then quotes an item from the Detroit News

(Detroit file 62-1126)

October 20, 1936 quoting SMITH'S announcement that he had formed a Fascist organization of 10,000,000 patriots to seize the Government of the United States.

The article then criticizes SMITH'S attitude against labor and terming Union leaders as "crap-shooting, dishonest, Communist loafers".

SMITH'S approval of LINDBERGH'S Des Moines, Iowa speech is then cited to show that SMITH also blamed the war on British propaganda, Jewish groups and the ROOSEVELT administration.

The article then refers to SMITH'S intimacy with Reverend GERALD WINROD and Reverend LELAND MARION at whose church in Pontiac, Michigan WINROD spoke during the first week in December, 1941 and therein complimented COUGHLIN and SMITH.

The article refers to the Committee of 1,000,000 as the co-ordinating center of the activities of all Detroit's pro-HITLER elements including the extinct America First Committee and the existing National Workers League.

It refers to SMITH'S Congressional contacts including Senator ROBERT R. REYNOLDS, Senator GERALD P. NYE, Representative CLARE HOFFMAN, and Representative ROY O. WOODRUFF.

This article is a strong attack on GERALD L. K. SMITH including "A prison cell nota Senate seat is the place for GERALD L. K. SMITH. The more quickly the people of Detroit insist that enemeies of America be treated as such, the more quickly will the day of final victory arrive."

Other articles in this booklet criticize FATHER COUGHLIN, the National Workers League, the Ku Klus Klan. This booklet is being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Office.

[redacted] National Bank Building, Detroit, had later referred Agent to [redacted], Shreveport, Louisiana. b7c

-PENDING-

(Detroit file 62-1126)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE CHICAGO FIELD DIVISION

At CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:

*Will report information concerning the relationship between [redacted] and SMITH. It is noted that [redacted] and SMITH are in close contact.

*If necessary, will interview informants to ascertain the nature of the relationship between SMITH and [redacted] and also to ascertain the nature of the activities of SMITH.

*Will report information concerning the relationship of GERALD L. K. SMITH with [redacted] of Chicago Tribune, and with [redacted] of Chicago Tribune.

*If necessary, will interview informants to ascertain the nature of these relationships and the nature and purpose of activities of SMITH.

*Will report known information concerning [redacted] of Citizens Committee, 77 West Washington, Chicago, Illinois, telephone State 7298 and, if necessary, will interview informants to ascertain the relation of [redacted] and SMITH.

THE KANSAS CITY FIELD DIVISION

*At KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI will report any information known to Kansas City Field Division concerning GERALD L. K. SMITH, which has been ascertained through the investigation of [redacted]. It is noted that [redacted] and SMITH have been in recent contact.

*If necessary, will interview [redacted] and other informants to ascertain the nature of the relationship between [redacted] and SMITH.

NW
BZC

(Detroit file 62-1126)

THE MILWAUKEE FIELD DIVISION

*At MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN will report information concerning [redacted] and newspaper known as "The Herald", especially in reference to any connection between the above and GERALD L. K. SMITH and any Fascist activity that may be engaged in by the above.

THE NEW ORLEANS FIELD DIVISION

*At NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA will ascertain information concerning the background and activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH from approximately 1929 to 1935 when he was said to have been a bodyguard and close friend of HUEY LONG with particular reference to any activities which may have been in concert with present enemies of the United States or which indicate Subject's Fascist tendencies.

*If possible, will interview [redacted] said to be of New Orleans, Louisiana and former associate of HUEY LONG concerning SMITH'S activities in Louisiana.

At SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA will interview [redacted] for information in his possession concerning SMITH'S background and activities.

At CAMP BEAUREGARD, LOUISIANA will interview [redacted] Reception Center, in accordance with letter from the Detroit Field Office to New Orleans Field Office dated June 4, 1942.

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At DETROIT, MICHIGAN:

*Will maintain further contact with [redacted] for information concerning SMITH.

*Will contact [redacted] Ford Motor Company, relative to information in his possession concerning activities of SMITH.

*Will maintain contact with other informants for additional

ALL b7c

(Detroit file 62-1126)

information relative to SMITH'S activities.

Will interview [redacted], National Bank Building, for additional information concerning SMITH'S background and activities.

*At ALMA, MICHIGAN will contact [redacted] relative to information in his possession concerning activities of SMITH. b7

- P E N D I N G -

[redacted] b7c

8-1-42
RECORDED 62-43818-110

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/7/82 BY SP6BJALOMS
204,433

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
WENDELL BERGE

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with alias
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

There is enclosed herewith for your consideration, a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] b7c Detroit, Michigan, dated July 22, 1942, in the above-captioned matter.

Will you kindly advise if the data contained in the enclosed report and that set forth in other reports, pamphlets, and speeches made and delivered by subject, constitute a violation of any statute within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau with particular reference to the Sedition Statutes and whether prosecution is contemplated by your Division.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Enclosure

12 AUG 6 1942

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
AUG 3 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-ROOM 5327
F. B. I.
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
AUG 3 1 42 PM '42

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
July 25, 1942

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/28/92 BY SP4 [illegible]

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080/LED/ML ON 5-10-77

Dear Sir:

During the course of this investigation much energy has been spent by Special Agent [redacted] Special Agent (A) [redacted] and by myself in an effort to obtain information from [redacted] It appears from various sources that [redacted] has had no employment since he left GERALD SMITH'S employ, and that he has sustained himself principally by being a professional informant for many persons and groups of persons, who have been interested in investigating the activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH.

Nevertheless, he has persistently refused to give the agents of this office any of this information. He declines on the ground that to do so would involve many officials of the Ford Motor Company, and it would endanger his personal safety. This excuse would seem to be insincere, in view of the fact that he has given information to other persons. It would seem more probable that he is withholding the information because he feels that once he imparts this information to the Bureau he will no longer be able to profit by the sale of it to private investigators.

During a preliminary investigation of [redacted] background, it was ascertained by Special Agent [redacted] at [redacted]

However, Inspector [redacted] of the [redacted] was interviewed and advised that this office was interested in information possessed by [redacted] He was advised that [redacted] was refusing to impart the information in his possession. [redacted] stated that [redacted]

b7

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b7

b7

APPROPRIATE ACTION TAKEN SUPPLEMENTAL DATE 8/10/42

RECORDED & INDEXED

Serial Destroyed 8/14/42 FLS

DESTROYED 83 OCT 13 1964

COPY IN FILE

memo to Rowe cc left to Detroit 7/31/42 FJS

Letter to the Director

July 25, 1942
GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

The above information is being transmitted to you for two reasons. First, [redacted] has indicated that sometime in the future he may raise an objection that he was coerced into giving information to the Bureau by [redacted]. Second, it is submitted that you might want to bring to the attention of the Attorney General that [redacted] while refusing to discharge a duty of giving information to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, is seeking a special privilege from the [redacted]

b7c

Furthermore, [redacted] has intimated that if he decided to give the information in his possession to the Bureau he would be able to prove his assertions by documentary evidence in his possession. [redacted] has given the impression that he is so unreliable as an informant that it cannot be ascertained whether or not he has such documentary evidence without an actual search of his house, to which he would certainly not consent. It is suggested that a search warrant might be desirable in order to determine if [redacted] has any such documentary evidence.

b7c

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mlc

[redacted]

7-31-42
62-43818-111

RECORDED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-8 STJ/mc

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Reference is made to your telephonic conversation with Mr. Ladd of this Bureau on May 6, 1942, and to his personal call at your office in response to your conversation, at which time you furnished him with a chart and memoranda setting forth data pertaining to the activities of Gerald L. K. Smith, Detroit, Michigan, as known to [redacted]

I wish to advise that [redacted] has been interviewed on several occasions prior to and subsequent to May 6, 1942, relative to his knowledge of Smith's activities, but has refused to furnish any pertinent information on the grounds that to do so would involve persons in positions of importance and would endanger his personal safety.

It has been ascertained that [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, is [redacted]

In view of the refusal of [redacted] to cooperate with the Federal Government in the investigation of allegedly un-American activities, it is believed advisable that any action contemplated by [redacted] relative to [redacted] be held in abeyance until such time as he has manifested a willingness to fully cooperate with the Federal authorities. I do not feel that [redacted] should be afforded any favor by this Government when such individual has demonstrated an unwillingness to accept a responsibility looking to its well being.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc - [redacted]
Immigration and Naturalization Service
Franklin Trust Building
15th and Chestnut Streets
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-ROOM 5200
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

b7c

2

[redacted]
62-43818 -111

July 31, 1942

RECORDED

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-4 BTJ/[illegible]

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated July 25, 1942, in the above-entitled matter wherein you advised of [redacted] status and his unwillingness to disclose pertinent information relative to the activities of subject.

This is to advise that a memorandum has been directed to the Department and to [redacted] setting forth [redacted] status and his present effort to [redacted] and his failure to cooperate with the Federal Government.

In response to your statement that it might be desirable to issue a search warrant to determine if [redacted] has in fact documentary evidence, I wish to advise that there does not appear to be any basis at this time for the issuance of such a warrant.

It is not believed desirable to arrange for any subsequent interview with [redacted] pending acknowledgment of this Bureau's memorandum to the Department.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
AUG 4 1942
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AUG 7 1942

ALL b7C

[redacted] b7c

62-43818-1/1

August 14, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-SBJ/MK

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY;
SEDITION.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated July 25, 1942 in the above captioned matter.

I wish to advise that these facts were referred to Mr. James Rowe, Jr., the Assistant to the Attorney General, who advised by memorandum dated August 5, 1942, that he agreed that any contemplated action by [redacted] relative to [redacted] held in abeyance until such time as he manifested a willingness to fully cooperate with the Federal Government. Mr. Rowe advised that he had so informed the [redacted] b7c

In view of the above information you should, of course, pursue your investigation in this case in a logical manner so as to prevent any possible embarrassment which might subsequently arise.

Inasmuch as subject is a candidate for the United States Senate from Michigan your investigation of his activities should be very discreet so as to prevent any criticism of this Bureau that might reflect that our investigation of subject interfered in any manner whatsoever with his political campaign.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 4
★ AUG 15 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
RECEIVED
AUG 12 1942

[redacted] b7c

8/1/42

F.B.I.
Wash. D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/29/92 BY SC-8803 pwc

Gentlemen:

Why are fascists Gerald L.K. Smith & Charles Coughlin allowed to go around scot free peddling their 5th columnist propaganda?

We ask you to arrest them in the name of and for the protection of democracy.

Incl. letters

Yours truly,

[redacted]

RECORDED & INDEXED
61 AUG 15 1942

b7c

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

WB:WHL:emc

146-28-43

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

August 13, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Re: Gerald Lyman Kenneth O Smith
The Committee of One Million
Internal Security
Sedition

Reference is made to your memorandum of August 3, 1942, transmitting a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated July 22, 1942, at Detroit, Michigan, in the above case. b7c

In answer to your request contained therein, it is the opinion of the Criminal Division that, while some of the statements contained in the material furnished to date border on sedition, a sufficient case under Title 50, Section 33, United States Code, has not yet been made out. Therefore, it is requested that the investigation of Smith's activities be continued and that copies of all speeches or writings made by him be furnished to the Criminal Division for consideration with respect to prosecution.

In order that the United States Attorney at Detroit, Michigan, may be informed of the status of this case, it is requested that all investigative reports relating to Smith be made available to him.

Respectfully,

Wendell Berge
WENDELL BERGE
Assistant Attorney General

Det Detroit 8/19/42 [redacted] b7C

RECORDED

62-43818-113

AUG 14 1942

b7C

[redacted] b7c

RECORDED 62-43818-113

August 19, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY;
SEDITION.

Dear Sir:

As a matter of information copies of all investigative reports submitted in connection with the above entitled matter together with copies of speeches and literature published by subject have been referred to the Criminal Division of the Department for its consideration in determining whether subject's activities constitute a violation of the Sedition Statutes.

In response to a memorandum requesting an opinion Wendell Berge, Assistant Attorney General, advised that the opinion of the Criminal Division is that some of the statements contained in the material furnished to date border on Sedition, a sufficient case under Title 50, Section 33, United States Code, has not yet been made out. Therefore it is requested that the investigation of subject's activities be continued and that copies of all speeches or writings made by him be furnished to the Criminal Division for consideration with respect to prosecution; further, "In order that the United States Attorney at Detroit may be informed of the status of this case it is requested that all investigative reports relating to Smith be made available to him."

It is my desire that copies of all investigative reports pertaining to the activities of subject be made available to the United States Attorney at Detroit and that investigation of subject be continued. With respect to obtaining copies of speeches or writings made by subject it is not believed necessary that speeches entirely political in nature be made available to the Bureau, and only speeches or statements which might be construed to be seditious be included in reports or otherwise made available to the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECT.
MAILED 4
AUG 19 1942 P.M.
FBI

RECEIVED
DEC 12 5 55 PM

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan

August 4, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/7/82 BY SP6BJA lms

204,433

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

DECLASSIFIED BY 16058/LEDL ON 8-10-77

Dear Sir:

The following additional information has been received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau: b7D

SMITH has been continuing to contact [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company, and has been promised financial and other assistance by [redacted] in carrying on SMITH'S political campaign for the United States Senate. SMITH and his wife have also continued to contact CHARLES LINDBERGH, presently employed by the Ford Motor Company. b7C

62-41516-114

On July 16, 1942, [redacted] of Wichita, Kansas, a friend of [redacted], arrived in Detroit, Michigan, and immediately made an appointment with SMITH for a conference at the Statler Hotel. 1942 b7C

SMITH continues to give notice of his political campaign to [redacted] and a visit to Detroit, Michigan by [redacted] has been arranged for some time in the near future.

On July 19, 1942, SMITH was advised by [redacted] for the Ford Motor Company, that he had been interviewed previously at the Detroit Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation concerning the activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH. [redacted] told SMITH that the pressure for the investigation was coming from New York and the Federal Bureau of Investigation was compelled to investigate the complaint which had been received about SMITH. [redacted] said that he told the agent he could say nothing bad about SMITH and he promised that when he had been interviewed at some future time, he would promptly advise SMITH about the interview. SMITH coached [redacted] as to what he could say to the Federal Bureau of Investigation Agent. He instructed him that it would be all right to say that when SMITH came to Detroit SMITH asked [redacted] to recommend some good Communists investigators and [redacted] loaned [redacted] to SMITH so that he could get information about the Communists. [redacted] added that all he could say in addition was that he got some money b7C

RECORDED & INDEXED

COPY IN FILE

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83 OCT 13 1964

from some "good Americans" and spent it on a radio. On July 22, 1942, SMITH was instructed to call [redacted] at the home of [redacted] of the Recorders Court, Detroit, Michigan. SMITH discussed with [redacted] the possibilities of his winning the election for the United States Senate and when SMITH said he thought he had a good chance of winning, [redacted] interrupted and said that he didn't care whether SMITH won, it was just that he wanted SMITH to give . . ., and at that point [redacted] was interrupted. When [redacted] resumed later on, he explained he had called a meeting of several of the more important judges in Michigan, including a Supreme Court Judge whom he did not name and several others at the home of [redacted] The reason for this meeting was that none of these judges wanted to see SMITH'S opponent Judge HOMER FERGUSON "get to first base." [redacted] asked SMITH what sort of help he wanted from these Judges and SMITH answered that he would want $3000 to cover the next ten weeks of broadcasting (SMITH is paying $250 per week for some Sunday broadcasts). [redacted] said it would be no trouble at all to get this sum of money for him. At the end of the conversation SMITH said to [redacted] "I am the only one still going. Everyone else is under the bed but me. If I didn't just stick and fight . . ., it's going to take just that kind of fight to beat these (profane) that are putting everybody out of business." [redacted] concluded the conversation by telling SMITH that anything he did for SMITH was not to be obtained in one lump but was to be obtained from fifteen or twenty sources.

[redacted] has attempted to contact [redacted] but has not been successful.

SMITH has refrained from commenting about the recent arrests of [redacted] and others with whom he has been having contact.

On July 28, 1942, MR. SMITH asked to speak to Special Agent in Charge JOHN S. BUGAS, who was out, and SMITH was referred to Special Agent [redacted] SMITH advised [redacted] that two reporters for LIFE and TIME magazines were attempting to interview him and he wanted to report to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in advance of the interview because he thought that this was part of the conspiracy of his enemies to accuse him of being a Fascist. SMITH also reported that he has heard that a woman has been asking for him at Station WJR, stating that she knows MR. SMITH would get her son deferred. SMITH stated for the record that he refers all such requests to the War Department; stated that this was part of the smear campaign against him which is waged by Communists and other enemies of his. SMITH advised Agent [redacted] that the Communists have already started their campaign against ELMER DAVIS, Head of the Office of War Information. SMITH concluded by saying

ALL b7c

Letter to Director
August 4, 1942

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

the purpose of his telephone call was to state for the record that the reporters were on a vicious mission against him. SMITH has complained about the appeal of the Civil Rights Federation through Attorney General BIDDLE for an investigation of FATHER COUGHLIN and GERALD L. K. SMITH. SMITH has explained that the President of the Civil Rights Federation is Professor JOHN SHEPARD of the University of Michigan who has been active in other communistic front activities. SMITH says that the secretary of the Civil Rights Federation is JACK RASKIN who is a Communist formerly active in a sabotage strike at the Bohn Aluminum Company before the entry of the United States into the war.

On July 30, 1942, SMITH advised [redacted] of Radio Station WJR, Detroit, Michigan, that SMITH had a conference with [redacted] and other rubber experts of the Ford Motor Company who told him that if they are permitted, they can produce enough tires for all industrial workers in Detroit by Christmas and every industrial worker in Michigan within a year. b7c

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas rls

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted]
62-1126 b7c

August 13, 1942

b7D

[redacted]
62-43818

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-8BD/mc

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH,
Committee of One Million;
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

Dear Sir:

The Bureau desires that you give immediate attention to the matter of submitting weekly letters summarizing information obtained from [redacted] in accordance with previous instructions. The last letter of this type emanating from your office was dated July 18, 1942.

b7D

Very truly yours,

RECORDED

62-43818-115

John Edgar Hoover
Director

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 15 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DEPT. OF JUSTICE
RECEIVED-MAIL SEC.
AUG 13 3 00 PM '42

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
AUG 13 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

DETROIT FILE NO. 62-1126

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	8/11/42	7/16, 17,21,23,27, 28;8/3/42.	[redacted] LMR

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, a.k.a. Gerald L. K. Smith; The Committee of One Million	INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

SMITH has filed nominating petitions for office of United States Senator from Michigan and is receiving financial and other aid through [redacted] of Ford Motor Company and others. SMITH admits former membership in PELLEY's Silver Shirts, but claims it was merely temporary for purpose of investigation while working for HUEY LONG. Smith continues to accuse Communists, WALTER WINCHELL, CLAIRE LUCE, Jewish groups and others for conspiring to smear his reputation. Text of radio speeches set forth. SMITH at public meeting criticises Administration for unnecessary rubber and sugar scarcity. Pamphlet, "The Hoop of Steel," by SMITH, advocates independent United States after victory, without foreign alliances. Copies submitted. Informant states "Too Much Roosevelt," being distributed through SMITH since December 7, 1941, also "The Hoop of Steel." [redacted]. SMITH appeals to former COUGHLIN followers and distributes "The Cross and the Flag" through same news dealers. SMITH criticised in recent magazine articles. SMITH contacted by DePRIEST, Wichita, Kansas, shortly before DePRIEST's arrest.

- P -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/7/82 BY SPG/ALM/J 204,433

PUBLICATION

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
55 AUG 25 1942		62-438187-116	RECORDED & INDEXED

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2 - Kansas City
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6 AUG 13 1942

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OCT 13 1964

ALL 670

(Detroit File 62-1126)

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated July 22, 1942, at Detroit, Michigan.

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan:

On July 16, 1942, Mr. _____ DePRIEST of Wichita, Kansas, arrived in Detroit, Michigan, according to [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. DePRIEST immediately contacted SMITH's office and stated that he was a friend of Reverend GERALD B. WINROD of Wichita, Kansas, and wanted to speak to SMITH. SMITH arranged to meet with DePRIEST at the Cafe Rouge, Hotel Statler, Detroit, Michigan.

A day or two later it was observed in local newspapers that Mr. DePRIEST of Wichita, Kansas, was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury in Washington, D. C., in connection with GERALD WINROD, Mrs. ELIZABETH DILLING and others under a charge of conspiracy.

[redacted] further advised that SMITH has been continuing to contact [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company, who has promised to obtain financial assistance for SMITH's political campaign for the office of United States Senator from the State of Michigan. At [redacted] request, SMITH contacted him telephonically at the home of [redacted] of the Recorder's Court, Detroit, Michigan, on July 22, 1942. SMITH discussed with [redacted] the possibilities of winning the election and when SMITH said he thought he had a good chance of winning, [redacted] started to say that he did not care whether SMITH won, it was "only that he wanted SMITH to give. . ." and then [redacted] was interrupted.

[redacted] explained later that he had called a meeting of several of the leading judges in the State of Michigan, including [redacted] and one Michigan Supreme Court Judge. [redacted] stated that the reason for this meeting was that none of these judges wanted SMITH's opponent, FERGUSON, "to get to first base." [redacted] asked SMITH what sort of help he wanted from these judges and SMITH answered that he wanted $3,000 to cover the next ten weeks of broadcasting. [redacted] said it would be no trouble to obtain this sum of money for him. At the conclusion of the conversation, SMITH said to [redacted] "I am the only one still going. Everyone else is under the bed but me. If I didn't just stick and fight. . .it's going to take just that kind of fight to beat these (profane) that are putting everybody out of business." [redacted] then ended by saying to SMITH that anything he did for SMITH should not be obtained in one lump, but should be obtained from fifteen to twenty sources.

According to [redacted], SMITH told [redacted] for the Ford Motor Company, that he had nothing to fear from

investigation by the Department of Justice and that [redacted] should not be afraid to tell the truth when called upon to do so, because all [redacted] could say anyway was that he obtained some money from some good Americans and spent it on the radio for SMITH and also that when SMITH came to Detroit, SMITH asked [redacted] to recommend a [redacted] of Communists and [redacted] loaned [redacted] to SMITH for several weeks. b7c

GERALD L. K. SMITH held a meeting in the Masonic Temple Auditorium, Detroit, Michigan, on July 17, 1942, which was attended by the writer. According to the tickets for this address, SMITH promised to discuss the following topics:

"(1) The New York Conspiracy (Will Winchell have a Candidate?).

"(2) The Truth About the War.

"(3) Are the Boondogglers Delaying Victory?

"(4) The Truth About the Tire Scandal.

"(5) What About Rationing?

"(6) Why do the Gunmakers get $300 a Month While the Gunshooters get only $50 a Month?

"(7) Has Father Coughlin Been Threatened With Assassination?

"(8) Twenty-five Most Common Lies About Gerald L. K. Smith.

"(9) A post-war policy Which Will Prevent all Future Foreign Wars after We Have Won this War. This is Known as the 'Hoop of Steel Policy.'

"(10) The Crime of Communism.

"(11) Who Are the Real Fascists in America?"

* * *

At the meeting SMITH distributed the following press release which was handed to the writer by one of SMITH's employees, [redacted] who had been previously pointed out to the writer as the [redacted] b7c

(Detroit File 62-1126)

"Press Release
From: Gerald L. K. Smith
Candidate for the United States Senate

"Detroit, Michigan
July 15, 1942
(Immediate Release)

"WHO ARE MY ENEMIES?

"1. The Axis
2. Fascist-minded bureaucrats
3. One-party propagandists who are conspiring to destroy the two-party system and the legislative branch of our government.
4. Boondogglers who would rather lose the war than to lose their political jobs.
5. Internationalists who would surrender our national sovereignty in order to set up a world government.
6. Racketeers and profiteers who think only of themselves and would profiteer on the blood of our heroic sons.
7. The reprisal gang. Those who attempt to use the departments of government to persecute political opposition.
8. The Communists, who want us to embrance atheistic Communism merely because we are allies with Russia.
9. Scandalmongers and character assassins who fear and hate anybody who is honest and courageous.
10. The rubber trust which is willing to make us walk to work rather than to lose their control over the rubber market.
11. The foreign sugar trust.
12. The stuffed-shirt politicians in Michigan who are willing to spend a million dollars rather than see the common people have a fearless voice in the United States Senate.

"I consider all opposing candidates to be gentlemen. At present, I see no reason why I should mention their names in my campaign. Most of my addresses will be composed of two phases -- a fearless discussion of what I am for and a fearless discussion of what I am against.

"A SUMMARY OF
WHAT I STAND FOR

"1. 100% support of the war effort.
2. $100.00 per month for every man in the armed services.
3. Free speech and press for all good Americans, including Father Chas. E. Coughlin.
4. A square deal for the Townsend Plan.
5. Tires for everybody. (By using the wisdom of science instead of the bureaucratic bungling of monopoly-controlled politicians.)
6. Preservation of America's national sovereignty under the slogan, 'America First in War and Peace.'

"7. THE BUILDING OF A HOOP OF MILITARY STEEL AROUND AMERICA AFTER THIS WAR WHICH WILL GUARANTEE PROTECTION FROM INVASION AND MAKE IT UNNECESSARY TO WAGE FUTURE WARS OF AGGRESSION. (Listen for further discussions of my doctrine of the 'Hoop of Steel.'

8. I am recommitted to the seven basic principles of the Committee of 1,000,000.

9. A farm program based on the teachings of the Holy Bible. (To be discussed in detail during the campaign.)

10. I shall fight without compromise for Labor's right to organize and bargain collectively through leadership loyal to America and opposed to all forms of Nazi-Communism.

11. Less sugar for whiskey and more sugar for children.

12. Save the little businessman.

13. Protect the great tourist industry.

14. 'Christ First in America.'

"I do not propose to indulge in mud-slinging attacks upon candidates seeking the United States Senate. But if I am not killed by my enemies or imprisoned by my political foes, this summer and fall shall see me delivering the most fearless campaign speeches in the history of Michigan politics.

"/s/ Gerald L. K. Smith
Gerald L. K. Smith
Candidate for the nomination of
United States Senator on the
Republican ticket of Michigan"

* * *

The stage was set with SMITH's usual emblem of the Committee of 1,000,000, bearing a large American flag in the center of a circular design. The meeting was opened with the singing of "America." There were between five hundred and seven hundred and fifty persons present, packing the auditorium almost to capacity. The first part of the meeting was devoted to the collection and notarizing of petitions for SMITH's nomination. SMITH then criticised the Administration's handling of the rubber situation and said that he was in earnest when he promised there would be tires for everybody if he were elected to the Senate and he said that it seemed probable that his campaign promise would be carried out by his opponents even before he had a chance to be elected.

He pointed out an exclusive release by the "New York News," dated July 15, 1942, which predicted that a huge expose of the rubber situation was due for release about two weeks hence and it would be revealed after conference with the leading rubber manufacturers of the country; that there would be enough rubber for all essential needs and even for pleasure driving as a result of the scrap rubber collection drive and the processing of rubber out of domestic

(Detroit File 62-1126)

materials. After reading part of this article, SMITH stated that if this article is not true, the writer should be imprisoned for sedition, but if it is true, and he said he had no reason to doubt its truth, there should be at least one million New Dealers put in jail immediately.

SMITH then went on to discuss what he called, "The Bible Plan of Farming." He read from Genesis, the forty-first chapter, the forty-sixth verse, which concerned the seven years of plenty and following seven years of scarcity in Egypt. SMITH then explained that "The Bible Plan" was to produce plenty of food whenever it was possible so that the excess could be stored for consumption during years of scarcity. SMITH condemned the program of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration as a violation of the doctrine of the Bible and stated it was outright sin to destroy crops or to regulate farming in such a way as to prevent the growth of crops which nature would permit. He said that if it were not for such a limitation on production in past years, and even at present, we would have plenty of sugar and all the other commodities which we now find becoming scarce.

SMITH indicated that tires could be made from corn and wheat, but that was not being done because the "Rubber Trust" did not want it done. He also said that Michigan, Colorado and California could raise enough sugar alone for every person in the United States.

SMITH promised to remedy this situation if he were elected to the Senate. He said that if the bureaucrats in Washington remedied this situation before he was elected, he would claim the credit for the remedy since he scared them into action.

Except for repeated attacks on "wire-whiskered Communists" and "boondoggling bureaucrats," SMITH discussed little else except to read from his press release which has been set out above.

On July 23, 1942, the writer, accompanied by Special Agent [redacted] interviewed GERALD L. K. SMITH at his home, 1753 Seyburn Avenue, in accordance with specific Bureau instructions in the matter entitled, [redacted] The information concerning the [redacted] investigation has been appropriately reported under that caption. However, SMITH gratuitously gave much information about himself. He said that his greatest enemies were the Communists and that they were making vicious attempts to smear his character and eventually to put him in the prison cell which was vacated by EARL BROWDER. He also admitted that several Jewish groups are hostile to him because they have been led to believe that SMITH is anti-Jewish. SMITH denied this emphatically and said that it was merely part of the smear campaign that was conspired by the Communists.

b7

SMITH referred to an article in "The American Mercury" magazine, August, 1942, issue, entitled, "Gerald Smith's Bid for Power," by WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE. SMITH explained that Mr. HUIE was the person who had given him

advance information that there was a conspiracy under way to plant arms and ammunition in the homes of certain Detroit residents which were to be raided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the residents were to claim that they were followers of SMITH, HENRY FORD, CHARLES LINDBERGH and others. SMITH appraised the article in "The American Mercury" and said that he thought it was a very fair analysis of his activities. He admitted that it was not entirely complimentary, but he said it, of course, had to be that way because HUIE was writing for "The American Mercury" magazine, which was owned by Jewish interests that were anxious to defame SMITH.

SMITH indicated that the facts contained in the article were not completely accurate. The principal inaccuracy which he pointed out was the fact that he did not meet multi-millionaire HORACE DODGE in New York City but, on the contrary, became acquainted with DODGE after he came to Detroit, Michigan.

SMITH next referred to the feature article of "Liberty" magazine dated August 1, 1942, entitled, "Americans We Can Do Without," by WALTER WINCHELL. SMITH said that WINCHELL's article made him feel "pretty good," because he knows that WINCHELL is the most influential enemy he has and that nothing worse could ever be written about him than WINCHELL wrote in "Liberty" magazine. SMITH then reviewed the article by WINCHELL and stated that he did not think it was so bad. The one fact in WINCHELL's article which SMITH himself thought was damaging was the reference to the fact that WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY affirmed that GERALD L. K. SMITH was a member of his Silver Shirt organization. SMITH explained that when he was working for Senator HUEY P. LONG of Louisiana, PELLEY wanted to extend his Silver Shirt organization into the State of Louisiana and HUEY LONG appointed SMITH to investigate the character and activities of the Silv Shirts. SMITH said, accordingly, he joined PELLEY's Silver Shirts and maintained that membership for only a few weeks and at the end of that time he discovered that the Silver Shirt organization was not creditable and he wrote a letter to WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY resigning from the organization and openly criticising it. SMITH stated that he retained a copy of this letter and that if he should ever be accused of being a member of the Silver Shirt organization, he would produce this letter to prove that he joined only temporarily to investigate whether the organization should be allowed to exist in Louisiana and, after a brief investigation, he disclaimed all interest in it.

Later in the conversation SMITH returned to WINCHELL's accusation based on SMITH's membership in PELLEY's Silver Shirts and SMITH said that he regretted ever having joined the Silver Shirts. He described his joining the organization as the foolish act of a young man who did something rash and indicated that he would not have done so later in life.

SMITH gave the writer a copy of the "American Mercury" magazine and a copy of the "Liberty" magazine to which he had been referring and these items are being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Division.

(Detroit File 62-1126)

SMITH also gave the writer one copy of the April, May and June, 1942, issues of his magazine, entitled, "The Cross and the Flag." He thumbed through the pages just before doing so and made comments at random about the articles contained therein, clearly referring to the magazine as his own publication. One comment he made was that the Communists were viciously attacking what was termed the "Cliveden set" and they included among the persons in the "Cliveden set," Director J. EDGAR HOOVER. SMITH said that the Communists more recently, however, are exuding with patriotism since Russia and the United States are both fighting the Nazis. He indicated that because of this situation the Communists are attempting to use governmental agencies to prosecute their own enemies.

SMITH informed that he understood that the Federal Bureau of Investigation was receiving numerous complaints about him and he believed that they are all Communist-inspired. He recognized that it was the duty of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to investigate such complaints and he had no objection to the present investigation. He stated that he knew the writer was investigating him and that he had given the writer samples of his literature in order to facilitate the investigation.

SMITH suggested to the writer that he was having trouble with the printer, who did not want to continue printing his magazine. SMITH suggested that if the writer should find it necessary to interview his printer at any time in the future, he should not do it in such a way as to scare the printer and intimidate him so that he would be afraid to print the future issues of "The Cross and The Flag."

SMITH stated that he believed WALTER WINCHELL was in back of the vicious conspiracy to accuse SMITH as a Fascist. He indicated that his foundation for this suspicion is that when SMITH first announced his candidacy for the office of United States Senator Mr. ALDERMAN of the National Workers' League and a very neat-appearing man with smooth black hair appeared at a Smith meeting and presented a completely filled nominating petition. SMITH accepted the petition but, suspecting that some foul play was involved, never filed this petition. SMITH explained that he knew the National Workers' League was a subversive group a he did not want to become associated with it. He said the following day and every day thereafter the well-dressed man with the smooth black hair visited his office and asked for "an assignment" because he was very anxious to help SMITH get the nomination.

That same week, according to SMITH, a mimeographed letter was sent out by the National Workers' League which did not contain the signature of any responsible member urging all the members to work for the nomination and election of GERALD SMITH. The next Sunday night WALTER WINCHELL in his weekly broadcast stated that the National Workers' League was endorsing GERALD SMITH for the United States Senate.

(Detroit File 62-1126)

SMITH explained that he suspected that this neatly dressed man with the smooth black hair was working for WALTER WINCHELL in an attempt to couple the National Workers' League with SMITH's campaign so that WINCHELL would be able to point out that Fascist groups in Detroit were working together against the Government.

On July 28, 1942, GERALD L. K. SMITH telephonically contacted the Detroit Field Division and asked to speak to Special Agent in Charge JOHN S. BUGAS who was out of the office. SMITH then asked to speak to the writer. The following telephone conversation between SMITH and the writer was monitored by Special Agent [redacted] SMITH advised the writer that about a year or so ago he was called a Fascist by Time, Incorporated and by the March of Time, Incorporated. He indicated that he sued the corporation for slander and received a cash settlement. He indicated that more recently "Life" magazine has published a feature photographic article entitled, "Voices of Defeat" and has referred to SMITH as one of the American defeatists along with other leading pre-war isolationists. b

SMITH continued that the individual responsible for these smears on him was one CLAIRE LUCE.

SMITH indicated that the purpose of his telephone call was to advise the Federal Bureau of Investigation that two reporters for "Life" magazine, [redacted] registered at the Statler Hotel, and another whose name SMITH could not recall but believed to have "VAN" in it [redacted] later advised that this other reporter's name was [redacted], were attempting to make an appointment with him for the apparent purpose of interviewing him about his own activities. SMITH stated that he suspected that this was just part of a vicious conspiracy to defame him and he wanted to go on record as having given notice of the conspiracy to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. b b

SMITH also stated that as part of this smear campaign a woman, whose name he did not know, frequently visited Radio Station WJR and inquired as to how she could get in touch with GERALD L. K. SMITH, saying that if she could do so, she knows that SMITH would obtain a deferment for her son so that he would not have to go into the army. SMITH indicated further that he also wanted to go on record as stating that all such requests for deferment that are made to him are referred to the War Department and he makes no attempt to obtain deferments for his friends. SMITH said that he believed this was also part of the conspiracy calculated to show that SMITH is interfering with the war effort.

SMITH blamed all these smear campaigns on Communists and other enemies of his and said that the Communists feel very secure by reason of the present situation and they have even started a smear campaign against ELMER DAVIS, Head of the Office of War Information.

(Detroit File 62-1126)

[redacted] further advised that SMITH is continuing to contact CHARLES A. LINDBERGH and has also attempted to contact [redacted] to HENRY FORD. Through [redacted] office, SMITH has obtained a tire made out of synthetic rubber which he expects to unveil when he makes a campaign speech at Saginaw, Michigan, on August 6, 1942. SMITH also has been contacting [redacted] and has asked him to obtain $1,000 for his campaign fund.

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b7d

A close friend of SMITH, [redacted] formerly of the America First Committee, advised SMITH that she was in Chicago, Illinois, recently and had a telephone conversation with [redacted] reported to SMITH that [redacted] "did not pull any of her punches on the phone." [redacted] said that she had some messages for SMITH from [redacted] which [redacted] would convey when she next saw him. SMITH answered that he had not seen [redacted] in three years and was not intimate with her, but he believed that she would get adequate support from her intimate friends.

b7c

Through Radio Station WJR, Detroit, Michigan, copies were obtained of SMITH's radio addresses which were delivered at 7:15 P.M., on July 19, 1942, July 26, 1942, and August 2, 1942, which are as follows:

"GERALD L. K. SMITH
WJR, Detroit
Sunday, July 19, 1942

"Good Evening, Ladies and Gentlemen:

"My campaign for the United States Senate is not the ordinary political campaign. It is a crusading fight to preserve our American way of life in war and in peace.

"The enemies of America are my enemies. Those who hate America, the America of Washington, Lincoln and Jefferson - will do anything - and when I say anything, I mean just that. They will do anything to keep this crusading and fighting voice off the floor of the United States Senate.

"I have good news for my friends and bad news for my enemies. Tomorrow or Tuesday morning I shall file my nomination petitions. Under a new law that has just been passed, it is very, very difficult for a candidate for the United States Senate to get in his petitions. They must come from at least 20 counties. Each petition must contain signatures from only one city or only one township. Seasoned politicians admit that it has never been as difficult to get on the Primary ballot as it is this year.

"That's why, ladies and gentlemen, that I wanted my friends to send in more than the number of names necessary. The required number is about 10 thousand. I expect to file between 30 and 40 thousand names tomorrow. That means that through an organization of crusading volunteers we have obtained more than three times as many names as necessary to get on the ballot - and we very likely will present as many names as all other candidates for the Senate combined.

"What a victory! What a demonstration of crusading courage on the part of my patriotic friends!

"Most candidates for office hire individuals to go out and circulate petitions. I have hired no person to circulate petitions for me. On the contrary, most of the petition circulators have enclosed contributions of money with their petitions in order to help bear the printing and mailing costs. Every petition must be notarized. My crusading friends have paid for all their notary fees.

"The people of Michigan and America know what I stand for, and I say to you, my vicious and conniving enemies, and I am speaking right now to an outfit which at this very moment is preparing to print and circulate one million pieces of vicious literature against patriotic candidates, including myself. The people of Michigan are not going to be disturbed by your lies, because they have been listening to me on this radio for about four years. The people of Michigan know that during those years nothing damaging or convincing has been said about me.

"My friends know that all the wild concoctions and libelous statements that have been poured out recently have been invented and circulated in order to keep my fearless voice out of the United States Senate.

"Before a great body of crusading leaders last night at the Masonic Temple in Detroit, I launched my Primary campaign. At that rally I listed my 14 points. I shall refer to these 14 points briefly and then I am going to talk to you a few moments about the biggest political scandal of the year. Hear are the 14 points I am going to fight for in the days that are ahead, just as I have fought for them in the days that have passed:

"1. 100% support of the war effort. 2. $100 per month for every man in the armed services. 3. Tires for everybody. 4. Free speech and free press for all good Americans, including Father Charles E. Coughlin. 5. A square deal for the Townsend Plan. 6. America First in War and Peace. 7. Build a hoop of military steel around America after this war which will guarantee protection from invasion and make it unnecessary to wage future wars of aggression. 8. I am reconsecrated to the 7 Basic Principles of the Committee of 1,000,000. 9. A farm program based on the teachings of the Holy Bible. 10. Fight without compromise in defense of Labor's right to organize and bargain collectively through leadership loyal to

"America and opposed to all forms of Nazi-Communism. 11. Food must come before whiskey. 12. Save the little business man. 13. Protect the great tourist industry. 14. Christ First in America.

"As you readily see, I cannot develop all 14 points in one radio address, so now I propose to talk to you a few minutes about the biggest political scandal of the year - and this scandal comes under the heading of TIRES -- AUTOMOBILE TIRES.

"When I first announced for the Senate, I promised that if elected to the United States Senate I would carry on a crusading fight which would compel the bureaucrats and the monopolists to work out a program that would provide tires for everybody. Many of the newspapers and news services ignored every other one of the points in my platform but this and advertised my slogan to the nation and to the world - 'Tires for Everybody.' They thought such a promise would inspire ridicule. One newspaper said, 'Any man who will make such a promise is a demagogue.' I warned the newspapers of Michigan, both the weeklies and the dailies, not to ridicule this promise because I had conferred with the rubber experts and that they would soon learn that I knew what I was talking about.

"Bureaucrats and New Deal propagandists began to make dire predictions. We were told that there would be no tires until after the war, which would probably be 1944 or 1945. By Government edict, the sales of tires was prohibited except on a very restrained basis.

"There is no way to estimate the discomfort and the pain and the anxiety that has been brought upon us by the tire situation. In the first place, I don't think we can win this war without tires for our citizens. Automobile tires are as much a part of our daily life as shoes.

"The whole system of transportation and commerce is based on the theory that the automobile will continue to operate. I think that the operation of the automobile and tires for the civilians is just as important as ships, guns or aeroplanes. I don't believe that the factories of America can operate without automobile tires for the workers and for the families of the workers.

"This problem has been bungled. When the facts are brought out, it will be revealed that the handling of this rubber tire situation will go down in history as the scandal of the generation. It will be revealed that much of our trouble has been due to plain, old-fasioned stupidity, the ruthless operation of certain vested interests and the sadistic boondoggling of certain bureaucrats.

"In a few moments I am going to read the most sensational news dispatch to appear in print since this rubber tire situation developed, but before I do

"so, I shall enumerate some of the critical situations that have developed, because of no tires. 1. The lack of automobile tires has slowed up our whole transportation system. 2. The lack of automobile tires has reduced the production of our factories making war materials. 3. The automobile tire situation has bankrupted literally hundreds and thousands of little independent businessmen who sell gasoline, tires and accessories. They are now going broke, while selfish interests are sending their agents around to buy up their filling stations and business locations at half price. 4. No automobile tires means bankruptcy for all the gasoline station people, except the stations owned by the big oil monopolies. 5. Because of the automobile tire situation the little garages are all going broke. 6. Because of the automobile tire situation the little storekeepers are going to the wall because the people cannot get to the stores and are trading with mail order houses instead of local storekeepers. 7. The mayor of the city of New York said that unless the tire and gasoline situation was solved, the intense life of that city would be so slowed down that pestilences would break out and diseases would be rampant. 8. The tourist industry of Michigan and other tourist states has already been virtually destroyed for the summer, if not permanently. 9. If the tire situation is not solved, at least one-half the churches in Michigan and one-half the churches in America will be unable to operate, eepecially the churches that depend upon parishioners driving some distance.

"I say to you preachers of the Gospel listening in that you had better wake up and join with those of us who are interested in this fight or you will find your churches dying of creeping paralysis, which can be traced to the shortage of tires and the threat of gasoline rationing. 10. If we don't get tires or begin to solve this tire situation, it will reduce the number of citizens who can vote this fall, especially you farmers and country people who live some distance from your voting places.

"There is no way to separate the organization of our community and national life from the use of automobile tires.

"Now I'm going to read to you what I told you a few moments ago was the most sensation__ news story since the outbreak of the war. What I am about to read was written by Mr. George Dixon, the eminent reporter of Washington, D.C. It appears in the New York Daily News, the largest daily newspaper in America, and it was written on last Tuesday, July 14. You won't believe your ears, but please listen while I read this newspaper story which practically no other newspaper has carried, for some mysterious reason.

"'America's tire and rubber industry is all set to inform the Government and the nation that the rubber shortage is a myth, The News learned today. The official blowoff is scheduled for about two weeks hence. The occasion will be an exhibition conducted by the major rubber companies in the Hotel

(Detroit File 62-1126)

"Mayflower. The heads of the industry will present charts showing there is absolutely no need to ration tires to conserve. The country is in a position to furnish tires to civilian users - even straight pleasure drivers - without hampering the military effort in any way, the rubber men will demonstrate. Many of the figures - of which we had a confidential preview today - are startling.

"'The exhibition is a concrete result of months of fact-gathering by the industry. The various companies have pooled their information and worked out a demonstration which they say should completely convince even the toughest skeptic.

"'All the heads of the rubber industry are in Washington now. They have been holding day and night conferences for more than a week. They are prepared to lay the whole thing on the line for inspection, examination and investigation by the heads of the government agencies.

"'The question naturally arises as to why the rubber industry waited so long before presenting its facts. The truth - as we got it - seems incredible. Despite all the government surveys, the Government never saw fit before now to ask the industry what facts it had to offer.'

"Ladies and gentlemen, there you have it. If this, the largest daily newspaper in America, is not telling the truth - it should be declared irresponsible and seditious. But if this newspaper is true, which I have just read, as I am confident it is - about 1000 bureaucrats, bungling bureaucrats, should be fired now. Why is this truth now coming to the surface? I believe it is coming to the surface for two reasons: First, because the rubber industry has discovered that if they don't get busy and reveal the facts, we'll make our rubber tires the way Doctor Hale of the Dow Chemical Company told us how to make them - out of corn, potatoes and wheat; and in the second place, I believe this truth is coming out because those of us who fear no man, not even the Devil, have been fighting and fighting and fighting. Now, who's the demagogue? Those who have kept our tires from us - or those of us who say we can have tires for everybody?

"But Oh, how much trouble could have been avoided if this truth could have been known before these paralytic strokes had afflicted so many of us and so much of our national life.

"Oh, you may not like Gerald Smith because I am too plain spoken - but I say to America tonight - if you think you're going to solve these problems with stuffed shirt politicians and 'rubber stamp' legislators — you have a guess coming.

"Unless we old-fasioned Americans begin to send to the United States Congress and Senate, fearless fighters who have the courage and fortitude to expose

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"these bureaucrats - to turn the spotlight on this stupidity -- God only knoss what a mess they'll get us into.

"The only way I can get into the United States Senate is by the sacrificial support of the humble people, the plain people, the real people. I have no big financial backers. Two days ago I didn't know where I was going to get the money to pay for this radio time that I am using right now. But if you people who listen to me, whether you are 20 miles in the country, whether you are a renter or an owner, a street sweeper or a businessman, whether you are balck or white, rich or poor - if you will help me in the future as you have helped me in the past, I can win. And whn I win, it will be your victory.

"No matter where you live all over America, if you will write to me following this broadcast, I will send you a photostatic copy of this newspaper story which I just read on the rubber tire situation, with the exception that what I send you will be the full story. I only quoted a little of it.

"Now, what I am about to say only my very good friends will want to hear. Because of the way this tire and gasoline situation has been handled, it will likely be very difficult for many of our friends to get to the polls on September 15. Therefore, I began last night to organize the GERALD L. K. SMITH AUTOMOBILE CLUB. We expect 25,000 owners all over Michigan to volunteer to use their cars to not only haul themselves to the polls on September 15, but to make extra trips in order that old people, those too weak to walk, and good people whose tires are worn out, may have transportation to the polls.

"Now, I want everyone listening to me now who wants me to go to the Senate to write in. I will send you a photostatic copy of this newspaper story about tires and I will tell you how to help organize the Gerald L. K. Smith Automobile Club.

"Don't worry about street address. Just write to me, Gerald L. K. Smith, Detroit, Michigan. No street address is necessary.

"God bless you. God bless and save America."

* * *

"GERALD L. K. SMITH
WJR, Detroit
Sunday, July 26, 1942

"On last Monday I filed my nomination petitions. Several thousand names did not reach me in time for the filing but, even so, I filed more names than any

"candidate for office in the State of Michigan. I filed 30,157 names, which means that I filed several thousand names more than the Democratic candidate for the Senate. I filed several thousand names more than the Democratic and Republican candidates for Governor and I filed as many names as my two Primary opponents for the Senate both put together.

"So, I say to the vicious character assassins, the Communists and the New Deal 'wrecking crew' that has been sent into Michigan to get Gerald L. K. Smith - the first round is my round.

"Aside from the thousands of people who are not afraid to circulate my petitions and sign my petitions and boost me openly, there are literally thousands, yes, hundreds of thousands, of them that don't talk -- but when they stand behind that curtain they're going to vote for me because they know I am a fighting, fearless, crusading candidate. They know that I have stood for something ever since I have been on this radio, both as a radio commentator and as an editor of a fearless crusading journal. But these silent people, these people that are for Gerald Smith and don't say anything about it, have been bulldozed, intimidated, abused, for so many years by New Deal political tyranny that they're going to take advantage of this chance to support a man with some old-fashioned, Christian, American courage.

"I'm not bothered by the ordinary newspaper comment. If you will just read all the newspapers which speak critically of me, they make themselves look ridiculous. To illustrate, Mr. Malcolm Bingay, the noted cynic of the Detroit Free Press, in his little Iffy column likens me to a flea on a dog. Now, why should anybody be worried by a flea on a dog? But, Mr. Kelsey, writing in the Detroit News, leaves it to me to get out a big vote on Primary day. He suggests that the only thing that will give us a big vote on September 15 is for the people to be sufficiently scared of Gerald L. K. Smith. The current Mercury magazine takes 14 pages to prove that I am the most dynamic and dangerous man before the public.

"So, there you have it, ladies and gentlemen. It's a long way from a flea to a dynamic, dangerous man. Evidently, my newspaper friends can't quite agree on just whether or not I am a flea or an elephant.

"These good-natured writers do not bother me. They have to make a living and they have to write something every day in order to be paid at the end of the week.

"But an outfit has recently been formed in Detroit which will bear watching. It is shot through and through with Communists but it is posing as a very respectable outfit. I will give the names of the members of this committee at some future date. The reason I am not naming them tonight is because I think there are some good Americans on the committee who will want to resign when they find out that they have been 'city-slicked' by a bunch of New York Communists.

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"They announce that they are some sort of a purge committee. They're going to defeat all the Congressmen who were opposed to war before Pearl Harbor, they threaten. They used the word - purge, purge, purge. That sounds like Hitler to me. We don't want any purge committees in America and we don't want any New York Communists to come out here to tell Michigan who they can have in Congress or in the Senate.

"Well, my old ruthless enemy, Walter Winchell, has popped up again with an article in a national magazine. I am told that the cost of writing and distributing this article in Michigan which is to be used against me was something more than ten thousand dollars. Mr. Winchell tries to smear me by putting my picture in a magazine along with some people who have been accused of seditious activity.

"Well, Mr. Winchell, the American people are getting fed up on your kind of stuff. You have participated in a campaign to smear some great people in America. I'm going to name a few that you have smeared, Mr. Winchell. Henry Ford, Senator Burton K. Wheeler, the eminent commentator, Cameron. Added to this list you have smeared Senator Gerald P. Nye. Recently, on the floor of the United States Senate, Senator Bennett Champ Clark accused you of being part of a smear conspiracy against that great Christian patriot and chairman of the Naval Affairs Committee, David I. Walsh. You have criticized Col. Batterson, the heroic editor of the New York News, the largest daily newspaper in America. He was wounded 7 times in the last war, while you, Walter Winchell, a Lieutenant-Commander in the Navy, are serving out your time during this bloody conflict on Broadway, with an income running into six figures per year.

"As no other man, you exploited and publicised the kidnaping of Lindbergh's little baby. You picked the publicity bone dry on this tragic drama, and then you led the procession of 'cat-callers', who insisted on smearing and attacking and persecuting Charles A. Lindbergh because of his attitude toward the war before Pearl Harbor. And, now, you and a certain weekly magazine, for which you write, are participating in another campaign to force Mr. Lindbergh out of his seclusion where he is devoting 24 hours a day doing scientific research at the Ford Motor Company in order that we may win this war.

"You, Mr. Winchell, and a dozen other news-hounds who thrive on sensational publicity are thirsting again for the chance to pick at Mr. Lindbergh and persecute this America's hero.

"You, Mr. Walter Winchell, were one not satisfied to leave the discipline of a parish priest to Archbishop Mooney of Detroit - but you, an outsider, joined others in striking the lash to the back of Father Charles E. Coughlin.

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"Well, according to the list of notables I have just named, who are on your black list, Mr. Winchell, it seems to be an honor to be smeared by you.

"And now you start on me and wind up by condemning me because I have been endorsed by Senator Robert Reynolds and Senator Gerald Nye and Congressman Roy Woodruf. Now, I repeat to you, Mr. Winchell, what I said some weeks ago. I make this challenge -- I shall call on the pastor of the Christian church to which I belong - you call on the Jewish rabbi who is the pastor of the synagogue to which you belong - then we will ask your Jewish rabbi, Mr. Winchell, and my Christian pastor to select a Catholic priest. Let these three men of God study my career. And if I have not been a loyal Christian American, according to their judgment, I shall retire from this Senate race and from public life. But if this committee of three, Mr. Winchell, which shall include your Jewish rabbi pastor, my Christian pastor and a Catholic priest of their choosing - if this committee finds that I have been a loyal Christian American, then you shall get off the radio, stay out of Michigan politics and go into the Navy on a fulltime basis like the rest of the Navy officials of America.

"Ladies and gentlemen, isn't it singular that these 'gad-flies', these harping critics, these ridicule-mongers and these character assassins - isn't it singular that they did not manifest much concern about Gerald L. K. Smith until I announced for the United States Senate?

"Some of thought I was exaggerating when I prophesied the deadly potions that were being mixed by the political witch doctors of America. Even you, my best friends, said - surely, Mr. Smith is excited. His enemies are not as desperate as he claims. Three weeks ago an article appeared in a New York magazine known for its pro-Communist attitudes under the headling, 'Keep this man out of the Senate, no matter what the cost.' And the man they referred to in this article was Gerald L. K. Smith.

"Well, ladies and gentlemen, I believe I'm going to the Senate. I believe that the more they smear me, the stronger I shall become. I expect to be called everything on the calendar. The atheistic enemies of America cringe like hissing serpents when they hear me cry out the slogan, 'Christ First in America.' They called me a demagogue when I said we can have tires for everybody. And now, the great rubber industry admits that the rubber shortage is a myth and we can have tires for every automobile in America if we can rescue the rubber situation from the boondoggling bureaucrats that have so ruthlessly messed it up.

"If I win this fight, it will be the people's victory. I have no big financial backers in spite of the lies of my enemies. The money for my campaign comes from the plain people and every week I wonder where I'm going to get the money to pay for my radio time.

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"I can't explain it, but God Almighty has given me a great sense of assurance. Confidence is in my heart. A warm passion to do the right is in my soul. Only crusading courage can solve the problems of this deadly hour. Regardless of the price, I shall continue to be the voice of the voiceless, the defender of the weak. I move toward the United States Senate, committed to those 14 basic principles of my campaign, which are as follows: 1. 100% support of the war effort. 2. $100 per month for every man in the armed services. 3. Free speech and free press for all good Americans, including Father Chas. E. Coughlin. 4. A square deal for the Townsend Plan. 5. Tires for everybody. (By using the wisdom of science instead of the bureaucratic bungling of monopoly-controlled politicians.) 6. Preservation of America's national sovereignty under the slogan, 'America First in War and Peace.' 7. The building of a hoop of military steel around America after this war which will guarantee protection from invasion and make it unnecessary to wage future wars of aggression. 8. I am recommitted to the seven basic principles of the Committee of 1,000,000. 9. A farm program based on the teachings of the Holy Bible. 10. I shall fight without compromise for Labor's right to organize and bargain collectively through leadership loyal to America and opposed to all forms of Nazi-Communism. 11. Less sugar for whiskey and more sugar for children. 12. Save the little businessman. 13. Protect the great tourist industry. 14. 'Christ First in America.'

"Pray for me - stand with me during this, my hour of great persecution. I stand at the door of Gethsemane. I am about to be thrown into a political torture chamber equipped with the most modern inventions which a ruthless bureaucracy can supply in its desperate attempt to hold back a rising tide of impassioned opposition. Nothing can stop me, as long as I can keep my faith in God and have the prayers of the people.

"If America will put Christ first - if America will return to her altars of prayer - if America will send to her seats of government men reconsecrated to the teachings of Christ and to the love of God and to the old-fashioned American faith of our fathers — America can live.

* * *

"GERALD L. K. SMITH
WJR, Detroit
Sunday, August 2, 1942

"Good Evening, Ladies and Gentlemen:

"This summer may be the last time that fearless men with crusading convictions will have an opportunity to seek high office on real issues, unless the people are alert. You, who have listened to me through the years, can now begin to see the desperation of my enemies and the viciousness of my opposition.

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"I do not look upon my opposing candidates as my enemies. My real opposition is coming from a set of Communist and subversive individuals who will stop at nothing to keep me out of the United States Senate. Up to this moment my enemies seem to be operating through two chief outlets:

"First, an organization in Michigan known as the Civil Rights Federation. This organization for years has been considered a Communist-front mechanism. They campaigned to free Earl Browder, the No. 1 Red. This organization was orginally formed to fight the Dunkle-Baldwin Bill. This bill was introduced in the State Legislature of Michigan for the purpose of outlawing the Communist Party and for the purpose of keeping the Communist Party off the Michigan ballot. An organization was formed to put the Communist Party on the Michigan ballot to support the attempt of the Communist Party to be on the Michigan ballot. And this organization developed into what we now know as the Civil Rights Federation.

"Many of the officers of this organization has been and are Communists. Some months ago the president of the organization resigned, one Owen Knox, because, said he, 'The Civil Rights Federation is controlled by the Communist Party.'

"Now this Red outfit wants Father Coughlin and Gerald L. K. Smith investigated by a Grand Jury. In other words, they are asking that an instrument of the Government be used to persecute us, investigate us, indict us, and, as one Red said in a rally held on Woodward Avenue some days ago - 'We Communists hope to lock Gerald L. K. Smith in the same prison cell as that vacated by Earl Browder.'

"Ladies and Gentlemen, when the time comes that a set of atheistic Communists in America are attempting to imprison the preachers of Christ and patriotic Christians, while atheistic Reds run loose upon the streets — if that time has come in America, it's time for those of us who love our Christ and love our America to stand up and fight, in defense of our traditional liberties.

"And I serve notice here and now on a certain set of conspirators that have been sent into Detroit to get Gerald L. K. Smith. You are going to have a fight on your hands and if you start anything with me, you're going to be terribly surprised when you discover just how far it will go and just how long it will take you to stop it.

"Some very, very bad people and some very vicious elements are active in America today. And some very good Christian Americans are being hurt and their patience is being tried.

"Everybody listening to me right this minute might not understand the import of what I am about to say. But there are some people listening

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"in who will understand what I man. Why don't you have enough sense to know when you have gone far enough? In your panic to destroy your opposition and in your hysteria to silence men like Gerald Smith - have you no notion as to what you are likely to reap for your extreme practices?

"The other outlet for my enemies seems to be Walter Winchell. Walter Winchell made a very, very vicious attack on me. Mr. Winchell lives in New York City. His income runs to six figures per year. Who said Walter Winchell should name the next United States Seantor from Michigan? Are the people of Michigan going to permit a New York columnist to select their representatives in the United States Senate and Congress?

"Now, I repeat again the challenge I made to Mr. Winchell last Sunday night;

"I make this challenge - I shall call on the pastor of the Christian Church to which I belong - you call on the Jewish rabbi who is the pastor of the synagogue to which you belong - then we will ask your Jewish rabbi, Mr. Winchell, and my Christian pastor to select a Catholic priest. Let these three men of God study my career. And if I have not been a loyal Christian American, according to their judgment, I shall retire from this Senate race and from public life. But if this committee of three, Mr. Winchell, which shall include your Jewish rabbi pastor, my Christian pastor and a Catholic priest of their choosing -- if this committee finds that I have been a loyal Christian American, then you shall get off the radio, stay out of Michigan politics and go into the Navy on a fulltime basis like the rest of the Navy officials of America.

"In his attack on me, Mr. Winchell warns the readers of a certain national magazine not to be deceived by the fact that I have an old-fashioned American name - it being Smith. Well, Mr. Walter Winchell, my name is Smith and my father, still living, is a Gospel preacher and his father was a Gospel preacher and all my relatives who could qualify fought and bled to preserve the Union. Yes, my father's name was Smith and my grandfather's name was Smith and my great-grandfather's name was Smith -- and they were all Americans and we have kept the name we were born with.

"What was your name when you were born, Mr. Winchell? And what was your father's name and what was your grandfather's name? Write that down on a piece of paper, Mr. Walter Winchell, so the world can read it.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I'd rather die in a prison camp - I'd rather be shot down by an assassin, just as I saw Huey Long shot down within six feet of me by an assassin who was part of a plot, which has not yet been unfolded. Yes, I'd rather die - I'd rather be killed - I'd rather be imprisoned than to surrender my right to be a good patriotic Christian

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"American with freedom of speech and with freedom of press, devoted to the American way of life. And I'd rather drop dead at this microphone than to live in an America run by Walter Winchell and his sort.

"Since I spoke to you last Sunday night, I have been in conference with some of the greatest scientists and industrialists on earth. I mean just that -- some of the greatest on earth. I now know that this tire problem could have been solved six months ago, if it could have been put into the hands of scientists and statesmen instead of bungling bureaucrats. I know that if the bureaucrats in Washington will give Mr. Henry Ford the liberty he needs, he can begin to furnish rebuilt tires to 200,000 Ford workers within sixty days. If Mr. Ford is given his freedom, he can furnish rebuilt tires and begin to furnish new tires to every war worker in Michigan within six months, whether he works for General Motors, Briggs Body, Chrysler or what not.

"And I know further that if Mr. Henry Ford and his friends, such as Dr. Dow of the Dow Chemical Company, if given liberty, could work out a plan for rebuilding and servicing and retreading tires for every automobile owner in America. And I know that the materials that would be used in the manufacture of this substitute rubber, which Mr. Ford already knows how to make -- I know these materials are not critical war materials and could be used without hurting the Army, the Navy or the air force and without in any way injuring the war effort.

"Furthermore, I know that synthetic rubber can be made from corn, potatoes and wheat and that we have enough farm products going to waste or stored up in America right now to make all the rubber we need.

"When I launched my campaign for the United States Senate, I promised to carry on a fight that would get tires for everybody. Now, I make a work of prophecy. Within two weeks the New Dealers and the bureaucrats are going to try to do something to head me off on this tire business. I have already smoked out the rubber trust - I'm smoking out the bureaucrats and I have exposed the great international rubber monopoly.

"If, as a candidate for the Senate, I am able to force - through the mobilization of public sentiment - these bureaucrats into a position where they'll have to turn the solution of this problem over to the great industrial statesmen -- it will be one instance in political history where a candidate fulfilled his campaign promise during the campaign and before he was elected.

"If some people in Washington including high officials would spend less time talking with New York politicans about the Governor's race and about who is going to have control of the New York delegation at the next Democratic Convention -- if these Washington officials would spend less time

"talking to Tammany Hall politicians and political party connivers and more time consulting with men like Henry Ford and Dr. Dow and Mr. C. E. Sorenson -- we could begin to have tires by Labor Day, lots of them by Christmas and plenty of them by Easter.

"Now,here is an announcement. I am speaking in person at the Saginaw, Michigan Auditorim this coming Thursday night, August 6. I am going to deliver a fearless, dynamic speech that will contain much - and when I say much, I mean much - that you never hear over the radio.

"And here is the surprise. At this meeting I will display, so everybody attending the meeting can see it, a tire built with substitute rubber. I will show you pieces of this substitute rubber and I will show you a tire built with substitute rubber that has been used 5,000 miles.

"Just think, ladies and gentlemen, here we are in Michigan with our tourist industry going broke, with our filling station people going broke, with our war industries being slowed down for want of tires. And right within the borders of our own state we have two of the greatest industries on earth - the Dow Chemical Company and the Ford Motor Company. These two together could supple tires for everybody in Michigan, if we could pursuade a set of bureaucratic politicians in Washington to remove the leg irons and the hand-cuffs from these great industrial statesmen who know the solution to this problem.

"Oh, God save us, God save us, God save us. I repeat, God save us.

"Now, I want everybody that can get there to come to this Saginaw Rally this coming Thursday night at the Saginaw City Auditorium. I want to meet you personally. I want you to hear truth that you will be unable to hear any other place, because I don't know of another candidate for another office in Michigan that has the courage or the will to say what I'm going to say Thursday night at Saginaw, Michigan.

"And, don't forget that you're going to see a sensational exhibit of tires built of substitute rubber.

"And, ladies and gentlemen, remember that although I use the slogan, 'Tires for Everybody' - that's only one plank in my platform of fourteen fearless principles.

"Let me remind you again of the great rally to be held at Saginaw, Michigan this coming Thursday night at the Saginaw City Auditorium.

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[redacted] said that GERALD L. K. SMITH occupies the entire twentieth floor of the Industrial National Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan, with the exception of one small office. He said that he had no idea how much rent was paid by SMITH and did not even know whether SMITH actually paid rent for his office. SMITH pays his clerical help from thirty-five cents an hour to forty cents an hour and has approximately seven regular stenographers and mail clerks:

[redacted]

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When SMITH is rushed, he obtains extra mail clerks in groups from Catholic schools.

Informant stated that SMITH rarely comes to his office, but spends most of his time at his home, 1753 Seyburn, Detroit, Michigan, and practically every afternoon SMITH is at the Statler Hotel in the Cafe Rouge.

[redacted]

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[redacted] that SMITH always pleads poverty and is continually asking for contributions in his circular letters and at his meetings. These appeals are very successful and a substantial income is derived through these media. Although SMITH always claims he is a poor man, Informant stated he lives well in a large home and has a Negro chauffeur and spends much of his time at the Statler Hotel in the Cafe Rouge. [redacted]

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[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

According to Informant, SMITH is making a great appeal to the former followers of Father COUGHLIN and this appeal appears to be quite successful. He frequently defends Father COUGHLIN's right of freedom of speech and criticises the Communists for persecuting Father COUGHLIN and GERALD SMITH together.

[redacted] a well-known middle-aged woman in downtown Detroit, formerly sold COUGHLIN's magazine, "Social Justice," at the corner of Woodward and State Street, in front of the S. S. Kresge Company store. Since "Social Justice" has been discontinued [redacted] now sells SMITH's magazine, "The Cross and the Flag" on the same corner. [redacted]

According to Informant, the booklet entitled, "Too Much Roosevelt," by GERALD L. K. SMITH is still being distributed at the office and sales have

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been made since the entry of the United States into the war. [redacted] b7C, b7D

This copy is being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Division, inasmuch as the Bureau has previously been furnished with a copy.

Informant stated the same is true about SMITH's booklet entitled, "Dangerous Enemies," which is devoted almost entirely to an expose of Communist activities in the United States.

A copy of this booklet, which was obtained from Informant, is also being maintained in the files of the Detroit Field Office.

Informant also presented to the writer a booklet entitled, "Warmongers and the Threat of War," by GERALD L. K. SMITH. It was not known whether this book has been distributed since the entry of the United States into the war.

This booklet is also being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Division.

[redacted] b7C, b7D

Informant indicated that since SMITH has embarked on a political campaign, he is not permitted to ask for money over the radio but he continues to ask for it in practically every letter he circulates.

[redacted] b7C, b7D

Informant obtained a copy of a booklet entitled, "The Hoop of Steel," by GERALD L. K. SMITH, copyrighted by him in 1942. The thesis of this pamphlet is to the effect that although it may be necessary to cooperate with Great Britain and Russia in order to win a victory, the United States should

abstain carefully from participating in any international alliance with any other government after victory is attained. SMITH suggested in this thirty-one page pamphlet that the United States protect itself after the war is won with a "hoop of steel," in other words, such adequate armaments that no other nation, or combination of nations, could ever attack the United States successfully.

In a "Postlude" to this pamphlet, SMITH objects to the wartime censorship of facts because of the fear that the true news would break the morale of the people.

This pamphlet is being retained in the file of the Detroit Field Office.

Informant also submitted to the writer one copy each of the April, May and June, 1942, issues of "The Cross and the Flag," a calendar for 1942 showing one photograph of Mr. and Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH and one photograph of Mr. and Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH with their son, GERALD, JR.

Informant also submitted to the writer the following documents:

One copy of Bill H R 1776 (Lease Lend Bill) with the following handwritten notation: "Dear Friend: Below is a copy of a bill which, if it passes, will make Mr. Roosevelt a dictator and lead us into war. /s/ Gerald L. K. Smith." "If you want more copies of this bill, address your request to GERALD L. K. SMITH, Box 459, Detroit, Michigan — Committee of 1,000,000."

One circular letter dated August 1, 1942, announcing a meeting to be held at Saginaw, Michigan, on August 6, 1942.

One circular letter dated May 8, 1942.

One circular letter entitled, "I CONFESS" (previous radio address by SMITH).

One circular letter entitled, "A Vital Message."

One circular letter entitled, "Time to Clean House" (previous radio address by SMITH).

One circular letter entitled, "Reds on the Throne - Patriots on the Cross" (Previous radio address by SMITH).

One four-page pamphlet entitled, "The Symbol of a Crusade - Committee of 1,000,000."

One circular letter dated July 18, 1942.

(Detroit File 62-1126)

One circular letter congratulating workers on obtaining signatures to nominating petitions.

One circular letter headed, "Very Important!" and stating, "As a circulator of my nominating petitions you are now ready to qualify as a United States Senate Campaign Advisor. . ."

One copy of pages 16 and 17 "PM" publication, dated October 28, 1942, at New York City, showing Lord Halifax attending a Russian Relief Rally, with the following handwritten inscription: "Please observe that the 'Red' flag of Russia is in the center and hangs as high as the Stars and Stripes. Note how much money was raised. /s/ Gerald L. K. Smith, National Chairman, Committee of 1,000,000, Post Office Box 459, Detroit, Michigan."

ENCLOSURES

To the Bureau - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -Two photostatic copies of a 31-page pamphlet entitled, "The Hoop of Steel," by GERALD L. K. SMITH.

One copy of "The Cross and the Flag," July 1942 issue.

One copy of the article entitled, "Gerald Smith's Bid for Power," by WILLIAM BRADFORD HUIE, taken from "The American Mercury," August 1942 issue.

- P E N D I N G -

(Detroit File 62-1126)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE INDIANAPOLIS FIELD DIVISION

At Noblesville, Indiana:

Will obtain documentary proof of membership of GERALD L. K. SMITH and Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH in WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY's Silver Shirts of America, believed to be No. 3223, and also information about, and documentary proof of, any correspondence between PELLEY and SMITH which would indicate SMITH's Fascist sympathies. Previous information has indicated that PELLEY received a letter dated August 15, 1933, from SMITH.

THE KANSAS CITY FIELD DIVISION

At Kansas City, Missouri:

Will report information in the files of the Kansas City Field Division concerning GERALD L. K. SMITH's association with _____ De PRIEST.

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At Alma, Michigan:

* Will contact [redacted] relative to information in his possession concerning activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH.

At Detroit, Michigan:

* Will maintain further contact with [redacted] for information concerning SMITH.

* Will contact [redacted], Ford Motor Company, relative to information in his possession concerning activities of SMITH.

* Will maintain contact with other informants for additional information relative to SMITH's activities.

* Will interview [redacted] National Bank Building, for additional information concerning SMITH's background and activities.

- P E N D I N G -

ALL
b7C

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-116 p.30

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

[redacted] b7c

8-18-42
62-43818-116
Date:

RECORDED

To: Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with alias
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

There are enclosed herewith for your consideration, copies of the reports of Special Agent [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, dated August 11, 1942, and Special Agent [redacted], Kansas City, Missouri, dated August 11, 1942, in the above-captioned matter. b7c

I am also enclosing herewith for your consideration, a photostatic copy of the July, 1942 issue of "The Cross and the Flag", which is published by the subject of this investigation.

Enclosure

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/15/57
4

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/7/82 BY SP6 BJ/AIDMS
204,433

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 4
★ AUG 18 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

b1 b2

Copy

FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 7

PAGES REVIEWED: 84

PAGES RELEASED: 76

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN FILE NO. 100-3598

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	8-11-42	7-30,8-1,2-42	[redacted] b7c BIN

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, aka Gerald L. K. Smith THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: In April, May, and June, 1942 issues of "The Defender", Reverend GERALD B. WINROD, Wichita, Kansas, published articles and radio speeches written by SMITH. Investigation of WINROD shows no further collaboration of SMITH and WINROD.

- RUC -

b7c

REFERENCE: Reports of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit Michigan June 11, 1942 and July 22, 1942.

DETAILS: A review of the Kansas City investigative files of Reverend GERALD B. WINROD shows that GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH has collaborated with WINROD only by the fact that WINROD in his monthly publication, "The Defender" has printed radio addresses by SMITH and excerpts from SMITH'S publication, "The Cross and Flag."

The April, 1942 issue of "The Defender" carried a radio address by SMITH entitled, "Christ First in War or Peace," a reprint of an article from SMITH'S publication regarding WALTER WINCHELL, an editorial by WINROD recommending SMITH'S publication, and a full page advertisement of SMITH'S publication.

"The Defender" of May, 1942 printed the radio address entitled, "The Cross And The Flag", and the June, 1942 issue carried "Christ First in America", abridged radio address by SMITH.

It is not advisable to interview Mrs. GERALD B. WINROD regarding the nature of the relationship between WINROD and SMITH as she is no longer considered a reliable source of information

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/13/82 BY SP8 [illegible]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED Dwight Brantley SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-[illegible]-117

8 AUG 13 1942

RECORDED & INDEXED

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
5 Bureau
3 Detroit
2 Kansas City

COPIES DESTROYED
83 OCT 13 1964

EX-1

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 7—3034

concerning WINROD'S associates.

b7D

It is suggested that [redacted] be recontacted for further specific information regarding the nature of contacts SMITH is reported to have had with WINROD. If this contact concerned only the copy for SMITH'S articles printed in "The Defender", no investigation will be conducted in this district.

Photostatic copies of articles and radio addresses by SMITH which appeared in the April, May, and June, 1942 issues of "The Defender" are being enclosed to the Detroit Field Division. One photostatic copy of above-mentioned articles is being retained in the files of the Kansas City Field Division Office.

ENCLOSURES: TO THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

Three photostatic copies of articles and radio addresses by SMITH appearing in the April, May, and June, 1942 issues of "The Defender."

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

Source of Information [redacted] mentioned in the details of this report is:

[redacted]

b2c
b2D

FED. BU. OF INV. [redacted]., Aug. 12th 1942.

pro

AUG 13 1942
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attorney General Biddle,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Gerald L. K. Smith made a speech here today and he went after Roosevelt unmercifully about vetoing the Rubber Bill that would help the farmers sell their produce.

He said that Henry Ford could make synthetic rubber and be in production in 60 days. Now is there any law to keep Ford from going ahead and making synthetic rubber and selling it to the people? He also, told about how The Dow Chemical Co., could make it too. Now if there is no law to keep them from making it why in hell dont they get busy and do it. Or is that only political talk? If they can do it go ahead and do it or shut up.

He spoke of the new deal paying the farmers for not producing stuff. If they had produced stuff all that they could the market would have been flooded then they would have raised hell for the Government to buy the surplus like the Brazil Government is doing about Coffee.

He never said a dam word about the people on relief that could not buy what food they needed, no not a word.

Why dont the FBI investigate him and get a list of the ones who is donating to his broadcasting expenses. I will bet old Hank Ford and General Motors and other rich Republicans are donating to him. We should know so why not get the FBI on his tail and show him up.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

adv. 8-25-42 [redacted]

RECORDED
INDEXED

62-43818-118

12

[redacted]

no action sir

August 25, 1942

[redacted]dp
62-43818-118

RECORDED

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

I wish to advise that your letter of recent date has been received at this Bureau by reference from the Attorney General's Office.

Your courtesy and interest in bringing this matter to the attention of this Department are indeed appreciated. You may be assured that the content of your letter has been noted and will receive appropriate consideration.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/82 BY SP8B75/mlw

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

55 SEP 1 1942 214

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 2
AUG 26 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AUG 31 4 03 PM '42
FBI - SECURITY

[redacted]

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Post Office Box #2118
Detroit - Michigan
August 20, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/3/82 BY SP6 JAL DMS 204,433

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
[redacted]
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION
(62-43818)

Dear Sir:

The following information was obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to you, for the period of August 3 to August 17. SMITH has been contacting officials of the Ford Motor Company for various types of assistance in his political campaign for the nomination of United States Senator for the state of Michigan. He has been dealing with [redacted] in an attempt to obtain a sound truck, and he has also obtained from [redacted] office an automobile tire made out of synthetic rubber. Mr. and Mrs. SMITH have been continuing contacting [redacted] himself, but no important contacts are believed to have been made since August 3, 1942.

On August 3, 1942, Mrs. MURRAY KNOWLES, former prominent member of America First Committee in Detroit, Michigan, advised SMITH telephonically that she had just returned from a trip to Chicago, Illinois, where she spoke to Mrs. ELIZABETH DILLING over the telephone. Mrs. KNOWLES said that Mrs. DILLING did not pull any of her punches. Mrs. DILLING considered that her principal concern, in view of the indictment against her in Washington, D. C., was to hire one of the best attorneys available. Mrs. KNOWLES also said that she had messages for SMITH from Mrs. DILLING, which she would convey to him when she saw him. Mrs. KNOWLES continued that Mrs. DILLING would like to come to Michigan and speak at a rally. SMITH did not look upon the proposal with favor. As far as Mrs. DILLING'S trial was concerned, SMITH suggested that she would no doubt get all the support she needed from her intimate friend, and SMITH said that he had not seen Mrs. DILLING in three years. SMITH made it very clear by his coolness that he had no desire to collaborate with Mrs. DILLING in any way since she was under indictment.

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818-11

On August 3, 1942, SMITH'S manager, BERNARD DOMAN, received a telephone call from [redacted] of Civil Rights Federation, a Communist front organization, posing as [redacted] UG Methodist minister. [redacted] raised strenuous objections to the context of SMITH'S radio broadcast August 2, 1942, and said that he was going to complain to his bishop. When DOMAN reported this conversation to SMITH, SMITH told DOMAN that the person who said he was [redacted] was either a Jew or a Communist.

COPIES DESTROYED

On August 3, 1942, [redacted] spoke to [redacted] of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and requested a contribution of $1,000 for SMITH'S campaign. [redacted] promised to see what he could do about obtaining it.

On August 5, 1942, SMITH obtained a synthetic rubber tire from the Ford Motor Company, and as soon as he received it he telephoned [redacted] of Ford Motor Company, and complained that the synthetic rubber had a very strong odor. SMITH immediately called Doctor HALE, of Dow Chemical Company, Midland, Michigan, whom SMITH publicly regards as an authority on synthetic rubber. Doctor HALE commented that things are not going in Washington the way they want them to. SMITH was vitally interested in finding out whether the President had signed or vetoed the rubber bill passed by Congress.

On August 6, 1942, SMITH held a political meeting at Saginaw, Michigan, and introduced his synthetic rubber tire, announcing that such products could be turned out easily if it were not for restrictions emanating from Washington. He did not disclose the source from which he obtained the tire.

On August 5, 1942, Mrs. MURRAY KNOWLES returned to Detroit from another visit to Chicago, where she interviewed [redacted] Again she spoke to Mrs. DILLING over the phone. Mrs. KNOWLES reported to Mrs. SMITH that the organizations are all working along the same line and that the Citizens Committee in Chicago is very "happy".

Special Agents of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Treasury Department, are actively investigating SMITH'S alleged fraud in filing his income tax returns, and they are interviewing SMITH and his attorney, [redacted]

SMITH'S attorney, [redacted], has made inquiries concerning the results of the Hamilton Fish election in the state of New York.

SMITH has raised strenuous objection to the statements by WALTER WINCHELL in "Liberty Magazine" last week to the effect that SMITH had been indicted. SMITH gave a news release to the United Press that he was contemplating instituting a $1,000,000 libel suit against "Liberty Magazine" and WALTER WINCHELL. SMITH discussed this same subject with Mr. MARLOWE of the "Chicago Tribune". SMITH advised the publishers of "Liberty Magazine" of their misstatement, and SMITH received a telegram in reply as follows: "We are sorry for the error in Mr. Winchell's article. An apology and retraction is appearing in the first available issue...". The "Chicago Tribune" for Sunday, August 9, carried a story publicizing the retraction of WINCHELL'S misstatement by "Liberty Magazine".

ALC
DJC

On August 15, 1942, Mrs. KNOWLES spoke to Mrs. SMITH, and told her that "someone" called her from Chicago and wanted to leave at noon on the train but would not come to Detroit unless "they" could see SMITH. Mrs. KNOWLES said that she was supposed to have wired "her" last night but now will have to telephone and disguise the message so that "she" will know what she means. Mrs. SMITH was emphatic in telling Mrs. KNOWLES that the SMITHS will have to be out of town and there would be no possible way of "her" seeing them. Mr. SMITH then spoke to Mrs. KNOWLES and told her to be sure to tell "her" that the SMITHS are not evading "her", but insisted that there should be no telephone calls or telegraphic messages under these circumstances. SMITH told Mrs. KNOWLES that he could not warn her enough to be careful, because he knows many things that she does not. Mrs. KNOWLES replied that the woman in Chicago had tried to call SMITH but could not get his unlisted residence telephone number. Mrs. KNOWLES later telephoned SMITH to tell him that a person from the East was coming out to Detroit. SMITH said that when that person gets on the train there will be six or seven other people get on. SMITH emphasized that there is a time and place for everything, and this is not the time for such contacts. SMITH characterized this person from the East as a New Dealer and a friend of [redacted] He suggested that she was coming to Detroit to visit some New Deal politicians. SMITH said that he did not want to be contacted by this woman, and when she came to Detroit she should be advised that SMITH'S telephone number was unlisted and could not be given out. SMITH stressed that his attitude was not one of indifference or evasion, it was just that there was a time and place for everything and that this was no time for him to make such contacts. SMITH said that he could go into certain jurisdictions and ruin his friends by endorsing them. He stated that "we are dealing with vicious people and there are certain places where the Communists have the upper hand". SMITH said that he believes his wires are tapped, and that no plans should be made over the telephone. SMITH said he was not worried about any governmental agency because he was willing to have the government know everything he does, but he was afraid of information getting to the Communists who would use it in a most vicious manner against him.

SMITH spoke to [redacted] for Radio Station WJR, Detroit, Michigan, and related to him the misstatement made in "Liberty Magazine" and the telegram of apology, and he wanted to add to his radio script that recent information. [redacted] suggested that he would like to get WALTER WINCHELL in the state of Michigan so that he would be apprehended and held under $10,000 bond. [redacted] suggested that many persons were being indicted and SMITH might be next. SMITH agreed that he might be, but he stated that such activity was getting to a place where it was becoming obvious. [redacted] then revealed that he was being asked many questions concerning SMITH'S activities. SMITH explained that he had just talked to Mr. BUGAS of the FBI, and the FBI works just like a police department: when a complaint is received by the FBI or a police department, they send

A1 b7c

out investigators." SMITH then continued that "these Jews" keep calling up the FBI all the time and the FBI has to keep investigating these complaints. [redacted] then criticized WALTER WINCHELL and said that everybody except the "clan" are against WINCHELL. It was agreed that SMITH and [redacted] would confer at some future time concerning ways and means of getting WALTER WINCHELL taken off the air. b7c

SMITH spoke to Internal Revenue Agent [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, concerning the investigation of SMITH for income tax evasion, and SMITH admitted that he was purposely delaying the progress of the investigation because WALTER WINCHELL had told his radio audience that SMITH would be investigated for income tax evasion. SMITH said that he would not sign any papers until he and his attorney were sure that the records were correct. SMITH charged that politics had influenced the investigation of the case, and that the political pressure put on the Treasury Department to prosecute SMITH would increase in the future. [redacted] told SMITH that he has had pressure put on him to get out a summons. SMITH then stated that he received an anonymous letter from an officer in the Internal Revenue Department asking if SMITH could do anything to increase the pay of Internal Revenue Officers if he were elected. b7c

SMITH complained to Special Agent [redacted] of the Detroit Field Office that he believed his telephone wires had been tapped. He said he had learned from his experiences with HUEY LONG how to ascertain when a telephone line was tapped, and he stated he hears people clicking in and out while he is talking on the telephone. SMITH said it was his understanding that no one was allowed to listen in on telephone conversations except the Federal Bureau of Investigation. SMITH explained that there are about 75 organizations that were attempting to cause his political defeat, and that in doing so they hired private investigators to tap his lines. SMITH added that he had just reported his suspicions to the telephone company. Agent [redacted] who was Acting Special Agent in Charge, advised SMITH that the Federal Bureau of Investigation had no jurisdiction to take any action in such a case and SMITH had taken the proper action in notifying the telephone company. b7c

Previously referred to Radiotelephone Div.

[redacted] also explained that SMITH is collaborating on his political campaign with FRANK McKAY, prominent political figure in Michigan. b7c

[redacted] will be unavailable for a period of about one week. When he resumes contacting this office, weekly reports of the information submitted by him will be transmitted promptly to you.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas
CHE

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/92 BY SP-8375/MW

Detroit, Michigan
July 10, 1942

My very dear friend:

This morning a booklet was left on my desk and in the middle of the booklet I read these words - "A prison cell, not a Senate seat, is the place for Gerald L. K. Smith."

Two days before Earl Browder, the No. 1 Communist, was set free, a rally was held in Detroit under the auspices of the "Free Browder Committee." Earl Browder's brother was a speaker. He said - "We hope soon to release Earl Browder from the prison cell he occupies in Atlanta Penitentiary and we hope to see the day that the cell from which Browder is released will be occupied by Gerald L. K. Smith."

I wish I could command the words that would help me to describe to you the viciousness of my enemies. If only the Communist party was under taking to destroy me, it might not be so serious - but the weapons which they sharpen have been put into the hands of the New Dealers, and even certain so-called Republicans have soiled their hands by taking up and using these weapons against me.

In spite of everything, my following increases. My nomination petitions roll in with thousands of names signed and notarized, as required by law, in order to get my name of the ballot. Silent people,, who seldom express themselves, have pledged quietly to their neighbors and to their loved ones that they want a man like Gerald L. K. Smith in the Senate. My mail indicates that all over the United States there is a hunger to hear a voice on the floor of the United States Senate that has the courage to cry out in defense of true Americanism.

In recent weeks every known crime has been attempted against courageous Senators and Congressmen, including blackmail, physical threats and a tortuous infringement upon their liberties. An enemy of mine in Flint, Michigan recently boasted that fifty people were watching every move I make. What crime have my enemies committed? Why do these serpents fear me so much? Why do these reptiles hiss at the very mention of my name?

The Bible says - "They fear the light because their deeds are evil." I warn you, my beloved friend, that unless men who stand for the things I stand for begin to take responsibility in the affairs of our government -- America is doomed. We will never be able to defeat our enemies abroad until we can revitalize our own America from within with that spiritual vitality best known as Christian Americanism. For this there is a great hunger in the hearts of the people. They merely wait for leadership.

I have done my best, God knows, to furnish my share of that leadership. I am now faced with the fight of my life. Every day I embrace my tasks with the exclamation in my mind - "Oh, if the people will stand with me until the victory is won!"

I was in hopes my last letter would bring in enough money to pay the bills, while at the same time, giving us a margin with which to expand our activities. Well, we have kept going. That's a miracle. We have gotten our petitions out. That's another miracle. We have stayed on the radio, thank God. That's another miracle.

FBI AUG 7 1942

Today I had the unpleasant experience of being threatened with a suit unless two certain bills against our organization were paid. If I pay these bills, I must go off the radio - unless my good friends come to the rescue. Yes, I know I have written you on numerous occasions and I know this letter is coming to you too soon since the last one - but what am I to do? How am I to carry on? I wish I could keep this burden a secret from you. Better still - I wish I didn't have these burdens to bear; and yet, where else can I turn except to those to whom I have turned at other times for help?

We're coming into the middle of the summer. I believe that if we can get over the next few weeks that it may be a little easier for us to carry the load. But, of course, nothing is as important as that which we are attempting to do - to save America - is ever easy.

I am strong. I weigh over 200 pounds. I am in the prime of life. My age is 44. But this morning when I awoke and felt the pressure of this awful load, I wept. And I wondered why God had permitted me to lead out into the roads that are so rough and so dangerous. Then I got out of my bed and got down and prayed. I asked God to tell me the right thing to do.

I believe that this letter is an answer to that prayer. If you doubt one single word or phrase in this letter, tear it up and forget it. But if you believe that this letter expresses the passion of my soul, the anguish of my heart - then I beg of you to read it again.

I don't know how much money you can send us. You might be able to give $100 or $50 or $20 or even $10 or $5 or $1. Whatever it is, it might be just your gift that would tip the scales.

Pride and vanity told me not to write this letter - but prayer, faith and humility told me that I could do nothing else. Will you please help me?

All I can offer you in return is fearless truth, spoken without compromise. Could I offer more?

Faithfully yours,

Gerald L. K. Smith

GERALD L. K. SMITH

GLKS/U

P. S. If you send in a contribution, please use the enclosed self-addressed envelope.

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice
Detroit - Michigan
August 20, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/22/82 BY SP8B3I/mk

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION
(62-43818)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated August 13, 1942, in which it was stated that the last weekly letter emanating from the Detroit Field Office transmitting information obtained from [redacted] was dated July 18, 1942. b7D

Please be advised that since July 18, 1942, a similar letter dated August 4, 1942, was sent to you. It is admitted, however, that such letters have not been sent out at regular weekly intervals.

Please be assured that in the future information obtained from [redacted] will be transmitted at regular weekly intervals as soon as contact with this informant is resumed. b7D

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas
JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

RECEIVED
51 AUG 27 1942

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-120
F D I
18 AUG 22 1942

FIVE

COPY IN FILE
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83 OCT 13 1964

July 26, 1942.

The Detroit Times of 7/23/42 carries a story about the Federal Grand Jury at Washington, D.C. issuing warrants or indictments against 28 individuals for sedition. Among these are listed Mrs. Elizabeth Dilling the author of the " Red Network".

During the early part of 1939 she was successful in inducing of the Ford Motor Co. to subsidize her. The writer does not know to just what extent but believes it was just about $200.00 per month. She visited at his office in the Ford Administration Bldg and in general made herself pretty much of a pest. She is a brilli woman but of late years has become embroiled in matrimonial difficul with her husband who is, or was, the Sanitary Engineer of Chicago. Her file on communist activities is considered to be the best in the United States, so good that certain branches of the government used for years. She has made the mistake of openly coming out against the Jews, they being in power have smeared her thru newspaper columnist like Winchell; at each smear she became angrier and went further out on the limb in attacking them.

Her offices became the scenes of surreptious visits by the investigators from the B'Nai Brith organisation and from the American Jewish committee. Investigators followed her with cameras trying to catch her meeting any shady characters. But Lizzie up to now has always been able to hold her own and Jewish attornies who hailed her into court once or twice learned to fear her bitter tongue.

is William Robert Lyman, Jr; formerly head of the National Workers League in Detroit. Lyman is a bitter foe of the Jewish race and a prolific peddler of anti-Jewish literature. Well educated, a lawyer by profession, Lyman has toured America and spoke against Jewish control of finance, movies, money lending, etc. He exhibits scars on his head which he claimed were put there by the blackjacks of Jewish thugs who broke up some of his meetings in the South.

Rev. Gerald B. Winrod of Wichita, Kansas and publisher of the " Defender" Early in 1942 he addressed several large meetings in a Pontiac Church which is the pasterate of the Rev. Marion who is an associate of Gerald L.K. Smith. Winrod is a man about 50 years of age, partly bald and dresses very well. Has soft eyes and when he turns these on an audience they have an almost hypnotic effect. He has published numerous books and pamphlet attacking the Jewish control of the New Deal and is a prolific write against the Communists and internationalists. He is a minister of national fame and his attacks on the Jews in the New Deal have had the effect of infuriating the Administration.

Court Asher is also listed among the indicted Asher was the publisher of the "X-Ray" and addressed at least one meeting of the National Workers League in Detroit. Asher was also a bitter enemy of the Jews and his paper was full of attack on them. He was formerly a reporter for the Detroit Free Press.

It is easily noticeable that most of the indicted have been prominen in anti-Jewish agitation and this writer is frankly of the opinion that this is the real reason for the indictments. In the indictments are listed subversive publications and organisations and it is notic able that the Daily Worker and Communist Party are not included. Apparently they are O.K. and are not respectable.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

EGF:MLC
Call: 3:05 p.m.
Dictated: 2:30 p.m., 8-20-42

August 19, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith;
Sedition

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

SA [redacted] of the Detroit Office reported that a technical surveillance, which is designated by the symbol [redacted] and has been under operation to cover Smith's telephone, was removed Monday, August 17, 1942 and will be inactive for approximately one week. This action was taken in view of the fact that subject Smith contacted the Detroit Office and rendered a complaint, indicating he believed his telephone line had been tapped. Agent [redacted] advised that this complaint arose due to the fact that a long distance operator failed to disconnect Smith's phone after the completion of a call, for which reason he was not able to use the phone for an extended period. Fearing that a further check might be made by regular telephone repairmen, Agent [redacted] considered it advisable to remove the Bureau's coverage until it is certain that there is no possibility of their tie-in being detected.

On this occasion, Agent [redacted] also advised that the Detroit Office will be compelled to move its central technical surveillance plant some time during the next week as they are required to vacate their quarters in the Guardian Trust Building which is being taken over by the Army. [redacted] promised to keep the Bureau fully advised as to the time such alterations take place.

Respectfully,

E. G. Fitch

E. G. Fitch

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FOR DEFENSE
BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

RECORDED
62-43818-122
B I
8 AUG 24 1942

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-4768

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA	8/25/42	8/24/42	[redacted]PK

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, a.k.a. Gerald L. K. Smith; The Committee of One Million	INTERNAL SECURITY SEDITION

b7c

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Examination of files seized from WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY'S residence, Indianapolis, Indiana, and from the Fellowship Press, Noblesville, Indiana, 4/4/42, discloses no correspondence between PELLEY and SMITH. PELLEY'S autobiography "The Door to Revelation" indicates SMITH was a member of the Silver Shirt Legion of America, Inc., for a short time in 1933. No documentary evidence of Silver Shirt membership available.

-RUC-

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, dated August 11, 1942.

b7c

DETAILS: At Indianapolis, Indiana:

It will be remembered that special agents of the Indianapolis Field Division seized considerable correspondence and other documents on search warrant April 4, 1942 at the home of WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY in Indianapolis, Indiana, and at the Fellowship Press, Inc., Noblesville, Indiana. This seizure has been reported on more fully in the case entitled "THE SILVER SHIRT LEGION OF AMERICA, INC.; WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY, wa; ET AL, INTERNAL SECURITY - G - SEDITION." An examination of the seized material mentioned above fails to disclose any correspondence between SMITH and PELLEY. However, most of the correspondence seized was subsequent to 1937. It will be remembered that PELLEY'S printing establishment was located in Asheville, North Carolina from about 1932 to 1940, and that on one or two

cc Berge 9-4-42

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: J M Foley SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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83 OCT 13 1964

occasions material at his plant was seized, perhaps by the sheriff or other official at Asheville. If there had been correspondence between PELLEY and SMITH prior to 1938, it may have been seized by some local official at Asheville. If there was any such correspondence between SMITH and PELLEY prior to 1938, the Charlotte Field Division might possibly have some knowledge of it.

In 1939 PELLEY copyrighted his autobiography under the title "The Door to Revelation", in which he mentions that he had quite a following beginning in 1928 or 1929 and mentions the connection between HITLER'S assuming the chancellorship of Germany, January 31, 1933, and Pelley's commencement of the organization of the Silver Shirt Legion. A few pages after mentioning this fact, he writes concerning GERALD L. K. SMITH. Beginning in Chapter 18, page 413, he states:

> "....The Silver Legion was forging ahead. One August day, while visiting my friend LOUIS McFADDEN in Washington, MARION HENDERSON sent me a telegram. A party of men were driving up to Asheville from Louisiana and urgently wished to see me. Notably among them was the Rev. GERALD K. SMITH, later to achieve notoriety as orator at the funeral of the murdered HUEY LONG...
>
> The Reverend GERALD SMITH was a big-bodied, dynamic young man, with a wife as dainty as his voice was bombastic. He was pastor of a church in Shreveport, I learned, but had read my writings and was moved to be a Silvershirt. He was the sort of pastor who walks bareheaded in rain and breathes deeply and with gusto. During a two-day visit at Headquarters, during which time he, and his wife, and his brother-in-law <u>all became Silvershirts</u>, he perpetually nursed a walking-stick.
>
> This hatless young man - with the pretty wife and the walking-stick - had been accompanied to Asheville by one "Major" LUTHER POWELL, a gaunt and bald-headed man in tortoise-shell spectacles, whom I later learned to have been engaged in Ku Klux Klan work in the far Northwest. What did these want? The Reverend GERALD proposed to give up his Shreveport church and with POWELL'S assistance organize the Mississippi Valley for the Silvershirts.
>
> It was their proposition. I sat and listened.
>
> My days were filled with negotiations in this

sort of thing. The Legion was growing so fast that I was increasingly desperate....desperate for capable and honest leaders to take charge and effect the discipline without which success would be abortive.

"Pay me a salary sufficient to keep my wife while I'm away," declaimed the Reverend GERALD, "and I'll resign from my church and start up the Mississippi Valley, publicizing Silvershirts to crowds on street corners. My idea is to recruit a cavalcade in Louisiana, to march through the country dressed in Silver Legion uniform, to sleep in the open and get this to the masses."

"Fair enough if you've got the nerve," I told him. He failed to impress me as a person of much ballast. Still, persons of his temperament have their places in this work. He could do little damage and not a little good. This I entered into contractual relations with the Reverend GERALD. He and POWELL were to organize Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri, and Iowa, for the Silver Legion.

Headquarters was strangely silent when the Reverend SMITH departed.

Presently came a night telegram, which MARION brought to my desk with a smile. She remarked, "Our minister Boy Friend is waxing dramatic." This night wire read--

> WE ARE STARTING. IF WE FAIL, PITY US. IF WE SUCCEED, REWARD US. IF WE FAIL, SLAY US.
> SMITH.

"Messy job, slaying him," I remarked to MARION. "Let's hope he succeeds." But from the moment of receiving that wire, I knew he would not succeed. I took my carbon of his contract from my desk. I said to Miss HENDERSON, "Put it away in our file of curios. We won't be needing it."

Sure enough, we didn't.

When I visited Shreveport a month or so later, I found from the boys there exactly what had happened.

The Reverend GERALD had intrigued a score of them to go with him on his journey. Getting up into Arkansas, he held a couple of meetings on street corners. Angry Jews began to buzz around him like hornets. Suddenly the Reverend GERALD appeared to decide it was nicer to inveigh against the country's despoilers from the safe altar rails of a Christian church.

He caught the first bus that came along, and left his earnest young crowd of Silvershirts to get back to Shreveport in any ways they could.

The next I heard of him, he was waving his arms all over Louisiana for Senator LONG and his Share-the-Wealth Clubs.

I did not slay him."

With reference to evidence of membership in the Silver Shirt Legion, it should be stated that during the investigation of the Silver Shirt organization at Asheville, North Carolina, in 1939, and the recent investigation at Noblesville and Indianapolis, Indiana, no documentary evidence of membership in the Silver Shirt Legion has been found. In fact, Mr. PELLEY had stated in 1939 that no such evidence was maintained.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

CC-285a

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[redacted]
62-43818-123
9/4/42
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Date:

To: ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL WENDELL BERGE

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, also known as:
Gerald L. K. Smith; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

There is inclosed herewith for your consideration a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] Indianapolis, Indiana, dated August 25, 1942, in the above entitled matter.

Inclosure

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
RECEIVED
SEP 4 9 22 AM '42

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
25 SEP 11 1942

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[redacted]

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FBI/DOJ

August 21, 1942

FJS:WMJ

67-49210-134

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith photostatic copies of reports of Bureau [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, dated as follows:

July 26, 1942.

These reports have been and are being obtained from a strictly confidential source and any inquiry made on the basis of the information contained therein should be made in an extremely discreet manner so that it will not in any way reveal the source of the information or the possible identity of the informant. The substance of this material should not be disclosed to any individual or organization outside of the Bureau.

You are instructed to give the contents of these reports consideration and to conduct the appropriate investigation in those instances where you feel the reported material or the reported material along with information already available to your office warrants the same.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 13
AUG 21 1942 P.M.
Enclosures
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 62-562 DD

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
ATLANTA, GEORGIA	8/29/42	8/12/42	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH	MISCELLANEOUS - Information Concerning

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted] has known subject since January, 1934, but has not been in communication with subject in past several years. [redacted] states subject definitely pro-German, also anti-Semitic, and has made statement "We need the same program here as HITLER has given Germany". The subject also declared to be anti-Semitic. [redacted] states, however, subject believed to be opportunist and would do almost anything if he could make money. b7c b7c

cc Berge
9-9-42 [redacted] b7c

- RUC -

62-[illegible]

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted], dated June 29, 1942 at New Orleans, Louisiana. b7c

Page 4 deleted

Letter from Detroit dated August 3, 194[illegible]

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DETAILS: AT FORT BENNING, GEORGIA.

[redacted] stated that the subject came to New Orleans in 1924 with one LODGE WILLIAMS, who was at that time President of a State Federation of Labor in the State of Louisiana and whose home was in Shreveport, Louisiana. He stated that no one paid any

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3 Detroit
2 New Orleans
2 Atlanta

AUG [illegible] 1942

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b7c

much attention to the subject when he was first introduced around among the administration leaders and workers of the late HUEY P. LONG, but in 1935 and the early part of the year LONG took the subject to Washington, D. C., and the subject was in Washington for about two months; that he, LONG, sent the subject back to Louisiana to make a state wide speaking tour on the "Share the Wealth Movement". [redacted] He stated that from September, 1935 to January, 1936, in all of the speaking engagements, that the subject made around the state, there was nothing subversive connected with his talks or his beliefs, so far as he, [redacted] could determine. b7c b7D

[redacted] stated that from July, 1936 to October, 1936 they were on a speaking tour, and that the subject had professed to go on a nation wide tour, but that most of their time was spent in Detroit and New York City, and that while in New York City he was to have met [redacted] but that he failed to do so. [redacted] stated that he believes that the subject actually wanted to meet [redacted] but that he was simply afraid to get mixed up in the Bund at that time, inasmuch as it was not then very strong. However, subject did not make the arrangements to meet [redacted] but that he, [redacted] had been unable to learn who actually made the arrangements, and that subject, upon learning of the same, refused to keep the engagement, and so far as he knows, subject never did meet [redacted] or any other Bund leaders while they were in New York. However, the subject did meet an Assistant German Consul then stationed in New York City, [redacted] but nothing occurred or was said which would in any way arouse his suspicion, and to the best of his recollection, this Assistant German Consul stated that he was ostracized in Germany. b7c b7D b7c b7D

[redacted]

[redacted] said that all of the subject's talks, or at least the main trend of his talks, was against Communism and that the subject attempted to get various industrialists and industrial groups to sponser and pay for his radio time, as well as himself. b7c & b7D

Subject, around 1933, according to [redacted] is supposed to have gone to North Carolina and met PELLEY, leader of the Silver Shirt, and PELLEY apparently sold the subject on that idea, because prior to the time that the subject

became associated with the program of the late HUEY P. LONG, he made various speeches that were very bitter and anti-Semitic, and he believes that is the real reason that the subject lost his position as Pastor at Shrevesport after he had made one of the speeches, and the congregation had learned of it. He stated that while he was with the subject in New York, PELLEY had attempted to call him several times, but that the subject refused to talk to PELLEY or meet him.

The only statements that [redacted] could recall which subject had made were that "We need the same program here as HITLER had given Germany" and also that "This country needs a strong man", and although he did not call HITLER'S name, it is believed that he meant HITLER.

[redacted] was questioned concerning organizations and associations that the subject was a member of, and he stated that the subject always made it a particular point never to join any kind of an organization whatsoever. He stated that he believes the subject is definitely pro-German, but that he is an opportunist and would do anything so far as making money, and that if he had an opportunity to make a great deal of money and that it was a program against Germany that he would take that way of doing it.

b7c
&
b7D

[redacted] advised the writer that [redacted] who resides at [redacted] was associated with the subject in 1940 and also accompanied the subject on a tour in 1941 and would probably have some valuable information to give concerning the subject's activities this past year. He stated that [redacted] is a loyal American and can be trusted, and would give any information which he had. A lead is, therefore, being set out to interview [redacted]

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

Atlanta, Georgia 62-562

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE NEW ORLEANS FIELD DIVISION, at New Orleans, Louisiana, will contact [redacted] and interview him relative to his associations with the subject in the past few years and with regard to any activities which evidence Nazi or pro-Nazi tendencies or sympathy. b7c

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

JKM:BK
62-43818 -126

September 14, 1942

RECORDED

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
Sedition

Dear Sir:

Confirming advice telephonically furnished you September 12, 1942 by Mr. J. K. Mumford of the Bureau, there are attached hereto copies of a memorandum dated September 2, 1942 from Commissioner Earl G. Harrison of the Immigration and Naturalization Service relative to [redacted] informant. There are also enclosed copies of the enclosure received with Mr. Harrison's memorandum and copies of my reply to him. b7c, b7D

The Bureau should be kept advised of developments in this matter and eventually of your opinion concerning reconsideration of the informant by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Coffey
Hendon
Kramer
McGuire
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Miss Gandy

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SEP 15 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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SEP 24 1942

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This case originated at Detroit, Michigan — File No. 62-1194

Report Made At	Date When Made	Period For Which Made	Report Made By
New Orleans, La.	8/28/42	7/27,30;8/3, 4,15,18,19/42	[redacted] [redacted] MAM

b7

Title	Character of Case
CHANGED GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, aka Gerald L.K. Smith, alias Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY SEDITION

Synopsis of Facts:

Informants advised SMITH was Chaplain for Louisiana Federation of Labor in 1933, when he joined Huey Long's Share Our Wealth Movement as paid organizer for salary of $650.00 per week, but cut off by Long in 1935 after Long received complaints of immoral conduct on part of SMITH. In 1935 SMITH withdrew $500,000 libel suit against Washington Herald, after Hearst lawyers reported to have discovered that SMITH's real name is SCHMIDT, and that he had hastily departed home town in Wisconsin [redacted] Informant states SMITH was once connected with Pelly's Silver Shirts, was radical and erratic and had intense hatred for President ROOSEVELT and Jews. San Antonio office obtained letter dated 7/8/33 signed GERALD L. K. SCHMIDT in which subject requested [redacted] of San Antonio to furnish information concerning conditions in Germany, and requested a code for getting in touch with "His Honor ADOLPH HITLER, or one of his representatives in America". Information regarding letters and pamphlets which SMITH left behind in Jung Hotel in 1936 set out.

b6

b7

ENCLOSURE

~~ENCLO. BEHIND FILE~~

EC Berge 9-9-42 [redacted] b7c

Pages 19, 20, 21 deleted

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K. A. Lawrence	62- 43818-127

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SEP 3 1942

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COPY IN FILE

REFERENCE: Bureau File No. 62-43818.

Reports of Special Agent [redacted], Detroit, Michigan, dated April 27, 1942 and July 22, 1942.

Letter from San Antonio dated July 28, 1942.

DETAILS: AT NEW ORLEANS, LA.

The title of this case is being changed in order to include the name GERALD L. K. SCHMIDT, which investigation has disclosed is probably subject's true and correct name.

In a memorandum for the file, dated June 30, 1942, Special Agent [redacted] advised that on May 18, 1942, [redacted] New Orleans Item Newspaper, made available the following information concerning the subject:

In an article copyrighted in 1935 by the North American Newspaper Alliance, Inc., it was disclosed that the subject's father, Z. S. SMITH, formerly had a medicine route at Viroqua, Wisconsin, at which place subject attended high school where he was made President of the Sophomore Class and a member of the Debate team. It was further revealed in this article that the subject while attending high school was a member of the track team and won the oratorical prize in the inter-school Oratorical School, his oration having been entitled "The Cross of Gold, by Byron". This article revealed that a notation in the school Year Book indicated subject possesses a "superabundance of wind and ego". It was further noted that it has been said at Viroqua, Wisconsin, that the subject's mother had stated, "GERALD was born to be a preacher". This article disclosed that the subject attended Butler University and then Valparaiso University in Indiana, having been graduated as a Minister in 1919. It also revealed that he has been pastor at the Soldiers' Grove Church, Viroqua, Wisconsin, Church of Christ, Footville, Wisconsin, King's Highway Church, Shreveport, Louisiana. This article disclosed that subject became active in civic affairs at Shreveport, Louisiana, and that he had broadcast on numerous occasions over the "Hello World" Station KWKH, owned and operated by W. K. HENDERSON. It further disclosed that SMITH was named representative of the U. S. Government at the Olympic Games in Californis in 1932; however, that he had over-stayed his leave there and that the Church Elders at the King's Highway Church, Shreveport, decided in June 1933 that because of SMITH's numerous absences he should resign as pastor. According to this article, SMITH refused, splitting with the Organization; however, in February, 1934 this article indicated the official body of the church requested his resignation. This article indicated that it was following his resignation at the above church that SMITH came out openly for Senator LONG.

[redacted] furnished Agent [redacted] with numerous newspaper clippings of articles carried in the New Orleans Item, and a review of these failed to disclose anything that might be of value to this investigation.

This memorandum by Agent [redacted] also advised that [redacted] at the Times-Picayune Paper, made available an article received from the "March of Time", 460 W. 54th St., New York City, entitled "REV. GERALD L. K. SMITH Seen as No. 1 U. S. Rabble Rouser". This article revealed that GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH was born at Pardeeville, Wisconsin on February 27, 1898, and that his father was a Republican and also was an elder and later preacher in the Christian Church at Viroqua, Wisconsin. Further, that his father presently resides at Marshall, Texas, where he is pastor of the First Christian Church. This article disclosed that at Viroqua, Wisconsin SMITH is remembered as a studious youth and track star, and a star debater on the high school team. Further, that he was graduated from high school at Viroqua, Wisconsin, in 1915. The article also indicated that he studied at Butler Theological Seminary at Indianapolis, Indiana, and later received an AB Degree at Valparaiso University in Indiana. The article revealed that his first pasterate was at Footville, Wisconsin, and that he later was pastor at the 7th Street Christian Church, Indianapolis, University Place Church, Butler University, Indiana, and King's Highway Christian Church, Shreveport, Louisiana. It also disclosed that SMITH was married at 24 years of age to Miss ELEANOR SORENSON and that they have one son, namely, GERALD. SMITH is described in this article as "6 feet tall, 200 pounds, jovial, friendly, does not drink or smoke. He flatly denies connection with the clan in Indiana of the Silver Shirts".

The memorandum also stated that [redacted], New Orleans, La., made available [redacted] of February 25, 1937 concerning REV. GERALD L. K. SMITH, which revealed his present address as New York City and his former addresses as Bienville Hotel, New Orleans; Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Washington, D. C.; and Shreveport, Louisiana. This report disclosed that SMITH is an ordained protestant minister; that he was affiliated with SENATOR HUEY P. LONG in his "Share Our Wealth Club", for which SMITH acted as National Supervisor. The report further indicated that SMITH is not a property holder and that his source of income is not exactly known. It further revealed that Shreveport, Louisiana, was, at the date of the report, considered his home.

On July 27, 1942, [redacted] advised that he had known GERALD L. K. SMITH only casually while SMITH was in Louisiana. He stated that SMITH was Pastor of the Christian Church at Shreveport, Louisiana, and later became affiliated with Huey P. Long's Share Our Wealth Society as an organizer. Informant stated that he did not know much about SMITH's activities and had no dealings with him either business or social, but that SMITH impressed him as an insincere person, who liked to ride the band wagon.

[redacted]

[redacted] advised that at the time he was unable to understand the motive for [redacted] visit until he received a letter dated July 14, from GERALD L. K. SMITH, in which SMITH stated, "I am anxious for you to know my good friend [redacted] of Baton Rouge. I think that he is a valuable friend to have. Some time ago I saw him and asked him to hunt up [redacted] that I might want to ask [redacted] to help me with my campaign for the U. S. Senate, which looks exceedingly good right now. He was unable to locate [redacted] so I told him undoubtedly you could give him [redacted] telephone number or direct him to [redacted]s place of work."

Informant advised that he was very much surprised to receive this letter from SMITH and believed that the primary purpose of the letter was to introduce [redacted] to him. [redacted]

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On July 28, 1942, [redacted] advised that he first met GERALD L. K. SMITH in 1933 at the Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans. He stated that at that time HUEY LONG was in New Orleans, preparing for a Senate hearing concerning the proposed appointment of D. D. MOORE as Collector of Internal Revenue for Louisiana. He stated that LONG opposed MOORE's appointment because MOORE had come to Louisiana as a strike breaker and later became editor of the Times Picayune Newspaper in New Orleans. He explained that on the evening before LONG was to leave for Washington, SMITH came to LONG's room in the Roosevelt Hotel, and introduced himself as the Pastor of the Christian Church in Shreveport, Louisiana, and as Chaplain for the Louisiana Federation of Labor, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. SMITH told LONG that he was opposed to MOORE's appointment and after some discussion LONG invited SMITH to accompany him to Washington. SMITH stated that he had no clothing with him to take along, but after he discovered that he could wear HUEY's clothes, he accompanied LONG to Washington for the hearing. At the conclusion of the hearing, SMITH remained in Washington for two months spending most of his time in the Senate gallery watching and studying HUEY LONG until he was able to mimic LONG almost to perfection. Informant advised that SMITH then returned to Louisiana, taking most of LONG's clothing with him.

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Informant stated that soon after SMITH returned to Louisiana, [redacted] notified LONG that SMITH had lost his position as Pastor of the

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Shreveport Church and claimed that it was because of his association with LONG, toward whom the wealthy members of SMITH's congregation had an antipathy. He advised that HUEY told [redacted] that if that was the reason SMITH lost his Church, that he should give him a job as an organizer for the Share Our Wealth Movement. He stated that SMITH was then hired at a salary of $650.00 a week, and made a tour through Georgia, South Carolina, and other South-eastern states, organizing Share Our Wealth Clubs as he went. Informant produced Western Union money order payments, each in the amount of $650.00, dated March 28, 1935, April 9, April 18, April 29, May 7, May 22, and May 28. He explained that SMITH was supposed to pay his own expenses out of this salary, but that every place he went, he left behind a flock of unpaid bills, and at one time left [redacted] stranded with the sound truck, in Montgomery, Alabama. b7c

Informant further advised that SMITH soon commenced leaving his organization tour and coming to Washington, in order to observe what was going on. He stated that one day in 1934, SMITH emerged from HUEY's room in the Mayflower Hotel, and a newspaper photographer snapped a picture of him as he came out. This picture was then published in the Washington Herald newspaper under the caption "One of Huey's Bodyguards Who Goes By the Name of GERALD". [redacted] stated that SMITH immediately filed suit against the Washington Herald and either ELEANOR PATTERSON or WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST for $500,000, claiming that the article libeled and slandered him. [redacted] that one time when SMITH was in Washington, LONG entered the stenographers' office and heard SMITH making a speech to LONG's forty-eight girl stenographers, during the course of which SMITH was pacing back and forth, waving his arms and loudly extolling the virtues of Nudity. SMITH was saying that the only way to be comfortable was to take off all your clothes as soon as you got home. [redacted] advised that LONG stopped SMITH, calling him into his private office, and lectured him severely as a result of this incident. He stated that SMITH was completely subservient and would do everything that LONG told him to do, as long as HUEY was personally present, to watch him, but that when out of HUEY's presence he got out of bounds and did and said many thing which LONG could not and would not stand for. b7c

[redacted] stated that in the spring of 1935 LONG had an engagement to address the Michigan State Legislature, but was unable to go and sent SMITH in his place. He stated that late that night LONG received a telephone message from the Manager of the Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, who informed LONG that SMITH had just been put out of the hotel after creating a disturbance in his room, and the hotel detectives who investigated found that SMITH was [redacted] b7c

[redacted] that after these occurrences LONG decided to get rid of SMITH, but was afraid to discharge him outright, because he considered that SMITH was too dangerous, and would sell out to the opposition. He stated that LONG decided to give SMITH the "slow death" treatment, and began to reduce his salary gradually until the summer of 1935, when he was cut off completely; however, [redacted] stated that either Gov. O. K. ALLEN or [redacted] continued to pay SMITH a salary, and he remained on the organization payroll up to the time of Long's death. b7c

[redacted] that late in the summer of 1935 SMITH went to Washington to see his lawyers about his libel suit against the Washington Herald. [redacted] SMITH answered that he had withdrawn his case and made a deal with WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST to the effect that if SMITH would drop his lawsuit HEARST would commence giving LONG favorable publicity in his newspaper instead of fighting him as in the past. [redacted] that the reason that SMITH withdrew his lawsuit was that Hearst's lawyers called SMITH to Washington and told him that Hearst had spent considerable money in checking up on him and invited him to look at the file before deciding whether he wanted to continue the suit or not. Informant stated that he was told that Hearst's investigation had disclosed that SMITH was born in Wisconsin and that his real name was SCHMIDT. While SMITH's parents were reputable people, [redacted], and [redacted]. Informant stated that when SMITH found out about that, he skipped town and disappeared for several years, then he showed up again as GERALD L. K. SMITH as a Theological student in Indiana. [redacted] Informant stated that SMITH then married this woman and she is his present wife.

Informant advised that the investigation which Hearst had sponsored disclosed that after graduating from college, SMITH moved to Indianapolis, Indiana, and was ordained as a Minister of the Christian Congregation, which denomination has its headquarters in Indianapolis. SMITH then conceived the idea that the Christian Church should erect a tremendous Cathedral in Indiana, and he commenced a building fund, hoping that he would be made the Pastor of this large Church. [redacted] When the Board of Stewards went to SMITH's home to see him relative to this matter, they discovered that the house was empty and that SMITH and family had hastily departed for parts unknown. Informant advised that SMITH next showed up several years later as Pastor of the Christian Church at Shreveport, Louisiana. He stated that a short while later officials of the Church in Shreveport learned of SMITH's activities while Pastor of the Church in Indianapolis and confronted him with the matter, but finally decided to let him stay in order to avoid publicity, and after SMITH faithfully promised that it would never happen again. Informant stated that he discovered that the real reason SMITH later lost his congregation in Shreveport, was not because of his connection with HUEY LONG, but was because of SMITH's poor credit rating and sharp practices in Shreveport.

He stated that on one occasion SMITH contacted several jewelry stores in Shreveport, and asked them to send a large quantity of jewelry to his wife on approval. He stated that SMITH then kept all of this jewelry and refused to pay for any of the jewelry, that his credit rating got so bad that the Church was forced to discharge him. Informant advised that JOHN D. EWING, Editor of the Shreveport Times, and member of the Board of Stewards of the Kingshighway Christian Church at Shreveport, could furnish all of the details in this regard.

[redacted] that after HUEY's death in September, 1935, SMITH was invited by [redacted] one of Long's Lieutenant's, to deliver the funeral oration over Long's grave. [redacted] b7 b7

[redacted] stated that as a matter of fact, SMITH was not present at the time of LONG's death. He stated that after delivering LONG's funeral oration, which was plagiarized from the Oration of Robert Ingersol over his Brother's bed, SMITH had copies of the oration printed and distributed in an effort to capitalize on the incident.

[redacted] of the Share Our Wealth Movement, SMITH then began to cultivate Mrs. HUEY P. LONG and on February 7, 1936, sent her a telegram in which he stated, "I assure you that I now recognize you as the head of Share Our Wealth Society". b7D

[redacted] that two weeks after LONG's death, in October, 1935, SMITH went to New York City and while there was ejected from the Hotel New Yorker [redacted] but was prevented by the elevator starter. He stated that SMITH made such a scene and created such a disturbance that the Manager was forced to put him out. SMITH then attended Grass Root Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, and while there made a speech against President Roosevelt, and the Administration. He was staying at the Ansley Hotel in Atlanta, and was also ejected from that hotel and the Management found him [redacted] Informant advised that [redacted] of the Ansley Hotel, furnished him this information. b7D b7

Informant stated that after LONG's death, he did not see much of SMITH. He advised that SMITH remained in Louisiana, for a while, and returned for several political campaigns, but that SMITH was associated with

DR. FRANCIS THOMPSON, Father COUGHLIN, and WILLIAM LEMKE during the 1936 Presidential election; then SMITH went to Detroit and organized the committee of One Million. He stated that he understood that SMITH's principal was that Hitler became powerful because he was an up and coming young man in Germany, and the Jews who controlled the finances furnished the money to promote him to the position of dictator; that Hitler knit the labor group into a solid mass behind him, and after he became dictator purged the Jews who had financed his rise so that they could not undermine him. SMITH next reasoned that FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT had the support of the C.I.O. and the A.F. of L., which gave him the united labor vote and that Wall Street, predominantly Jewish, supplied him with the bulk of his funds, and that the next and final step was for ROOSEVELT to make himself dictator.

[redacted] that he believed that SMITH had been associated with Pelly's Silver Shirts before he came to Louisiana. He stated that SMITH once mentioned wearing a Silver-gray short and emblem and walking the highway selling memberships for the Silver Shirts. He stated that H. DON DEVOL, 922 Hamilton Street, Washington, D. C., who was Assistant Secretary to HUEY P. LONG, had spent considerable time conversing with SMITH and knew much more about his background and activities than he did. Informant stated that SMITH was always radical and erratic in all that he did, and that he bore an intense hatred for President ROOSEVELT. He stated that this hatred was so intense that SMITH was almost fanatical on the subject, but that he had never been able to discover the real reason for it. He stated that he had never heard SMITH say anything and had never received any indication of any Fascist sympathies held by SMITH during the time that he knew the man.

He stated that SMITH also seemed to hate the International Bankers and the Jews, whom he accused of backing ROOSEVELT. He described SMITH as a very dangerous and radical rabble-rouser.

On July 28, 1942 [redacted] was interviewed in his office at the Roosevelt Hotel. He stated that he first met GERALD L. K. SMITH about 1928, or 1929, when SMITH came to Shreveport, Louisiana, as Pastor of the Christian Church. He stated that SMITH was very active in civic affairs, and helped in the Community Chest Program, but about 1932 he quietly started to organize a local Chapter of the Silver Shirt Legion of American, the purpose being to persecute and prosecute the Jews. He stated that SMITH was Agent for Pelley's Silver Shirts for the state of Louisiana, from 1932 to 1934. He advised that [redacted] and sent for SMITH and told him exactly what he thought of SMITH's efforts to organize the Silver Shirts. [redacted] stated that about 1933 or 1934 HUEY LONG asked [redacted] to invite SMITH to address a Labor Rally that was being held in New Orleans. He stated that SMITH made a stump speech on a platform that was erected on the corner of Canal and Claiborne Street, and clearly demonstrated that he was a very dangerous and very effective rabble-rouser. He advised that a year or so later SMITH lost his Church in Shreveport and was employed by LONG as an organizer for the Share Our Wealth Society. He stated that SMITH was completely subservient, and was used by LONG almost in the capacity of errand boy at times. He stated that after LONG's death, SMITH

left Louisiana almost at once and went to Washington to attempt to get control of the Share Our Wealth Society. He stated that he asked SMITH to deliver LONG's burial oration, and that SMITH plagiarized the oration and had copies printed and then capitalized on the event, by saying that it was evident that he was HUEY's closest and most trusted friend.

[redacted] stated that SMITH returned to Louisiana in 1936 and again in 1940, during the Gubernatorial campaign. He stated that in 1936 SMITH was arrested at the Jung Hotel, for creating a disturbance. He stated that SMITH was also thrown out of the New Yorker Hotel [redacted]. He stated that [redacted] of the New Yorker Hotel had furnished him with that information.

[redacted] described SMITH as completely immoral, unscrupulous, a rabble-rouser who would make a speech on any side of any question, as long as he was paid for it. He stated that SMITH was strongly anti-semitic, and anti-Roosevelt when he was in Louisiana, but that he did not display any pro-Fascist tendencies at that time. [redacted] that in addition to [redacted] could also furnish considerable information concerning SMITH's activities in that vicinity.

[redacted] of the New Orleans Times Picayune, advised that he knew nothing concrete or specific with reference to any subversive or Fascist leanings on the part of GERALD L. K. SMITH. He stated that in general he considered SMITH to be a radical rabble-rouser who is opposed to all forms of constituted authority, is un-principled and would do anything for money. He advised that once at a speech during a political campaign in Louisiana, SMITH rolled up his sleeves and dipped his arms in a large bowl of Claret wine, raised his arms over his head and cried "This is the blood of that great Martyr, Ex-Senator HUEY P. LONG". b7c b7d

[redacted] advised that the files of his office did not contain any information concerning GERALD L. K. SMITH. b7c

[redacted] Record Room, New Orleans Police Department, advised that there was no record of any arrest of GERALD L. K. SMITH, either in the files of his office or on the First Precinct arrest record.

[redacted] Detective Bureau, New Orleans Police Department, advised that he recalled for certain that GERALD SMITH was arrested at the Jung Hotel in October, 1936, and was placed in jail at the First Precinct, and was later fined $10.00 by Judge ROSE in Reporters Court. b7c b7d

[redacted] Reporters Court, produced volume 5 trial docket and minute record of night court, which on page 40-41, docket No. 28346, disclosed that GERALD SMITH, PRESTON DELCAZAL, HENRY GRUNDMEYER, HERMAN GRUNDMEYER, and GODFREY McNEELY were arrested by Captain

MALONE and others on November 5, 1936 and charged with disturbing the peace, reviling the police, and using obscene language. On the same date, all five defendants were fined $10.00 or 10 days, sentence suspended by Judge ROSE.

[redacted] for the New Orleans Police Department and in October, 1936 GERALD L. K. SMITH came to New Orleans for the purpose of making a political speech. SMITH had no permit to make the speech, but gave it anyway. It was understood that SMITH was going to attack the City Administration during the course of the speech and [redacted] received orders to take six detectives and mingle in the crowd to watch and listen. He stated that he was ordered not to break up the speech but to wait until the meeting was over, when he was to search SMITH and the latter's bodyguards, who were all reported to be armed. In the event these men were found to be carrying arms, they were to be booked for carrying concealed weapons.

[redacted] stated that at the conclusion of the meeting these men were searched but no weapons were found. He stated that he reported this to his superior and was ordered to arrest the men any way, and book them for disturbing the peace. He stated that he then proceeded to SMITH's room at the Jung Hotel, and overheard SMITH and the other men with him talking rather loudly and laughing about putting one over on the City Police. He stated that he then entered the room and told the men that he was placing them under arrest for disturbing the peace, and that they laughed and joked about the entire matter. He stated that these men were then taken to the First Precinct Police Station, and later the same night were taken before Judge ROSE at the Night Court, where all five men entered pleas of guilty, and were fined $10.00, sentence being suspended.

On August 18, 1942 [redacted] New Orleans Harbor Police, advised that he had heard GERALD L. K. SMITH address a labor group about 1934, at the corner of Canal & Claiborne Streets. He stated that SMITH was introduced as Chaplain of the Louisiana Federation of Labor, that the meeting was sponsored by the Central Trades & Labor Council. He stated that the meeting was a protest being made by the labor group against the appointment of D. D. MOORE as Collector of Internal Revenue. He stated that SMITH made a rip-roaring stump speech and so impressed HUEY P. LONG, who happened to hear the speech over the radio, that he lined SMITH up immediately with him in the Share Our Wealth Movement.

[redacted] of the Central Trades and Labor Council, American Federation of Labor in 1933 and 1934. He stated that in 1934 an organization meeting was held by the Labor group at Canal and Claiborne Streets, New Orleans. He stated that at that time GERALD L. K. SMITH was Chaplain of the Shreveport Federation of Labor, and that CECIL PARKER of Shreveport, who was then President of the Louisiana Federation of Labor, brought SMITH to New Orleans to address the gathering. [redacted] stated that HUEY P. LONG heard SMITH give his address and LONG immediately rushed from his room at the Roosevelt Hotel and

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met SMITH on the platform at the conclusion of his address, and immediately lined him up with his own organization. [redacted] stated at that time SMITH appeared to be "a lean and hungry cassius". b7c b7D

In reference letter the San Antonio Field Division advised that on May 27, 1942, a search was made of the residence of [redacted] San Antonio, Texas, as a result of a waiver of search having been executed by [redacted] Contained in the files of [redacted] was found the following letter upon the letterhead of the Kingshighway Christian Church, Shreveport, Louisiana, dated July 8, 1933, addressed to [redacted] b7c

"Dear Sir:

"I write to you concerning a very confidential matter based on the confidence that some of my friends have in you.

"I am anxious to get in touch with His Honor ADOLF HITLER, but, knowing you are recently removed from Germany before doing so, I desire your opinion of conditions in that country. They look good to me. Can you give me a code for getting in touch with Herr HITLER or one of his representatives in America?

"The Semitic Propaganda in America is growing more serious every day. I enclose herewith a bulletin that was put out on the streets of our city today as a result of an attempt on the part of a Jew to take hundreds of homes away from the people. I am convinced that the Jews are trying to rob American people just as they attempted to do in Germany. I am further convinced that in the future, Germany and America will be closer together than any two nations in the world.

"You will be interested to know that my grandfather was Herr SCHMIDT and that I was reared in the state of Wisconsin. You may feel free to write me directly or through anyone of your friends in Shreveport. Surely there must be an organization now existing in America to overcome the anti-German propaganda being promoted by the Jews. Please enlighten me.

"I am thoroughly convinced that your theory of Free Economy which is approved by Professor FISHER of Yale University, who was a disciple of GYSELL, the great German economist, is indeed the way out. There are some matters which I desire to discuss with you at the earliest possibly day which I cannot put in writing. Please answer me at once. Guten tag,

"GERALD L. K. SCHMIDT

"P.S. I am inclined to believe that if we can get together, I will have no difficulty in popularizing your pamphlet on Free Economy with the readers. "

This letter was removed from the files of [redacted] and is being retained in the files of the San Antonio Field Division in the case entitled [redacted] San Antonio File [redacted] b7c

This letter was answered by [redacted] in a letter dated July 11, 1933, addressed to Reverend GERALD L. K. SCHMIDT at Shreveport, Louisiana, in which [redacted] furnished Reverend SMITH with the address of ADOLPH HITLER and DR. GOEBBELS. In the letter [redacted] stated, "It is possible that the New York Nazi Movement is in touch with all American movements of their own nature. They could be reached by means of the New York Staatsbuergor Zeitung." A carbon copy of this letter of July 11, 1933 is also being retained in the files of the San Antonio Field Division in the case of [redacted] b7c

Referenced letter stated that both of these letters were recovered and were appropriately marked for identification by Special Agent [redacted] of the San Antonio Field Division. b7c

[redacted] advised that GERALD L. K. SMITH stayed at the Jung Hotel for several days in October, 1936, and that at the conclusion of his stay he left behind a large cardboard carton, which [redacted] stated contained a large number of letters, pamphlets, and other documents, as well as some articles of clothing. [redacted] stated that most of the letters dealt with a number of speaking engagements throughout the country, which was during the time that SMITH was travelling with DR. FRANCIS E. TOWNSEND and speaking on the Townsend Old Age Pension Plan. b7

In a letter dated June 23, 1936, [redacted] Los Angeles, California, informed SMITH of the unabated efforts on the part of [redacted] in his advocacy of the principles annunciated by the late Senator HUEY P. LONG, and asking SMITH to express a word of appreciation for the unselfish devotion to a good cause manifested by this man. b7c

In a letter dated July 25, 1936, written by [redacted] Publishers of Plaintalk Magazine, 1003 K Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. to [redacted] Warwick Hotel, New York City, [redacted] asks "can't GERALD SMITH dictate to Queen Elizabeth Sunday the Louisiana blackmail story, so I can use it in September, and help along my plea to [redacted] to put GERALD on the air in September? I'll fix it up with her for her trouble - - maybe giving SEN THOMAS a real break in PT." b7

[redacted] stated that on June 24, 1936, [redacted] U. S. Anti-Communist League, P. O. Box 21, Shreveport, Louisiana, advised SMITH that he was organizing an anti-Communist Legion and that WILLIAM DUDLEY KELLY had no connection with the movement whatsoever. He requested SMITH to affiliate with them as a member of their General Staff. In a letter dated June 20, 1936 [redacted] b7 b

[redacted] He stated that he had concentrated for the last year and a half on the purpose of censorship on the radio, and other intolerable radio wrongs already existing in Southern California. He attached a copy captioned "Extracts From Report of George H. Hill, Examiner for the Federal Communications Commission" and stated that for the past year and one-half he had been carrying on a fight to obtain a voice on the air for the Liberals of Southern Californis. [redacted] predicts that SMITH and all Townsend's speakers would be bared from the radio and deprived of use of the mail, and urges SMITH to cooperate with him and some of his clients in establishing a super power radio station just outside of the confines of the United States, stating: b7c

> "We have been working on this matter now for more than six months, we have chosen a site, have been assured our permit, and have the official assurance of the continued exercise of that freedom of speech which we are entitled to in the United States but are not receiving.
>
> "I shall not go into more details here. The importance of this matter warrants a personal interview here in Los Angeles with someone from your organization authorized to act.
>
> "I strongly urge you to designate someone in your organization to take this matter up with me and to do something about it while you still have the finances and the organization. This station will be an anchor to windward for you if and when your movement becomes threatening enough to cause entrenched greed to take the extreme measures against you which I have mentioned. You think you have been persecuted but 'you ain't seen nothing yet'."

[redacted] stated that SMITH also received a letter dated June 7, 1936, on the letterhead of the National Press Club, Washington, D.C., signed [redacted] In this letter [redacted] discussed the Philadelphia Convention and referred to President ROOSEVELT as "the grinning snake Charmer Lord Franklin", and as the "Happy Borrower who soon will be turned outwith all the rest of the snake oil venders." b7 b7

In a letter dated June 25, 1936 [redacted] Share Our Wealth Society of America, Merrillan, Wisconsin, refers to "Emperor Farley's rotten Roman Raw Deal", and states that "Mr. Roosevelt sold the free citizens of the United States to a Paper program". b7

On September 8, 1936 [redacted] Radio Legion of America, 731 North Highland Avenue, Hollywood, California, stated that Radio Legion reports the organized protest of all liberals and progressives against the intolerable radio conditions existing in the United States, whereby the right b7

of Free Speech is being nullified, and enclosed a copy of an address Specially prepared for use on the Radio by Mr. GERALD L. K. SMITH, and furnished by Radio Legion of America in the form prepared by its attorney Mr. LAWRENCE W. ALLEN, 1731 Highland Avenue, Hollywood. This speech was titled "New Deal Is Opposed to Free Speech".

[redacted] stated that among SMITH's belongings which he left at the Jung Hotel were also copies of two letters addressed to SMITH, dated October 9, 1936, signed by [redacted] Marietta Street Building, Atlanta, Georgia. In the first of these letters [redacted] refers to the proposed incorporation of a political Society with the incorporators by Smith, [redacted] It was proposed that this corporation be incorporated in the State of Delaware, but the name of the corporation is not mentioned. The Corporation Trust Company is mentioned as the Agent to complete the corporation in Wilmington, Delaware. In a postscript to this letter [redacted] stated that he had just read an article in the October 2 issue of Jewish Examiner, describing SMITH as the Hitler of America. [redacted] tells SMITH to "get a copy and accept the challenge. It looks like the Jews are going to force you to become anti-Semitic." In a second letter dated October 9, 1936, [redacted] attaches a copy of a letter written by him in response to an article appearing in the Jewish Examiner. He states that he is not mailing the original to [redacted] or the copies to [redacted] or [redacted] and would not send the letters until SMITH OK'd them. The attached letter was addressed to [redacted] Jewish Examiner, 186 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, New York, and reads as follows:

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"I have read the article of Dr. Birkhead appearing in the October 2nd issue of your publication in which he describes Gerald L. K. Smith as anti-Semitic and possessed of ambitions against the Jews similar to those of Hitler.

"I personally know that Gerald Smith is not anti-Semitic. [redacted] New York City, who without question is a Jew and [redacted] one of my associates whose father maintains an office at 29 Broadway, New York City, and who also without question is a Jew can confirm this statement that Gerald Smith is not anti-Semitic. [redacted] of New Orleans can also confirm the statement. They know that I have no prejudice against Jews or any other race or religion. I am the son of a Baptist Preacher, attended a Catholic Academy, was in the office of General Counsel for the Ku Klux Klan and voted for Alfred E. Smith.

b7c

"However, the Jews are guilty of so much rascality in banking circles that an anti-Semitic movement would be very popular. You have annoyed Gerald Smith all over America with your fears that he would use his great powers against your race. One reason that you have been chased from country to country during every generation since the crucifixion of Jesus is your fear. I do not know whether that fear comes from a guilty

conscience or from lack of intestinal fortitude, but I do know that your offensive attacks against any leader who tries to throw off the yoke of slavery from the people by liberalizing them is sufficient to disgust such leader with the entire Jewish race. Your attacks on Gerald Smith which are without foundation or reason, are likely to operate as a boomerang to your race.

"Unless your paper writes an apology in the next issue to your unwarranted assailment of Gerald Smith, you have my definite assurance that I shall prevail upon him to accept the challenge which you have thrust upon him. I am sending copies of this letter to his and my mutual friends whose names are mentioned above. Knowing of my sincerity as they do, they will understand this letter. If you Jews as a minority of our citizenry desire to enjoy the freedom which you now have, my suggestion would be that you not antagonize the leaders of the majority. You are precipitating considerable trouble for yourselves.

"Ever since Jesus was crucified for kicking the money changers out of the temple for purely economic reasons to prevent the usurious practices of that day and to liberate the poor, Gentiles have endeavored to live in peace and harmony with you, but every time an effort has been made to rout the money changers, you consider it an attack upon your entire race. So long as such a position is assumed you need never hope for permanent security in any country. If the Jewish money changers will turn the coinage of money back to the Congress of the United States in accordance with the provisions of our Constitution, I do not believe you will hear any utterances from Gerald Smith, Father Coughlin or anyone else mentioning a Wall Street Jewish name. You must remember what Rothschild, a Jew, said about giving him the right to coin the money and he did not care who was in charge of the government.

"If your race really wants to start an anti-Semitic movement, as is indicated in your publication of October 2nd, I believe you are on the road toward that end. Remember that ninety two per cent of the American families have an average worth of only about $3,26 and there are very few Jewish families in that category."

[redacted] stated that there were many other letters that SMITH left at the Jung Hotel, most of which dealt with the political situation, in Louisiana, after Long's death, the Townsend Old Age Pension Plan, Activities of the Union Party During the 1936 Presidential Campaign, etc. This information is not being set out in detail, inasmuch as it is not believed to be of any value, in this investigation; however, all of the above letters referred to were furnished to the writer by [redacted] and are being retained in the New Orleans file in this case for possible future reference. b7D

[redacted] that a number of newspaper clippings magazine articles were contained in the box which SMITH left at the Jung Hotel. Among these articles were the following: b7D

A booklet entitled "E. Pluribus Unum, a Story of Today and of Today's Tomorrow", published by the Patriot publishing Co., Los Angeles.

A pamphlet entitled, "Who Wants War, The Inside Story of the Ethiopian Affair", published by the Edmondson Service, 84 Washington Street, New York City.

A pamphlet entitled "Toward Armagedden by the Squire of Cruna Elbow", published by the Militant Christian Association, Charleston, S. C.

A mimeographed copy of an address of Rev. Gerald L. K. Smith, delivered before the National Press Club, Washington, D. C. on Friday, August 7, 1936.

Two typewritten copies entitled "Excerpts From An Address Delivered by Gerald L. K. Smith, Tomlinson Headquarters, Indianapolis, Indiana, September 26, 1936".

Several printed copies of the Funeral Oration delivered over the Grave of Huey Pierce Long, by Gerald L.K. Smith, September 12, 1935.

A series of pamphlets published by the National Civic Federation, written by RALPH N. EASLEY, entitled "Red Methodist Church of Red Incubus", "U. S. Department of Justice Powerless to Deal with Communist Activities", "Labor Day Problems of 1936 - What is the Way Out","Moscow's Sabotage Agencies Unmasked".

Three pamphlets of the Little Buffalo series, entitled, "Making Money Safe for Prosperity - Figuring the Townsend Plan", "Three Plans In One", and "Re-invigorating Confidence.".

A typewritten copy of a lengthy manuscript entitled "Report to Mr. Sykes July 17, 1936 - Re U. M. W. of A."

A typewritten manuscript which is taken from the Fellowship Form of 1065 Wisconsin Avenue, Washington, D. C., under the date October, 1935, entitled "Roman Catholic Murders U. S. Senator Huey P. Long of Louisiana. Down with Romanism should be our Slogan in America."

A series of pamphlets entitled, "American Coalition," published by Industrial Associaties, 154 Nassau Street, New York City, entitled -

"Invitation"
"A Call to Arms"
"How to Help"
"Tentative Platform"
"Nominations"
"Membership"
"Clergymen of America"
"Editors of America"
"Voters of America"
"Eternity".

The October, 1936 issue of Current History, containing Biography Sketches of Father Coughlin, William Lumke, Rev. Gerald L.K. Smith (pages 82-86), Dr. Townsend, Norman Thomas, and Earl Browder, in an article entitled "That Third Party" by HUBERT HARRIS.

September 29, 1936 issue of New Masses, underlined on pages 11 and 12, where the name of GERALD L. K. SMITH is mentioned.

The October 25, 1936 issue of New Masses underlined on page 6 in an article called "The Coughlin Convention".

The August 22, 1936 issue of The Nation, which contains an article concerning SMITH on page 213.

September, 1936 issue of Common Sense, which contains an article concerning SMITH on Page 10.

The July 25, 1936 issue of The Nation, containing an article entitled "Huey Long, the Second - Interview with GERALD L. K. SMITH", by Gerold Frank.

A page torn from the Literary Digest dated August 1, 1936, containing an article entitled "Four Preachers in Political America".

The above magazines were also furnished to the writer by [redacted] and are being retained in the New Orleans File in this case. b7D

On February 14, 1942, [redacted] New Orleans, called at this office and furnished Special Agent [redacted] with a number of newspaper clippings of apparently anti-British substance, which she stated had been given to her by [redacted] a boarder at the same address. [redacted] stated that [redacted] b7D & b7D

was receiving considerable literature from GERALD L. K. SMITH and also produced a page of what appears to be one of SMITH's "inner circle messages".

On August 2, 1942, [redacted] and during that time [redacted] received considerable literature and correspondence from GERALD L. K. SMITH and the Committee of One Million. [redacted] stated that [redacted] attempted to get the people in the house to take this literature and read it. She furnished the writer a letter entitled "Message For Inner Circle Only," dated at Detroit, Michigan, March 28, 1942, signed GERALD L. K. SMITH, and an "Inner Circle" message dated May 8, 1942. These items are also being retained in the New Orleans file of this case. [redacted] stated that [redacted] was constantly criticizing President ROOSEVELT and Prime Minister CHURCHILL, and she appeared to be purely in sympathy with SMITH and his ideas. [redacted] advised that on August 4, 1942, [redacted] moved to Jackson, Michigan, where she is now living at [redacted] She stated that [redacted] She further stated that when [redacted] left New Orleans she left behind two small suitcases and a cardboard box, which she stated contained some of subject's clothes, and personal effects, but which she was positive did not contain any more literature or correspondence which [redacted] may have received from GERALD L. K. SMITH.

On August 15, 1940, [redacted] an employee of Jordan & Booth, Inc., a men's clothing store in Shreveport, Louisiana, advised Special Agent [redacted] that in about 1935 or 1936, Reverand GERALD L. K. SMITH came into this store, accompanied by a man whom he described as an organizer for the "Silver Shirts", at which time Rev. SMITH purchased a hat for this man. At that time SMITH, or the man that accompanied him, requested information as to the cost of securing gray colored shirts, apparently to be used as uniform for the Silver Shirts. After SMITH and this other man departed, they forgot some of the Silver Shirt propaganda, which stayed in the store for a while until someone destroyed it. This information was furnished to the Bureau in a letter dated April 18, 1940, and appears in New Orleans file 65-49-37.

- PENDING -

ALL
b7C, b7D

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

ATLANTA FIELD DIVISION -

At Atlanta, Georgia, will interview [redacted] of the Ansley Hotel, for any information he may possess concerning SMITH, and his activities.

Will discreetly ascertain the connection between GERALD L. K. SMITH and [redacted] Marietta Street Building, Atlanta, with particular reference to the political corporation which [redacted] and SMITH may have organized and incorporated in the state of Delaware, in 1936.

INDIANAPOLIS FIELD DIVISION -

At Indianapolis, Indiana, will contact officials of the 7th Street Christian Church and the University Place Church, Butler University, for details as to SMITH's activities while Pastor of those congregations.

Will check the records of Butler Theological Seminary for information as to date and place of birth of the subject.

Will endeavor to ascertain the date and place of the subject's marriage to ELEANOR SORENSON. [redacted] It should be recalled that subject states he married ELEANOR SORENSON on June 21, 1922, and that his son is now eighteen years old.

MILWAUKEE FIELD DIVISION -

At Milwaukee, Wisconsin, will make every effort to verify subject's birth date and place, and his true and correct name, it being noted that he has stated that he was born at Pardeeville, Wisconsin, February 27, 1898.

Will endeavor to verify the date and place of birth of subject's son GERALD SMITH, JR., who was probably born in Viroqua, in about 1921, to ELEANOR SORENSON, [redacted] If found to have been born in 1921 instead of 1924, will determine the Selective Service status of GERALD SMITH, JR.

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION -

At New York City, New York, will interview [redacted] of Hotel New Yorker, for any information in his possession concerning SMITH's background and activity.

ALV
b7c

WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION -

At Washington, D. C., will interview [redacted] International News Service, for any information in his possession concerning subject's background and activity.

Will contact [redacted] or other members of the firm of Davies, Richberg, Beebe, Busick & Richardson, and obtain information in this firm's file concerning the background and activity of SMITH.

Will interview [redacted], who was intimate with SMITH when both were associated with HUEY P. LONG, for any information [redacted] has concerning subject's background, and especially concerning subject's connection with Pelley's Silver Shirts, prior to 1934.

NEW ORLEANS FIELD DIVISION -

At Shreveport, Louisiana, will interview [redacted] for information in his possession concerning SMITH's background and activity.

Will interview [redacted] of Shreveport Times, for any information he has as to subject's activities, while in Shreveport. It will be recalled that [redacted] was a member of the Board of Stewards of the Kingshighway Christian Church at the time that SMITH was the Pastor of that Church.

Will interview [redacted] with regard to SMITH's activities while in Shreveport, and his connection with Pelley's Silver Shirt Legion.

Will interview [redacted] for any information in his possession concerning SMITH and his activities while in Louisiana.

ALL
b7C

IDENTITY OF INFORMANTS IN REPORT OF
SPECIAL AGENT [redacted] DATED
AUGUST 28, 1942, AT NEW ORLEANS, LA.,
ENTITLED "GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,
was.,et al; INTERNAL SECURITY -
SEDITION," NEW ORLEANS FILE No.62-1194.

b7c

[redacted]

b7c
b7D

CC-285

[redacted] sb
9-11-42
62-43818 — 127

RECORDED

Date:

To: ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL WENDELL BERGE

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with alias
"THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION"
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

There are enclosed herewith for your consideration a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] New Orleans, Louisiana, dated August 28, 1942, and a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] Atlanta, Georgia, dated August 29, 1942, in the above-entitled matter.

Enclosure

ALL
b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-8BTS/mlc

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Candy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
SEP 12 1942
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
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SEP 15 1942

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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

b7c

Date: [redacted] 9/17/42 RECORDED
62-43818-128 25494

To: ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL WENDELL BERGE

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

There is inclosed herewith for your further consideration a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, dated September 2, 1942, in the above-entitled matter. b7c

Inclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/19/82 BY SP-[illegible]

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/15/57

4

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lad
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Kerr
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Parsons
Tele. Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
SEP 18 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-MAIL ROOM
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
SEP 18 5 53 PM

2 SEP 24 1942

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 4 OF 18

FILE NUMBER : 62-43818

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

DETROIT FILE NO. 62-1126

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	9/2/42	8/4,5,9-11,18-24,26,28,29/42	[redacted] MBB

b7c

TITLE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, also known as Gerald L. K. Smith;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION

CHARACTER OF CASE
INTERNAL SECURITY;
SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

MR. SMITH presently devoting full energy to securing Republican nomination and ultimate election as United States Senator from Michigan, making extensive speaking tour state of Michigan, weekly radio speeches continue to attack New Deal Administration and WALTER WINCHELL. WINCHELL in "Liberty" magazine said SMITH had been indicted. "Liberty" magazine to publish apology and retraction. SMITH'S weekly income estimated to be approximately $1500. SMITH described as opportunist, vehemently antagonistic and anti-New Deal, and privately Anti-Jewish. SMITH'S personality extremely egotistical and dictatorial. SMITH'S financial backers have been "biggest men in Detroit." SMITH'S "Dangerous Enemies" edited by Rev. L. PERES BUROKER, former writer for GERALD L. WINROD. SMITH had former brief associations with GENERAL MOSELEY PELLEY. Recent contacts with GERALD WINROD. Several Years ago SMITH refused very profitable propaganda offer from German Consul in New York. SMITH has read MEIN KAMPF and described it as a marvelous book. MRS. ELIZABETH DILLING attempting to contact SMITH. August 1942 issue of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG distributed August 3, 1942, and copy submitted.

(Bogus 2 & 27 field)

Memo to C Berge 9-17-42 [redacted]

Check with Director Clearing 9/11 RW

b7c

- P -

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: John S. Burger SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
62-40819-128

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
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2 - Charlotte
2 - New Orleans
1 - USA Detroit
4 - Detroit

2 SEP 8 1942

RECORDED & INDEXED

SERIALIZED

FILED

COPIES DESTROYED 86 OCT 13 1964

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/28/82 BY 3280 pc

RECEIVED-SECURITY 1942 DEC 11 3 08 PM

(Detroit File 62-1126)

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] b7c
dated August 11, 1942, at Detroit, Michigan.

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan:

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that MRS. ELIZABETH DILLING of Chicago, Illinois, was making repeated attempts to contact SMITH but SMITH was anxious to avoid her at the present time. The person who is attempting to establish this contact is a person very close to SMITH and to MRS. ELIZABETH DILLING by the name of MRS. MURRAY KNOWLES who is presently active in United Mothers of America and who with her husband was formerly active in the Detroit Chapter of the America First Committee. b

[redacted] stated that SMITH is presently devoting practically all his energy to his political campaign for the Republican nomination and the ultimate election to the office of United States Senator from the state of Michigan. He is constantly appealing for support from persons on the mailing list of the Committee of One Million. He frequently sends out mimeographed letters requesting financial contributions and other assistance such as providing transportation and helping to arrange meetings. [redacted] stated he had learned that SMITH'S average receipts through his mail are about $200 daily. He had also heard a rumor that SMITH was not obligated to pay rent for his space in the Industrial Bank Building but that the office space was a gratuitous contribution. Informant stated that three of the principal visitors to SMITH'S office, the location of which is never publicized, are MR. AND MRS. MURRAY KNOWLES, [redacted], AND REV. LELAND MARION, Pontiac, Michigan. Informant stated that numerous copies of SCRIBNERS COMMENTATOR magazine containing an article about HENRY FORD are available at SMITH'S office. Until recently, numerous copies of the RED NET WORK by ELIZABETH DILLING and THE OCTOPUS by REV. FRANK WOODRUFF (analias of MRS. ELIZABETH DILLING) were kept on hand at SMITH'S office. b7 b7c

[redacted] was interviewed by the writer accompanied by Special Agent [redacted] at first stated that he did not want to impart any information at all about SMITH unless the writer first obtained the authority of [redacted] Ford Motor Company. However, when informant was assured that no attempt would be made to involve the Ford Motor Company or its officers for any support it might have contributed, he was willing to give the following information: b7D b7c

He said that when SMITH came to Detroit in 1939, in

unless I know what his conduct is."

[redacted] also advised that SMITH has been in contact with [redacted] and Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS. He has also contacted [redacted] who has promised SMITH both financial support and advice on the conduct of his political affairs. SMITH was preparing the report of his expenses in connection with his primary political campaign and told [redacted] of ED BARNARD, Detroit political leader, "I want to make sure that it is good enough but still don't want to make it too good." SMITH then arranged to get BERNARD'S comments on his campaign report. b7c b7D

Shortly before the primary election on September 15th, to be exact on the night of September 11th, 1942, a broadcast was arranged over radio station WJR in which WILLIAM POWER MALONEY spoke on the evils of seditious propaganda and closed by referring to the indictment of twenty-eight persons for sedition in Washington, D. C. The Civil Rights Federation was to follow immediately and mention that one of the seditious publications mentioned in the indictment was "The Cross And The Flag", which is published by GERALD L. K. SMITH. [redacted] advised SMITH of this contemplated program but said there was nothing he could do to change it since the facts as stated were accurate. It should be stated here that the Civil Rights Federation is known to the Detroit Field Office as a Communist Front Organization. The broadcast was actually made as planned. b7c

On September 13, 1942, as the primary campaign was drawing to a close SMITH commented to [redacted] that the smear campaign against him was not as bad as it might have been because he thought they would have run articles about his connection with WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY, who is now serving fifteen years for sedition. SMITH explained that many newspapers were hesitant to carry such information because they feared a decrease in circulation. b7c

[redacted] continued that SMITH has persisted in attempting to contact CHARLES A. LINDBERGH at the Ford Willow Run Bomber Plant. To date it is not believed that SMITH has contacted LINDBERGH but he has succeeded in having a two-hour conference with [redacted] of Ford Motor Company, on September 23, 1942. At the conclusion of the conference, SMITH informs his wife that the men at the Ford Motor Company were panic stricken and were open to suggestion. b7c

SMITH directed his secretary, [redacted] to make out two separate financial reports for his political campaign, one in the name

GERALD L. K. SMITH, Candidate, and the other in the name of The Committee of One Million, and the reports were to show that all of campaign funds were received and handled by the committee. SMITH again telephonically contacted [redacted] and demanded one thousand dollars from [redacted] immediately and finally got [redacted] to send one hundred dollars right away. b7c

A circular letter mimeographed unter the name National Workers League reads as follows:

> "National Workers League founded 1938, Nationalism is love of one's own country — The readiness to sacrifice everything to its interests.
>
> Detroit, Michigan, September 9, 1942, Nationalist News Letter 139, Volume 4, Number 5.
>
> All Michigan Nationalists are expected to vote September 15, 1942 for GERALD L. K. SMITH, Republican Candidate for United States Senate.
>
> All Detroit Nationalists are expected to vote September 15, 1942 for VIRGIL L. CHANDLER (Sojourner Truth), Candidate for Detroit City Council.
>
> Win the War for Americans Only."

Confidential Informant recently advised that SMITH had decided to run as an independent Republican Candidate for the office of United States Senator from the State of Michigan in opposition to Judge HOMER FERGUSON. SMITH confirmed at length with Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS and expressed to Senator REYNOLDS that REYNOLDS should explain to his good friend in Washington that SMITH was going to run and that if SMITH didn't win, his good friend would be assured of election (the good friend is possibly Senator PRENTISS M. BROWN, Democrat Candidate for election as Senator from Michigan). Senator REYNOLDS was, if any, cordial with SMITH according to [redacted] and congratulated SMITH on his fine showing. Informant stated that SMITH had boasted having discovered that the leaders of the Foreign Policy Association were Rabbi WISE, ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, and HAROLD LASKI, whom SMITH described as a notorious English Communist. SMITH said that these three leaders stood for a big "super-dooper world government" and that was the "nigger in the woodpile". b7D

SMITH criticized WALLACE'S statement, which warned the United States against spoiling the international relationships in the rubber industry. SMITH said very sarcastically to [redacted] of Detroit, Michigan, We can crawl on our stomachs and go to town on our knees but we mustn't hurt b7c

the feelings of the British rubber monopoly.

On October 8, 1942, according to information received from [redacted] SMITH had a political meeting in which he attempted to answer the arguement of his enemies that he was a lieutenant of HUEY LONG. SMITH announced that HUEY LONG was a great man and that the only times he made mistakes was when he was under the influence of liquor. SMITH also said, "Before we will submit to being city-slicked by another WENDELL WILKIE or any of his Michigan stooges, we will start a new party and nominate CHARLES LINDBERGH for President." b7D

All of SMITH'S radio addresses have been received by the writer under an arrangement as previously described. It is noted, however, that practically all of SMITH'S recent speeches have been devoted entirely to political propaganda aimed at securing his nomination as Republican Candidate for the office of United States Senator from Michigan. The following speeches made by SMITH are being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Office and are not being reported verbatim because it is felt that they pertain exclusively to political propaganda: August 30, 1942, September 9, 11, 13, 14 A.M., 14 P.M., and 15, 1942.

The election was held and SMITH met his defeat on September 15, 1942. On September 20, 1942 SMITH explained to his friends over the radio the reasons for his defeat as being newspaper opposition, professional politicians of the Republican Party and New Deal politicians encouraging the Republican Party to nominate the Republican Candidate who would be not easily defeated by the Democrats. In his speech SMITH addressed the successful Republican Nominee Judge HOMER FERGUSON and criticized him for having not discussed the real issues of the campaigns. SMITH said that the Republicans will want to know how you stand on WENDELL WILKIE's Post-War Plan to make us part of an international empire. The people want to know whether you think the Baruch Committee on rubber is an intelligent attempt to solve this problem or merely an attempt to save the monopolies. The balance of this speech also is deemed to be purely political and is, therefore, not being quoted in full.

SMITH'S radio address on September 28, 1942 was also purely political in which SMITH suggested that he was seeking the advice of his followers to determine whether or not they thought he could run as an independent Republican Candidate. This speech also is being retained in the file of the Detroit Field Office and is not being quoted verbatim herein.

[redacted]

b7C
b7D

- P E N D I N G -

(Detroit 62-1126)

ENCLOSURES: TO THE BUREAU

One copy of July, 1942 "The Cross And The Flag."

One copy of August, 1942, "The Cross And The Flag."

- P E N D I N G -

(Detroit file 62-1126)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

*THE NEW ORLEANS FIELD DIVISION

At ALGIERS, LOUISIANA will attempt to locate and interview [redacted] who was friendly with SMITH during HUEY LONG'S regime [redacted] If he is located, will interview [redacted] concering SMITH'S contacts, finances, supporters, and activities. b2

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At DETROIT, MICHIGAN will maintain contacts with Informants and obtain copies of any propaganda for prompt transmittal to the Bureau.

- P E N D I N G -

(Detroit file 62-1126)

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

ALL
b7c, b7D

CC-

[redacted] b7c

12-3-42
62-43818-157

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/1/82 BY SP4BJAI OM
204,433

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases;
INTERNAL SECURITY; CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tease
Mr. Tandy

For your information I wish to advise that a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] submitted in connection with the above-entitled matter at Detroit, Michigan, on November 13, 1942, was forwarded to the Division of Records under date of December 3, 1942.

b7c

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 14
☆ DEC 5 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-ROOM
DEC 5 12 07 PM '42
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JAN 5 1943 393

[redacted] b7c

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) DEPT OF THE ARMY, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-158

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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

CC-285a

JPHa:MMJ

62-43818 -158

Date: December 5, 1942

To: SAC, Detroit

RECORDED

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases;
THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000;
INTERNAL SECURITY; CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Transmitted herewith for your information and possible assistance are copies of a communication received in connection with this matter from the Military Intelligence Service at Washington, D. C., under date of November 5, 1942.

Enclosure

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/30/82 BY SP-8 GJ/mtn

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
DEC 5 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

137

203

DEC 9 1942

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
December 1, 1942

34

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/30/82 BY SP-5 BTS/ans
DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 LED/
ON 8/10/82

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that the following additional information has been received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. b7D

GERALD SMITH, having received over one hundred twenty thousand votes in the primary campaign as Republican candidate for the nomination as United States Senator from the State of Michigan, was encouraged eventhough he failed to receive the Republican nomination. Consequently he announced his candidacy as an Independent Republican for the same office. He encountered some difficulty in counties where voting machines were used and he repeatedly advised his faithful followers to insist on the right to demand a paper ballot and to place a paper sticker with the name of GERALD L. K. SMITH over the name of either HOMER FERGUSON or PRENTISS M. BROWN and to mark an "X" in front of this sticker. He also advised his followers to report any attempt on the part of election officials to impede the right to vote for the "sticker candidate".

SMITH aimed several criticisms at his opponents, particularly he accused HOMER FERGUSON of violating the constitution of the State of Michigan by running for political office within one year of his tenure on the bench as judge of the Wayne County Circuit Court.

During the course of the campaign SMITH was in touch with a [redacted] (probably [redacted], but nothing of importance was transacted between them. b7D

On October 29, 1942 SMITH addressed a telegram to Senator Vandenberg of

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43218-159

FOR DEFENSE BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

403 207 30 DEC 8 1942 132

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83 OCT 21 1964

EX-36

COPY IN FILE

Michigan as follows: "In fulfilling your responsibility to the party be sure to take it easy. In your radio addresses your man is a flat tire, sure to get whipped. You can't afford to hitch your star to a sinker. Best regards". In this telegram SMITH was presumably referring to himself as a "sinker".

The previous day SMITH had made the comment that Senator Vandenberg made a statesman-like defense of the two party system. He continued that Mr. Vandenberg is a great American and he was proud to be numbered among his good friends.

GERALD SMITH told [redacted] that [redacted] of the Industrial Bank Building, in which SMITH's offices are located, has been one of his loyal supporters. SMITH commented that the capitalist system made America great and not any bureaucratic or semi-Communistic subtraction from it. SMITH said that his campaign was effective in combatting the New Deal tenet; that anyone like CLARE HOFFMAN or GERALD NYE who argued in favor of private ownership of property was Nazi or a Fifth Columnist.

For approximately ten days starting November 1, 1942 [redacted] of Denver, Colorado visited Detroit on a mission as an itinerant Baptist preacher and communicated frequently with SMITH. On several occasions [redacted] and SMITH met and spoke about their mutual friends.

SMITH admitted to [redacted], of Janesville, Wisconsin, that the only reason he was running in the senatorial race was to stay on the radio and keep his message before the people.

On November 3, 1942 SMITH was decisively defeated in the election for United States Senator and Republican candidate HOMER FERGUSON was elected. SMITH received only approximately twenty-five thousand votes. After the results of the election were known SMITH told [redacted] that it would be inconsistent for him to congratulate HAMILTON FISH and to criticize SMITH himself. SMITH considered bringing a lawsuit against WALTER WINCHELL and the Libery Magazine for libeling him by connecting him with WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY and others. SMITH felt confident that no action would be taken against him unless they would also get HAMILTON FISH, BURTON K. WHEELER and others. SMITH predicted that even the Isolationists who were already under indictment would be convicted. SMITH made stremuous attempts to obtain copies of the book "Louisiana Hayride" and the book entitled "Every Man A King" by HUEY LONG, which he finally succeeded in obtaining.

SMITH commented to a friend that if the Republicans don't do the right thing, the people will want a Democratic President, but not a New Dealer. SMITH

ALL
b2c

pointed out that he himself could accidentally become President of the United States.

On November 11, 1942 SMITH discussed with an attorney named [redacted] the newspaper report of Henry Wallace's speech before the Soviet American Rally. SMITH quoted "If Russia can continue for the next twenty years as well as in the past, she will surpass the United States". SMITH said that this comment was tantamount to saying that the Communistic system was better than the Democratic system. He continued to quote "Some in the United States believe we have over emphasized what might be called political or bill of rights democracy. Carried to the extreme this leads to anarchy". [redacted] commented that the vice president was so thoretical and so far ahead of the people in his thought that his comments were no good. SMITH said that Wallace is "a bad egg" and does not want the people to have any rubber. In speaking of current events SMITH said that the Nazis have occupied all of France and sent troops to Tunisia so that the Allied victory in Africa was not as real as had been supposed. SMITH said that even President Roosevelt warned against undue optimism. SMITH did not see how killing Frenchman was going to make them friends of the Allied Nations. [redacted] stated that the Allied Nations have taken a page out of the Nazi book, which is not good for the United States because France may never forget this except for the Anglophile Frenchmen. SMITH added "and the Jews".

[redacted] confided in SMITH that he was representing conscientious objectors and complained that he was running into many problems since all the decisions were made against conscientious objectors. He admitted that in most cases hisclients have no defense since they admit not having reported for induction, which is an actual violation of the law.

On November 14, 1942 SMITH was visited by [redacted] of Flint, Michigan, former journalist in Washington, D. C.

SMITH was very much perturbed over a newspaper story that appeared in the Detroit News on November 22, 1942 which implicated HUBERT LUCKER in the activities of the Free Romania Movement and quoted an admission by HUBERT LUCKER made on December 24, 1941 that LUCKER was publicity agent for the Free Romania Movement. SMITH was sorry about this because LUCKER was the president of the corporation committee for SMITH's dummy corporation and SMITH feared that his numerous enemies of the newspaper world would strain a point to implicate SMITH in the Free Romania Movement since the three leaders of this movement had already been indicted in Detroit, Michigan. SMITH even instructed HUBERT LUCKER as to what answer he should make when interviewed by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and told

ALL
b2c

LUCKER it would be all right for him to say that he had been president of SMITH's corporation, but he did not know whether he was still considered as such.

SMITH has boasted that he has practically annihilated the Communist in Detroit, Michigan and that he actually received one hundred thousand votes on November 3rd when he ran for the office of United States Senator from the State of Michigan; however, he claimed that numerous votes were stolen from him which reduced his official total to something near thirty thousand.

In commenting on gasoline rationing, SMITH said that he was trying to defeat it by publicity in his magazine, but he feared that the Jews would gain their point because they make a business of going around and getting everything.

SMITH has had numerous conferences with [redacted] and they have made a discovery of conspiracy which Leon Henderson and other New Dealers are engaged in in an effort to revamp American democracy. He pointed out that Henry Wallace described this "new order"; that the new democracy after this war will be neither Communism of the international sort or the democracy of the old-fashioned Isolationist sort. SMITH has found so much to criticize in Henry Wallace's speech that he quoted the entire speech in his magazine "The Cross and the Flag".

SMITH vehemently criticized Henry Wallace, Henry Luce and Bruce Bleven and pointed out to [redacted] the issue of the "New Masses" magazine in which the Communist gloated over the Madison Square Garden rally. [redacted] claims that this conspiracy started in 1932 and was calculated to produce a political body ruling the world. SMITH took [redacted] to the Economic Club for luncheon to hear a British spokesman. [redacted] made a trip to Washington, D. C. to impart her discovery to numerous congressmen. SMITH sent a telegram to Senator Robert Reynolds for her. On her return she stated they had contacted HAMILTON FISH, Senator GERALD NYE, Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN and was unable to meet Senator VANDENBERG because he had to attend a meeting concerning the Porto Rican question and wanted to make a stand against REX TUGWELL. She was unable also to see Congressman WOODRUFF. [redacted] also boasted that she spent considerable time with Congressman MARTIN DIES and discussed with him this New Deal conspiracy at length. She expressed the opinion that MARTIN DIES had knowledge of the conspiracy and knew that Leon Henderson was an advocate of the international theory, but did not know just how active Henderson was in advocating it.

SMITH has repeated his fears that the Republican party is toying with the

ALL
b7C

Letter to the Director
dated December 1, 1942

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION

idea of suggesting Wendell Wilke as its candidate for president in 1944. SMITH is obviously an archenemy of Wilke and for the policy for cooperating with the New Deal which he has followed.

Yours truly,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted]
62-1126 b7c

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

WB:ESL:ECC

146-28-48

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

December 9, 1942.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Kramer
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Miss Nease
Miss Gandy
File [redacted]

b2c

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith,
The Committee of One
Million.

Reference is made to the memorandum addressed to you by the Criminal Division under date of November 9, 1942, requesting certain additional investigation in the above mentioned case. It is requested that this Division be furnished such reports as may now be available in this matter, and that any additional reports be forwarded at the earliest possible date.

Information has been received indicating that [redacted]

It is desired that you investigate the truth of this report and [redacted] it is requested that you ascertain if [redacted] ? b2c

It is requested that this information be communicated to the Criminal Division by December 15, 1942.

With reference to the Bureau report dated August 11, 1942 at Detroit, Michigan, it is desired that you inform the Criminal Division, also by December 15, 1942, whether [redacted] mentioned therein would be available to testify, and if so, disclose the identity of such informant. If the testimony of this informant for any reason is not available, information is requested as to whether the facts the knowledge of which is attributed to such informant in this report can be obtained from another source. b7D

[redacted] b2c, b7D

ans. 12/14/42
gPHas
Ltr to SAC-Detroit
12/15/42

Rec'd 12/11/42
8 PM

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83 OCT 13 1964

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&
INDEXED

62-148948-160

413

The same type of information is desired, also by December 15, 1942, concerning [redacted] mentioned in the Bureau's report dated May 23, 1942 at Detroit, Michigan. b7c, b7D

The Department is in receipt of information that Hubert Lucker, mentioned in a number of Bureau reports originating in Detroit as financial manager of Smith, has broken off his association with the subject and is presently established in Washington, D. C. It is requested that you check this information and endeavor to ascertain whether Lucker's relations with Smith continue cordial, without interviewing Lucker if there is any possibility that they do.

Information has been received that the attorneys for TIME and LIFE magazines, with offices in New York City, have compiled a large file of information on Smith in which may be reflected facts which will interest this Division. It is requested that this file be secured or duplicated if it does exist and that any leads which may be indicated thereby be developed by investigation as soon as possible.

Additional information has been received in this office that the law firm "House, Grossman, Vorhaus and Helmey" of New York City handled a law suit against Smith for some individual identified to the Criminal Division as "The Banana King", and that [redacted] or some other such functionary in this law firm has some information about Smith which developed as a result of this law suit that may not be available elsewhere. It is requested that this lead be developed and a report be supplied to the Criminal Division as soon as possible. b7c

Other information reaching this office is that during the time Smith was established in New York one [redacted] was intimately associated with him. It is desired that you endeavor to ascertain the identity of this individual and the nature of her connection with the subject. b7c

It is also requested that [redacted], mentioned on page 3 of the Bureau report dated May 28, 1942, and page 10 of the Bureau report dated June 29, 1942, at Detroit, be interviewed to ascertain his knowledge of the affairs of the subject, particularly as concerns his finances and any Axis or other subversive connections. b7c

Respectfully,

Wendell Berge

WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General.

JPHa:rb
12/14/42
62-43818-160

RECORDED

EX-40

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/30/82 BY SP-2BTJ/MC

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY
GENERAL WENDELL BERGE

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SEDITION

Reference is made to your memorandum of December 9, 1942, relative to the above-captioned individual.

Concerning your inquiry as to information which [redacted] might be able to furnish in connection with this case, I wish to advise you that [redacted] b7c

With reference to your question as to whether there are any other persons who had his confidence in matters relating to Smith, I invite your attention to the report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on December 11, 1942, a copy of which report was sent to the Division of Records under date of December 14, 1942. As you will note from a review of Agent [redacted] report, [redacted] was interviewed at the Detroit Field Division [redacted], during the course of which interview he purportedly furnished all the information in his possession as to Smith's activities. b7c

In regard to your inquiry as to the availability as a witness of [redacted] mentioned in the report made in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on August 11, 1942, you are advised that [redacted] b7c b7D

At present it does not appear that the facts, the knowledge of which are attributed to this informant, can be obtained from any other source.

[redacted] mentioned in Special Agent [redacted] report of [redacted] was [redacted] previously mentioned in this memorandum. b7c b7D

Relative to the other requests for investigation included in your memorandum, you are advised that the same are presently being handled and that the results thereof will be made available to you at a later date.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Tolson
E. A. T
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Coffey
Hendon
Kramer
McGuire
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Miss Gandy

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DEC 15 1942
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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JPHa:rb
62-43818-160
RECORDED

Date: December 15, 1942

To: SAC, Detroit

EX-40

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/30/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mlw

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SEDITION

The Bureau is in receipt of a memorandum dated December 9, 1942, from the Criminal Division of the Department concerning this subject, which in its pertinent portions is quoted as follows:

"The Department is in receipt of information that Hubert Lucker, mentioned in a number of Bureau reports originating in Detroit as financial manager of Smith, has broken off his association with the subject and is presently established in Washington, D. C. It is requested that you check this information and endeavor to ascertain whether Lucker's relations with Smith continue cordial, without interviewing Lucker if there is any possibility that they do.

"Information has been received that the attorneys for TIME and LIFE magazines, with offices in New York City, have compiled a large file of information on Smith in which may be reflected facts which will interest this Division. It is requested that this file be secured or duplicated if it does exist and that any leads which may be indicated thereby be developed by investigation as soon as possible.

"Additional information has been received in this office that the law firm 'House, Grossman, Vorhaus and Helmey' of New York City handled a law suit against Smith for some individual identified to the Criminal Division as 'The Banana King', and that [redacted] b7c or some other such functionary in this law firm has some information about Smith which developed as a result of this law suit that may not be available elsewhere. It is requested that this lead be developed and a report be supplied to the Criminal Division as soon as possible.

"Other information reaching this office is that during the

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Mr. E. A. Tamm
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Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
DEC 15 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DEC 24 1942

time Smith was established in New York one [redacted] was intimately associated with him. It is desired that you endeavor to ascertain the identity of this individual and the nature of her connection with the subject.

b7c

"It is also requested that [redacted], mentioned on page 3 of the Bureau report dated May 23, 1942, and page 10 of the Bureau report dated June 29, 1942, at Detroit, be interviewed to ascertain his knowledge of the affairs of the subject, particularly as concerns his finances and any Axis or other subversive connections."

Your further investigation in this case should include the securing of these specific items of information desired by the Criminal Division.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN Milwaukee FILE NO. 100-4766

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN	12/3/42	9/8,17,25/42	[redacted] /pkm

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, aka Gerald L. K. Smith, alias Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Columbia County records show GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH born Pardeeville 2/27/98 to LYMAN Y. SMITH, a traveling salesman, and SARAH JANE SMITH, both parents also said to have been born in Wisconsin. No record of birth of SMITH'S son from 1920 to 1924 at Viroqua, Wisconsin. Investigation to obtain information concerning possible return of subject's wife and son to Viroqua made with negative results.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/30/82 BY SP. 8BTJ/MLR

--RUC--

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan 8/26/42. b7c

DETAILS: AT PORTAGE, WISCONSIN

[redacted] of the Registrar of Deeds Office made her records available to the writer, and it was ascertained therefrom that Certificate Number 184 dated March 20, 1898 at Pardeeville had been entered on the county records as certifying the birth of GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH at Pardeeville on February 27, 1898. The parents were said to be LYMAN Y. SMITH, a traveling salesman, and SARAH JANE SMITH, born Henthorn. Father's birthplace was listed as Sugar Grove, Vernon County, Wisconsin and the mother's birthplace as Clayton, Polk County, Wisconsin. The certificate was signed by C. H. CARLETON, b7c b7D

RECEIVED MILWAUKEE DIVISION DEC 2 5 24 PM '42

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: H. T. O'Connor SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES: 62-4638-18-161

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3 - Detroit
2 - Milwaukee
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Oct 13 1964

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RECORDED

EX-46

54 JAN 12 1943

M.D., Health Officer, and recorded by A. A. PORTER, Registrar on June 8, 1898.

AT VIROQUA, WISCONSIN

b7c b7D

[redacted] Register of Deeds, Vernon County, searched his records covering the period from 1920 to 1924 inclusive but could find no trace therein of the record of the birth of any child by the name of SMITH whose father was named GERALD, nor could he find any child during that period whose name had been SORENSON.

The following individuals, all of whom had attended high school with GERALD L. K. SMITH, were interviewed and, although all of these individuals knew that SMITH had married a girl by the name of SORENSON after leaving Viroqua, none have any knowledge concerning SMITH'S family affairs thereafter, or any subsequent return visit paid to Viroqua by him or any member of his family.

[redacted] of Selective Service Local Board at Viroqua.

b7c

[redacted] Office of the County Agricultural Agent at Viroqua.

[redacted] on Main Street, Viroqua.

[redacted] stated in addition, that he was sure no son of GERALD SMITH'S had registered at his Board, as he had resided in Viroqua all his life and was personally acquainted with practically all of the registrants in that area.

b7c b7D

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- [X] Deleted under exemption(s) b7C, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- [ ] Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.
- ____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.
- ____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): _____
- [ ] For your information: _____
- [X] The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: 62-43818-162

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

NOV 7 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/30/82 BY SP-8 STJ/MLG

[redacted] b7c

11/3/42

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your memorandum of October 28, 1942, with which you transmitted a document prepared by [redacted] of Detroit, Michigan, relating to the activities of Gerald L. K. Smith, which you indicate was furnished you by a representative of the publication [redacted]. b7c b7d

Since you have indicated in your memorandum that the reliability of [redacted] has not been established, I thought you would be interested to know this Bureau over a considerable period of time has had frequent contact with [redacted] regarding the activities of Smith. Although he indicated he possessed considerable information, he consistently refused to furnish any data of importance on the grounds that to do so would involve persons in positions of importance and would endanger his own personal safety. During the course of our contacts with him, it was ascertained that [redacted] In view of his refusal to cooperate with the Federal Government in the investigation of un-American activities, his attitude in this connection was communicated to the [redacted] b7 b7

This matter was also made the subject of a memorandum to the Assistant to the Attorney General, James Rowe, Jr., under date of August 4, 1942.

It is also of interest to note that [redacted] came to the Detroit, Michigan, office of this Bureau and was interviewed at considerable length by Special Agent in Charge John S. Bugas. At that time he furnished a quantity of information in his possession which duplicates to some extent the data contained in the document you have made available to me. The information furnished our Detroit office by [redacted] is in the process of being typed and a copy of the report received will be made available to the Department immediately upon receipt in this Bureau. b7 b7

EX-47 INDEXED 62-43818-76

Concerning your request for an expression of opinion as to whether a complete investigation of the activities of Gerald L. K. Smith is justified, I wish to advise this Bureau has been engaged in a detailed inquiry into his activities for a period of many months. A considerable number of investigative reports containing all pertinent material developed have been made available to the Department and by memorandum to me dated August 13, 1942, Assistant Attorney

NOV 5 1942 U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE RECEIVED

NOV 5 1942 U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE RECEIVED

NOV 4 1942 U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE RECEIVED

10:00 AM 11-7-42

General Wendell Berge advised that while some of the statements of Smith contained in the material furnished bordered on sedition a sufficient case under Title 50, Section 33, U. S. Code had not yet been made. Mr. Berge at that time requested that we continue our investigation of Smith's activities and obtain copies of all speeches or writings made by him. All of the material obtained in this connection to date has been made available by me to the Department and this investigation is still in an active status.

I would appreciate your furnishing me any information in your possession or which can be obtained by you concerning the circumstances under which the document you furnished me was made available to a representative of PM. These data would be of considerable assistance in evaluating information furnished by [redacted] in view of his previous uncooperative attitude as indicated hereinbefore.

b7c,b7d

Respectfully,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D.C.

October 28, 1942

DECLASSIFIED BY
ON

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER

Re: The Attached Material on Gerald L. K. Smith.

The material accompanying this memorandum was submitted to me by PM. I assume that it supplements in part and duplicates in part investigative information presently in the Bureau files relating to Gerald L. K. Smith.

I would like to have a description from you of the material which you now have on Gerald L. K. Smith and your conclusion as to whether or not a complete investigation of his activities is justified in view of the fact that it is felt by many reputable persons that he is a dangerous Fascist.

I am advised that the Treasury Department has inquired into the status of his taxes in connection with a possible complaint against him, and the Special War Policies Unit has considered his statements and publications for possible sedition.

The reliability of the individual who furnished the information in this report has not been established.

Attorney General

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83 OCT 13 1964

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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[X] Deleted under exemption(s) b7c b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

[ ] Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

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_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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[X] For your information: ENCLOSURE ORIGINATED FROM A SINGLE SOURCE

[X] The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-164 ENCLOSURE

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

UGO CARUSI
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D. C.

November 13, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER

This refers to your memorandum of November 7, 1942, inquiring into the circumstances under which a representative of PM acquired the document prepared by [redacted] of Detroit, Michigan, which the Attorney General recently sent you.

The Attorney General is unable to give any information on the subject further than to say that somehow it got into the hands of the PM representative, who doubted its authenticity, and, therefore, did nothing about it except to pass it along to the Attorney General.

Ugo Carusi
Executive Assistant to
the Attorney General

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D-177
F B I
15 DEC 17 1942
165

EX-32

58 DEC 28 1942

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
December 18, 1942

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8BTJ/ma

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION (Bureau file 62-43818)

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080/LEDW
ON 8/19/92

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that the following additional information has been received from [redacted] whose identity is known to you: b7D

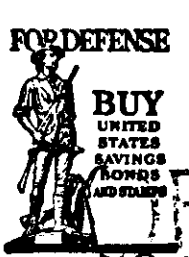
GERALD SMITH'S principal activity seems to be his expenditure of effort in an attempt to organize a third political party which may participate in the 1944 Presidential Election under the name of the "American Party". This political party is being sponsored directly by high officials of the FORD MOTOR COMPANY, particularly [redacted] FORD MOTOR COMPANY. b7C

Mr. SMITH said, "There is no thought of a conference that does not include Mr. FORD." This statement was made to [redacted] who was in New York making contacts at the time of influential men who were to visit Detroit to attend a conference. SMITH has frequently praised an Editorial in the Chicago Tribune concerning the possibility of a third party. It is planned that this political party will attract the dissentient members of the Democratic Party who object to ROOSEVELT'S New Deal policies and of the Republican Party who object to the WILKIE policy of cooperating with the New Deal. b7C

62-43818-166

[redacted] and her husband, former members of the America First Committee, have been very active in organizing this third party. [redacted] has made a trip to Washington, D. C., where she contacted various senators and congressmen as reported in report of Special Agent [redacted] [redacted] dated December 11, 1942. b7C

APPROPRIATE ARCHIVES
DATE declassified 8/19/92 ted/ag



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EX-145

COPY FILE

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[redacted] of Cleveland, Ohio, has been making contacts in the east and it is believed that he is attempting to interest former Postmaster General JAMES FARLEY and THOMAS CORCORAN in lending support to this third party.

SMITH has had several lengthy conferences with [redacted] and, according to Informant, [redacted] is well satisfied with the progress that SMITH has been making.

On December 15, 1942 [redacted] boasted to SMITH that she had a Christmas tree delivered to her by a man that went to school with HITLER, slept in the same bed with him, and who knew GOERING. She said this man was a painter; that he had also painted some of the murals in the cathedral at Rome.

SMITH has also been considerably troubled lately by an active investigation by Agents of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Department of the Treasury, based on the alleged fraudulent income tax returns filed by SMITH. At present these investigators are interviewing SMITH and his employees from time to time, and they are examining whatever books and records are offered to them by SMITH and his Manager, BERNARD DOMAN. SMITH protested to a friend of his that he did never get a cent that he did not report his income tax returns. SMITH also said that Attorney General FRANCIS BIDDLE and Director J. EDGAR HOOVER were friends of his.

Since this Treasury Department investigation has been in progress SMITH has been contacted by a man who represents himself as [redacted] of the Internal Revenue Bureau in Detroit, Michigan, and SMITH and [redacted] have discussed several political issues, including the possibility of forming a new political party for the 1944 Presidential Election. It has been previously reported that [redacted] was in contact with SMITH during SMITH'S recent senatorial campaign.

In discussing the political situation with [redacted] SMITH said that there was a move on foot not only to nominate WILLKIE as the Republican candidate in 1944 but also to nominate him as the candidate for both parties. SMITH was violently opposed to such a proposition. Considering the possible officers of the Republican Party, SMITH said, "ALF LANDON would not be bad. He testified against lend-lease, and he is anti-war."

SMITH is continuing to have frequent contact with Reverend E. J. ROLLINS, who was reported to have been a close contact of

ALL b7c

Letter to the Director
dated December 18, 1942

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH; INTERNAL SECURITY-G; CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION

Reverend GERALD B. WINROD, of Wichita, Kansas, and whose picture has been displayed in certain of WINROD'S publications. [redacted] has informed that SMITH some times supplies [redacted] with material for his radio speeches.

SMITH is also busily engaged in preparations for the institution of a lawsuit against MC FADDEN PUBLICATIONS COMPANY, publishers of Liberty Magazine, and WALTER WINCHELL for libel which arose out of statements printed in Liberty Magazine in the article, "Americans We Can Do Without", by WALTER WINCHELL. SMITH was referred to in this article as being ~~referred~~ coupling with WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY, and it was also stated that SMITH had been indicted for sedition.

SMITH plans to claim $1,000,000.00 damages arising from this libel, and he may attribute his political failure largely to this defamatory publicity. SMITH and his attorney, [redacted] have not yet decided whether they will institute the lawsuit in the United States District Court at Detroit, Michigan by serving the local agent of Liberty Magazine or whether they will institute the suit in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

SMITH and his Manager have complained about gasoline rationing as applying to their personal affairs, and BERNARD DOLAN, his Manager, has already obtained a "B" gasoline ration certificate. SMITH is presently attempting, through his Manager, to obtain a "C" gasoline ratinning book. Up to the present time SMITH has not yet been successful.

Mrs. SMITH was contacted on December 5, 1942 by [redacted] of Barrington, Illinois. [redacted] made an appointment to visit SMITH on his next visit to Detroit.

SMITH has been attempting to obtain a deferred classification under the Selective Service law for the son of [redacted] SMITH has attempted to contact [redacted] of the FORD MOTOR COMPANY, in order to get [redacted] to write a letter to young [redacted] Draft Board establishing the essential nature of his work for the FORD MOTOR COMPANY. However, this contact was not made since [redacted] was ill of pneumonia.

[redacted] stated that [redacted] had discussed with SMITH the recent arrest of STANLEY NOWAK, Michigan State Senator. SMITH commented that it seemed like a funny time to arrest a Communist but he supposed that NOWAK was causing someone a lot of trouble. He said it would give the Reds something to have a lot of

ALL
b7C

meetings about. SMITH also commented that the Government must have a good case against NOWAK because the Government is so pro-Communistic that they would not prosecute NOWAK unless they had to. SMITH explained to [redacted] that he had not been on the radio for three weeks, and he would not go back onto the radio until the radio station would permit him to discuss controversial subjects. b7c

Working with Reverend E. J. ROLLINGS, SMITH attempted to obtain small religious portraits which he planned to circulate to men in the armed forces, but he was unsuccessful due to priorities, and he found it impossible to obtain any suitable for his purpose.

According to [redacted], SMITH has been perturbed recently by the fact that his son has left home and is attempting to support himself by living in cheap hotels in Detroit, Michigan. SMITH was particularly worried over the fact that his son might become delinquent with his Local Draft Board and that would give SMITH'S enemies an opportunity of criticizing SMITH. b7D

Yours truly,

John S. Bugas
JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
December 18, 1942

Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;
CUSTODIAL DETENTION;
SEDITION. (Bureau file 62-43818)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to report of Special Agent [redacted] dated December 11, 1942 at Detroit, Michigan. On page 28 of that report are portions of a radio speech made by GERALD SMITH on October 24, 1942.

In this speech SMITH admitted having violated the thirty-five miles per hour regulation to conserve rubber and called it a "Bureaucratic lose-the-war ruling." He said further, "I did this in order to dramatize to my friends and to the people of America how unsound many of our bureaucratic rulings really are. He criticized this ruling since it was "suggested by a Wall Street politician, BERNARD BARUCH, handed down by a railroad President, and confirmed by a New Deal bureaucracy."

SMITH further stated that this ruling would likely paralyze our whole transportation system and our whole economic order. It would ruin churches and schools and practically destroy the right of free assembly.

It is suggested that the above criticism by SMITH be considered in connection with the statute making it a violation to incite any rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the United States or the laws thereof, quoted in the National Defense Manual, Section 3, Page 2.

Yours truly,

62-43818-167

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

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DEC 21

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FOR DEFENSE BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

62-1126

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53 FEB 25 1943

83 OCT 13 1964

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

EFR:FLB,Jr.

146-28-43

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEC 23 1942

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Fenlon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Gaimo Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith
Committee of One Million

The Michigan General Election Act, Act 351 of 1925, Part 5, Chapter II, Section 4 requires every candidate, within ten days after any primary election to file in the office of the county clerk of the county in which such candidate resides a statement of his contributions and disbursements, the name of the person from whom received, etc. It is reported that Gerald L. K. Smith filed such a statement in connection with the Michigan Republican Primary Election held in September, 1942. Smith's last reported residence is 1753 Seyburn, Detroit, Michigan, and it is probable that his statement would be filed in the county embracing that area. It is requested that you procure and forward to this Unit a complete copy of any statement filed by Smith in this connection.

Information at hand indicates that after his defeat in the Primary Election, Smith conducted a "sticker" campaign in the general election. It is further requested that you furnish a summary of any available information regarding this campaign, with special reference to any announcement by Smith subsequent to the Primary Election that his candidacy would continue, and to any part taken by Smith or his associates in printing and distributing stickers. This information is desired in order to ascertain whether or not Smith was a "candidate" at the election within the meaning of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925.

If your files do not contain full information, it is suggested that you institute an investigation along the lines set forth above. In this connection it is thought that stickers may have been printed by the Merchant's Press, Detroit, operated by [redacted] who has printed recent issues of The Cross and the Flag. It will be appreciated if you will conduct this investigation as soon as practicable, as the Attorney General has expressed an interest in the matter.

RECORDED

Respectfully,

62-43818-16

F B I

DEC 24 1942

Lawrence M. C. Smith
Chief, Special War Policies Unit
War Division

55 FEB 1 1943

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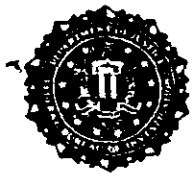
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

JKM:BK

October 31, 1942

Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH

Reference is made to the Attorney General's memorandum of October 28, 1942 in the above captioned matter, with which he submitted certain material which he stated "was submitted to me by PM." It was noted the first item among the material was a sworn statement by [redacted] It will be recalled that SAC Bugas, Detroit, interviewed him at length [redacted]. At that time Mr. Bugas advised me the results of the interview were being written up special and that the write-up along with the exhibits, etc., would be sent in air mail special delivery within the next day or two.

b7c
b7D

This material not having been received in the Bureau, I called the Detroit Field Office about the matter last night. This morning I talked to SA [redacted] who had checked into the matter in Mr. Bugas' absence and he advised me that the material had not been fully prepared nor submitted. I advised him of the communication from the Attorney General and told him to get in touch with Mr. Bugas if necessary, but at any rate to have the material written up and submitted to the Bureau air mail special delivery so that it would be here on Monday morning, November 2, 1942. He stated that this would be done.

b7c

Respectfully,

J. K. Mumford

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DATE 10/1/82 BY SP8BTJ/MG

RECORDED

62-43818-169

DEC 24 1942

DEC 29 1942

DEC 22

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

JKM:BK

December 10, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was; et al;
Sedition

Mr. C. E. Rhetts from Mr. Rowe's office in the Department was interviewed by me this morning by reference from your office. His call was primarily concerned with the captioned case which he stated had been given to him a few days ago by the Attorney General with instructions that he should go over it and see that if it deserved attention that such attention was properly directed.

In discussing the case with Mr. Rhetts, it became immediately apparent that he thought the Bureau had conducted a thorough and detailed investigation, and although he did not say so, he evidenced an attitude somewhat critical in view of the fact that he had noted some items of information which had apparently never been thoroughly run out. I asked him what material he had reviewed from the Bureau and he stated that he had the entire file from the Division of Records which consisted of twelve investigative reports prepared by the FBI, and on further questioning of him, it developed that this file did not contain any other serials of any kind. I therefore pointed out to Mr. Rhetts that in the first place, he obviously had only a very incomplete portion of the communications which had gone back and forth between the Bureau and the Department, and in the second place, the FBI had never conducted an actual investigation of Gerald L. K. Smith since there had never been any specific allegation that he had violated a Federal law within the purview of the Bureau's jurisdiction, and the Department had failed in its various communications in answer to our inquiries to specifically request any direct investigation. I suggested to him that he secure the various memoranda which had passed between the Department and the Bureau and go over them in that regard.

RECORDED 62-43828-176

He then inquired as to how he could secure the full file since he apparently did not have it, and I suggested to him that he make inquiry of the Criminal Division, the Special War Policies Unit, and that he should look up communications which had been addressed to the Attorney General and the Assistants to the Attorney General. He stated that he had had "some such check made" and that that means was apparently not going to be productive. He then requested that since the Bureau has a complete file I send it to him to review and he would return it. I pointed out to him that the Bureau's files are open only to Bureau personnel directly charged with handling the cases in which they are involved, and that a Bureau file could not be shown to anyone

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

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EX-10

without the Director's personal approval. To assist him, I suggested that he might forward a memorandum to the Bureau listing all of the communications from the Bureau which he had been able to locate and that we would then reply by advising him of the identities of those communications which were missing; that he could then call upon Mr. Smith or Mr. Berge to produce those which had been sent in and he would thereby have the entire file. He stated that such an undertaking would undoubtedly considerably upset Mr. Smith and Mr. Berge, and he doubted if it would have any profitable results, and he therefore requested that the Bureau just send him copies of all its communications which his memorandum did not show he already had. I explained to him the work that would undoubtedly be involved on the Bureau's part in making copies of all the communications available and pointed out it was the Department's responsibility to have the material since it had been sent to them, and that before copies of all the material were sent, it was obviously the responsibility of the Department to try to find the copies it already had. I told him that because of the Bureau's desire, however, to cooperate in any manner possible, that if finally the material could not be found, we would, of course, furnish copies.

Mr. Rhetts inquired about the material furnished by [redacted] both to the Attorney General, which the latter sent to the Bureau recently, and to the Detroit Field Office [redacted]. He specifically requested that the material the Attorney General had sent to the Bureau be returned or else copies of it be made available to him, and I advised him this would be done. I also advised him that the material turned over by [redacted] to the Detroit Office would be submitted in report form and forwarded to the Department early next week. b7c b7D

Mr. Rhetts advised that after reviewing all the material in hand, he would advise the Bureau of any action desired by the Department. I again pointed out to him that the Bureau would be most appreciative if he would do this so that we could be guided by the Department's desires. It is interesting to note in this regard that Mr. Rhetts expressed the opinion that Gerald L. K. Smith "should be prosecuted," and I asked him under what theory of law. He stated that it is obvious Smith is very careful and that when he publishes any near seditious matter he at the same time "wraps himself in the American flag" for protection. In answer to my inquiry, he conceded that Smith's utterances have been almost solely in the class of anti-Communist, anti-Administration and anti-Semitism, but pointed out that this is good evidence that he possibly has Nazi connections.

ACTION: I telephonically contacted the Detroit Field Office, and in SAC Bugas' absence, spoke to SA [redacted] I pointed out to him the inquiries and communications directed to that office in an effort to get from it a report on [redacted] information. It was pointed out to him that two months have elapsed and that still no report has been received. [redacted] was instructed to have this report prepared in detailed form and submitted to reach the Bureau by December 12, 1942. He b7 b7

stated that he knew the report was going to be rather lengthy, but I pointed out to him that the Detroit Office had had two months and that it was being left to it to manage to get the report in now and to the Bureau in the next two days.

Respectfully,

J. K. Mumford

J. EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

LBN:JS

December 19, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

There is attached hereto an October-November, 1942, issue of "The Cross and the Flag." The publisher is Gerald L. K. Smith.

This was forwarded to the Bureau by Congressman Fred J. Douglas whose secretary called me about it.

Respectfully,

L. B. Nichols.

Enclosure

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1 ENCLO.

RECORDED [redacted]

62-43818-17

1 DEC 24 1942

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS

56 JAN 7 1943

[redacted]

November 1st, 1942.

Mr. Walter Winchell,
Care N B C,
New York, N. Y.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8BTJ/MC

Dear Mr. Winchell:

Unless something happens to prevent my doing so, I never miss your Sunday nights broadcast on the Radio, and enjoy them very much. Am glad that we have at least one man who is not afaid to tell what he thinks against the Naxi and also ferretting out the slackers of our beloved America, and Naxi sabatours, and hope that you will continue to do so.

This letter has to do with one man specially, one Gerald L. K. Smith, one of the worst radicals we have to deal with, and who should be dealt with by the FBI as he is too radical to be safe. The writer has known this man for several years, while he was pastor of the second best Christian Church in the city of Shreveport, Louisiana, and lived only a block from this church on Kings Highway, and went to hear him preach several time, as he was a sane man then, but he got mixed up with Huey P. Long, whom I also knew personally, and his Share The Wealth, falacy, and this man Gerald L. K. Smith so split and disrupted his congregation, that he was forced to resign and they made it so hot for him, he left Shreveport, as he seemed to have completely lost his religion and no one had any more respect for him.

Note that he is now going to defy the officials in the speed ruling, and going to run his car through the state of Michigan at rate of 35 to 75 miles per hour, which is the work of a warped mind and crazy man, and should he do so, or attempt to do so, I hope they will land him so far back in jail that he cannot get out for several years as a man of this caliber is not safe roaming around.

Am writing you this letter to congratulate you on your courage, and hope that you will keep up the good work until all of the undesirable Americans and enemy aliens have had to get out America as we do not need them here.

Do not use my name if you use this letter, as it is personal to you, and because I know Smith, know that you are right what you say and think of him.

RECORDED 62-43818-13

Yours very truly,

[redacted]

1942

let W.W. 1-1-43 see 62-43818-17

[redacted]

JAN 22 1943

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Origin DETROIT, MICHIGAN DETROIT File Number 62-1126

Report made at	Date made	Period	Report made by
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	12/11/42	10/9,15,31;11/1 10,13,14,16,30; 12/1/42	[redacted] b7c

Title	Character
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH with aliases Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY - G CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

Synopsis of facts: Interview with [redacted] ~~set forth de-~~ scribing SMITH'S contacts with Ford Motor Company and other leading industrialists. SMITH'S financial arrangement described. [redacted] described SMITH'S patriotic and anti-Communist activities as mere disguise for his desire to become powerful Fascist dictator of the United States. Only vague contacts with suspected German set forth. SMITH allied with WINROD as to ultimate purpose. SMITH said to be secretly anti-Jewish and admired Hitler's Mein Kampf. Confidential Informant advised SMITH was bitter over losing election for United States Senate from state of Michigan, having run as independent Republican. SMITH accused authorities of discrimination, SMITH maintaining contact with [redacted], Ford Motor Company. He has publicly threatened formation of third party to oppose New Deal and "WILLKIE" Republicans in 1944 presidential campaign. [redacted] substantiates and elaborates upon information previously given.

b7c b2d

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~~35 OCT 20 1964~~

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REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated November 13, 1942, at Detroit, Michigan.

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DATE OF REVIEW 1/7/92

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John L. Burgess	ama	62-113818-113	RECORDED & INDEXED

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5 - Bureau
2 - Chicago
2 - Cleveland
2 - Kansas City
2 - New York
2 - New Orleans
1 - USA, Detroit
3 - Detroit

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7C, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

_____

_____

☐ For your information: _____

_____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-173 p. 2.

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FBI/DOJ

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted]

b7D
b7D

[redacted]

EXHIBIT 4 - An applicant blank to SMITH'S Committee of 1,000,000. The explanatory matter reveals the hierarchy of the organization with persons to be known as recruiters, key men, unit leaders and special leaders, to be instructed by SMITH himself as national chairman of the Committee of 1,000,000. The seven principles of the Committee of 1,000,000 were set forth in exactly the same form as SMITH used in his recent political campaign.

EXHIBIT 5 - [redacted]

b7D

CONFIDENTIAL

EXHIBIT 8 - [redacted]

EXHIBIT 12 - [redacted]

b7c
&
b7D

EXHIBIT 15 - A petition circulated by SMITH to increase the minimum wage of American soldiers to $100 per month and to oppose the entrance of the United States into a foreign war. [redacted] comment on this exhibit was that this sort of propaganda was circulated to the armed forces of the United States. b7D

EXHIBIT 18 - [redacted] b7D

CONFIDENTIAL

that SMITH would expose HITLER, STALIN, BROWDER and the KUHN conspiracy; (2) tie up between certain CIO leaders and the Nazi-Communist Party; (3) HITLER'S agents in Detroit, Michigan, and America; (4) STALIN'S agents in Detroit, Michigan, and America; (5) Un-American propaganda in school, church and home. [redacted] commented that one of the preliminary speakers on this program was the Negro employee of the Ford Motor Company, BILL NOWELL, Communist expert. b7D

EXHIBIT 20 - A petition circulated by the National Workers League calling for the imprisonment of FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT. [redacted] b2 & b7D

EXHIBIT 26 - A 100-page booklet entitled "Too Much ROOSEVELT," copyright 1940 by GERALD L. K. SMITH.

EXHIBIT 27 - [redacted] b2 & b7D

EXHIBIT 37 - Blank petition to Congress to continue the Dies Committee until 1942. [redacted] commented that this petition was circulated by SMITH. b7D

EXHIBIT 29 - A hand bill which has been widely circulated outside meetings of SMITH'S Committee of 1,000,000 and the National Workers League showing the betrayal of the gold standard by the Jewish international bankers in connection with the Lease Lend Bill H.R. 1776.

EXHIBIT 35 - A blank petition against the repeal of the Neutrality Act and against an alliance with Russia, circulated by SMITH. Attached to this petition was a special notice that anyone sending a donation with the petition would receive a copy of LINCOLN'S Gettysburg Address.

EXHIBIT 41 - [redacted] b7D

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted]

EXHIBIT 42 - A booklet entitled "The International Jew" published by the Klu Klux Klan, P. O. Box 204, Atlanta, Georgia, and originally printed in HENRY FORD'S newspaper, the Dearborn Independent.

EXHIBIT 43 - GERALD SMITH'S press release of April 24, 1942, announcing his candidacy for the United States Senate. This has previously been reported.

EXHIBIT 44 - [redacted]

EXHIBIT 45 - A booklet entitled "Christ for the Crisis" by GERALD E. WINROD. On the back of the booklet is a photograph of Mrs. ELIZABETH DILLING, HARVEY SPRINGER, GERALD WINROD and E. J. ROLLINGS all of whom are known contacts of GERALD L. K. SMITH. [redacted]

EXHIBIT 47 - [redacted]

EXHIBIT 50 - A lapel button distributed at SMITH'S meetings reading: "Committee of 1,000,000. No foreign wars. $100 per month for USA soldiers." However, [redacted] pointed out that inside this button was contained a smaller button with a capital A. This smaller button was the official emblem of the America First Committee.

EXHIBIT 53 - [redacted]

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[redacted]

EXHIBIT 58 - One copy of April, 1942, issue of the Cross and the Flag.

EXHIBIT 61 - [redacted]

EXHIBIT 69 - [redacted]

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EXHIBIT 105 - [redacted] b7D

EXHIBIT 124 - News letter of the National Workers League dated November 25, 1941, referring to F. D. ROSENVELT and other men of prominence with characteristic Jewish names.

EXHIBIT 125 - [redacted] b7D

EXHIBIT 134 - A radio address entitled "Why is America Afraid?" delivered by GERALD SMITH in about 1936. The text of this message was that because of the fear of war and international complications and bureaucratic management all threatened by the New Deal Americans would have to fight to preserve democracy.

[redacted] b7D

On October 15, 1942, [redacted] returned to the Detroit Field Office and was again interviewed by Special Agent in Charge JOHN S. BUGAS. [redacted] b7c & b7D

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[redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that GERALD SMITH had received over 120,000 votes in the primary campaign as Republican candidate for the nomination of United States Senator from the State of Michigan, and was greatly encouraged by the strength of his following, even though he failed to receive the Republican nomination. Consequently he announced his candidacy as an independent Republican for the same office. b7D

In his campaign he bitterly criticized the Republican candidate HOMER FERGUSON, for having violated the constitution of the State of Michigan by running for a political office within one year of his tenure on the bench as Judge of Wayne County Circuit Court.

During the course of the campaign SMITH was in touch with [redacted] probably [redacted] but nothing of importance was transacted between them to Informant's knowledge. b7C

On October 29, 1942, SMITH addressed a telegram to Senator VANDENBERG of Michigan as follows: "In fulfilling your responsibility to the Party, be sure to take it easy. In your radio addresses your man is a flat tire. Sure to get whipped. You can't afford to hitch your star to a sinker. Best regards."

The day prior to this SMITH had commented in the presence of Informant that Senator VANDENBERG was a great American making a statesmanlike defense of the two-party system, and SMITH said he was proud to be numbered among his good friends.

Informant also reported that GERALD SMITH told [redacted] of Detroit, Michigan, that [redacted] of the Industrial Bank Building in which SMITH'S offices are located, has been one of his loyal supporters. SMITH commented that the capitalist system made America great and not any bureaucratic or semi-Communistic subtraction from it. SMITH said that his campaign was very effective in combating the New Deal tenet; that anyone like CLARE HOFFMAN or GERALD NYE who argued in favor of private ownership of property was a Nazi or a Fifth Columnist. b7C

[redacted] further reported that for approximately ten days starting November 1, 1942, [redacted] of Denver, Colorado, visited Detroit, Michigan, on a mission as an itinerant Baptist preacher, and communicated frequently with SMITH. On several occasions [redacted] and SMITH met in person and spoke about their mutual friends. b7D b7C

SMITH admitted to [redacted], of Janesville, Wisconsin, that the only reason he was running in the b7C

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senatorial race was to stay on the radio and keep his message before the people.

On November 3, 1942, SMITH was decisively defeated in the election for United States Senator from Michigan, and the Republican candidate, HOMER FERGUSON, was elected. SMITH received only approximately 25,000 votes. After the results of the election were known, SMITH told [redacted] that it would be inconsistent for him to criticize SMITH for running and to congratulate HAMILTON FISH for his victory. SMITH stated privately that he was considering the institution of a lawsuit against WALTER WINCHELL and Liberty Magazine for libeling him by connecting him with WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY and others and for stating that SMITH had been indicted for sedition. SMITH felt confident that no criminal prosecution would be directed at him unless they would also get HAMILTON FISH, BURTON K. WHEELER, and others. SMITH predicted that even the Isolationists who were already under indictment would not be convicted. b7c

SMITH made strenuous attempts, according to [redacted] to obtain copies of the book "Louisiana Hayride" and HEUY LONG'S book, "Every Man a King," which he finally succeeded in obtaining. b7D

SMITH commented to a friend, according to [redacted] that if the Republicans would not do the right thing, the people will want a Democratic President, but not a New Dealer. SMITH suggested the possibility that he himself might actually become President of the United States.

[redacted] reported that on November 11, 1942, SMITH discussed with an attorney, [redacted] the newspaper report of HENRY WALLACE'S speech before the Soviet-American Rally. SMITH quoted: "If Russia can continue for the next twenty years as well as in the past, she will surpass the United States." SMITH stated that this comment was tantamount to saying that the Communistic system was better than the Democracy system. He continued to quote: "Some in the United States believe we have overemphasized what might be called political or Bill-of-Rights Democracy. Carried to the extreme, this leads to anarchy." b7D b7c

[redacted] commented that the Vice President was so theoretical and so far ahead of the people in his thought, that his comments were no good. SMITH replied: "WALLACE is a bad egg and does not want the people to have any rubber." In discussing current events, SMITH said that the Nazis have occupied all of France and sent troops to Tunisa, so that the Allied victory in Africa was not as real as had been supposed. SMITH stated that even President ROOSEVELT warned against undue optimism. b7c

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SMITH did not see how killing Frenchmen was going to make them friends of the Allied Nations. [redacted] stated that the Allied Nations have taken a page out of the Nazi book, which is not good for the United States because France may never forget this, except the Anglophile Frenchmen. SMITH added, "And the Jews." Attorney [redacted] confided in Smith that he was representing conscientious objectors, and complained that he was running into many problems since all court decisions were made against conscientious objectors. He admitted that in most cases his clients have no defense, since they admitted not having reported for induction, which was an actual violation of the law. b7c

[redacted] further advised that [redacted] of Flint, Michigan, former journalist in Washington, D.C., conferred with SMITH in Detroit, Michigan, on November 14, 1942. b7c b7e

Informant reported that SMITH was very much perturbed over a newspaper story that appeared in the Detroit News on November 22, 1942, which implicated HUBERT LUCKER in the activities of the Free Romania Movement and quoted an admission by HUBERT LUCKER made on December 24, 1941, that LUCKER was Publicity Agent for the Free Romania Movement. (Three leaders of the Free Romania Movement were indicted for having violated the Foreign Agents' Registration Acts in Detroit, Michigan, on November 17, 1942.) SMITH regretted this newspaper publicity because LUCKER was the President of the corporation, Federation of Americanization of Michigan, Inc., a dummy corporation which was supposed to act as fiscal agent for SMITH. SMITH feared that his numerous enemies of the newspaper world would strain a point to implicate SMITH in the Free Romania Movement. SMITH even instructed HUBERT LUCKER as to what answers he should make when interviewed by Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and told LUCKER it would be all right for him to say that he had been President of SMITH'S corporation, but that he did not know whether he was still considered as such.

SMITH boasted to a friend whom [redacted] did not know that he had practically annihilated the Communists in Detroit, Michigan, and that he actually received 100,000 votes on November 3 when he ran for the office of United States Senator from the State of Michigan. However, he claimed that numerous votes were stolen from him, which reduced his official total to something near 30,000. SMITH later explained this small vote by the fact that people marking their ballot at the top "for straight Republican" and attempting to use the "GERALD L. K. SMITH sticker, had their votes counted as straight Republican, and not for GERALD SMITH. b7c

SMITH, in commenting on gasoline rationing in the presence of [redacted] said that he was attempting to defeat the gasoline rationing program by adverse publicity in his magazine, b7c

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but he feared that the Jews would gain their point because "they make a business of going around and getting everything."

According to [redacted], SMITH had numerous conferences with [redacted], former members of the America First Committee, who advised SMITH that they had made a discovery of a conspiracy which LEON HENDERSON and other New Dealers were engaged in, to the end of re-vamping American Democracy. SMITH agreed that HENRY WALLACE had described this "new order;" that the new Democracy after this war will neither be Communism of the international sort nor the Democracy of the old fashioned Isolationist sort. SMITH said that he found so much to criticize in HENRY WALLACE'S speech, that he quoted the entire speech in the October-November, 1942 issue of his magazine, "The Cross and the Flag." SMITH vehemently criticized HENRY WALLACE, HENRY LUCE, and BRUCE BLIVEN; and pointed out to [redacted] the issue of the "New Masses" magazine in which the Communists gloated over the Madison Square Rally at which HENRY WALLACE spoke. [redacted] claimed that this conspiracy started in 1932 and was calculated to produce an international political body, ruling the world. SMITH took [redacted] to the Economic Club for luncheon to hear a British spokesman, [redacted] made a trip to Washington, D. C. to impart her discovery to numerous Congressman. SMITH sent a telegram to ROBERT REYNOLDS, introducing her. On her return, she reported to SMITH that she had contacted HAMILTON FISH, GERALD NYE, and Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN. She further reported that she was unable to meet Senator Vandenberg because he had to attend a meeting concerning the Porto Rican question, and wanted to make a statement against [redacted] She was unable also to see Congressman WOODRUFF, [redacted] boasted that she spent considerable time with MARTIN DIES and discussed with him this New Deal conspiracy at length. She expressed her belief that MARTIN DIES had knowledge of the conspiracy and knew that LEON HENDERSON was an advocate of the international theory, but DIES did not know just how active HENDERSON had been in advocating it.

b7c
&
b7D

SMITH repeated his fear that the Republican Party was toying with the idea of suggesting WENDELL WILLKIE as its candidate for President in 1944.

Verbatim copies of SMITH'S radio addresses have been received in accordance with an arrangement previously reported. Under Bureau instructions, the matter of a purely political matter will not be reported, but of possible relevance to this investigation are the following quotations from his recent radio addressed:

<u>October 11, 1942:</u>

"I find that this man who wants to go to the United States Senate, posing as a Republican, is and has been a high official

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in an organization known as the Foreign Policy Association. The Foreign Policy Association is an organization which seeks to make the United States part of an international government.

"It numbers among its sponsors the most notorious and outspoken New Dealers, Communists, and Internationalists. Judge FERGUSON has been the regional head of this Foreign Policy Association which among other things numbers among its supporters the following: THOMAS LAMONT, (J. P. MORGAN partner), HAROLD J. LASKI, (notorious British Communist) ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE, Vice President HENRY A. WALLACE, and BRUCE BLIVEN."

"We are told within a few weeks we shall have gasoline rationing. That means no visits, no pleasure trips. It means the complete collapse of the tourist industry. It means bankruptcy and hunger and privation for thousands and thousands of garages, filling stations, storekeepers, and associated trades."

"We are told by the agents of the Government that there is no shortage of gasoline. Recently the big oil companies of Texas applied to the Government for the right to burn up thousands and thousands of gallons of surplus gasoline. We are told that the gasoline rationing program is forced upon us because of the automobile tire situation, and yet we see the whole rubber situation in the hands of a man they call the Rubber Czar—the Rubber Czar.

"Who is this Rubber Czar? He is the president of a railway corporation; and when appointed, he used these words: 'I know nothing about rubber, but I am willing to take the job.'"

"We have every reason to believe that the international rubber monopoly and the Wall Street trusts are determined to prevent us from solving our automobile tire problem, because if we get to the place where we can make our own rubber out of farm crops and material oil, it will destroy the great oriental Dutch and British rubber monopolies where millions of pounds of rubber has been produced heretofore in Java and on the Malay Peninsula, slave rubber."

"A certain set of Wall Street bankers and international financiers would be perfectly willing to see us crawl on our stomachs to town if they could but preserve and save their precious monopoly which brings to them one billion dollars per year."

In this speech and in other speeches SMITH referred to the 35-mile an hour speed limit as a device of the New Dealers to slow down the war effort when it is vital to victory that it be speeded up.

SMITH also pointed out that people who use automobiles for transportation could not expect any mercy from the president of a railway corporation controlled by the great banking interests of Wall Street.

October 24, 1942:

"On last Thursday I drove to Kalamazoo, Michigan, at a regular rate of speed. I observed all the speed laws, but I ignored this bureaucratic lose-the-war ruling which would slow down our highway traffic to 35 miles per hour. On good, straight, paved roads I drove 40, 50, and 60 miles per hour.

"I was not molested. I was not stopped, and at no time did I drive at an unsafe speed. On the other hand I drove at what I call a win-the-war speed. I did this in order to dramatize to my friends and to the people of America how unsound many of our bureaucratic rulings really are. ....."

"Inasmuch as the suggestion to slow down to 35 miles an hour was handed down by a Wall Street politician, BERNARD BARUCH, and the rule was handed down by a railroad president and confirmed by a New Deal bureaucracy. it is not surprising to discover that this slow-down rule is likely to paralyze our whole transportation system and eventually our whole economic order. ....."

"If this thing goes through, it will empty our churches; it will paralyze our educational system. It will isolate our country people from their neighbors. It will almost destroy the right of free assembly because we will no longer be able to gather together in big meetings."

October 28, 1942:

SMITH devoted this speech to a criticism of the Anti-Inflation Bill, which he characterized as an Anti-Farmer Bill promoted by BERNARD BARUCH, the Wall Street financier, and embraced by the New Deal Bureaucrats. He said it would create a food shortage and would throw 15,000 farms into idleness in Texas alone.

SMITH commented that the Ford Motor Company had announced five months ago that they could supply tires for all their men if they could get the consent of the Government. Although the Ford Motor Company would not have used an ounce of rubber or any critical war material, LEON HENDERSON did not give his consent."

"We, the American people, will pay any price in order to win this victory, but we will not become a generation of hitchhikers in order to save the international rubber monopolies and the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey."

"MR. HENRY WALLACE, the New Deal Vice President of the United States, in a speech the other day in New York City, announced that he was opposed to developing the substitute rubber program in America. He even suggested that any substitute rubber factories developed here during the war should be destroyed after the war, and we should again buy our rubber from the Orient, which of course would be through the Dutch-British monopoly.

"Just think of that, Ladies and Gentlemen, the Vice President of the United States against the development of the substitute rubber industry in America. He said that he was afraid that if we developed the rubber industry too well in America, it might bring on a third world war. That's what you call real internationalism. ...."

""I want to say that unless the tire situation is solved, you workers and you farmers will be prisoners. Already they're planning to freeze you on your jobs, which is nothing more or less than drafting you to a job so that you'll have to work at the same job whether you like it or not; and you'll have to stay on the farm whether you like it or not.

"Well, it may be necessary,to win the war, but on top of that, if you can't even take a little drive around the corner of have to walk to work, or you have to be imprisoned on your farm, ten below zero and only three tires--then God save us all."

October 28 and 29, 1942:

"If we had spent our billions on an army and navy instead of these boondoggling tricks, there might never have been a Pearl Harbor. My position is clear on international affairs. I believe that we should give 100% to the war effort until the war is won, and then after we have whipped the enemy and guaranteed our own safety, we should build a hoop of military steel around America, bring our boys home from the foreign battlefields, and then arm and fortify ourselves so mightily that there will never be another Pearl Harbor and there will never be another foreign war."

SMITH then commented that WILLKIE, WALLACE, and the Foreign Policy Association wanted to build a world empire, a sort of "super-duper League of Nations."

"I'm a George Washington American, and I believe that America should maintain her independence from the rest of the world, and

(Detroit file 62-1126)

I do not want to live under any world government where Chinamen, Russians, and Europeans are making rules for my people to obey."

October 30, 1942:

"This Anti-Farmer, so-called Anti-Inflation Bill, really holds the price of farm crops down below the cost of production. It will drive farm labor to the cities. It will throw thousands and thousands of farms into idleness; and unless something is done to correct this evil law, it will produce a food shortage, the like of which this nation has never known.

"Of course the bureaucrats want to hold the farmer down so that he will have to borrow money from the Government, and with these farm loans they hope to keep the farmers' vote in line. God save America from such chicanery."

In this speech SMITH said three forces operate on our Congress:

1. Wall Street monopolies,
2. New Deal Bureaucrats,
3. A combination of pressure groups, organized lobbyists, and ruthless men and women who will do anything to accomplish their ends."

He again commented on the Foreign Policy Association which embraced the post-war policies as advocated by WENDELL WILLKIE, DOROTHY THOMPSON, Rabbi STEPHEN WISE, ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, HENRY WALLACE, and many others of their ilk. These people are all internationalists. They believe that an independent America after this war will be unable to cope with the problems we will face."

October 31, 1942:

SMITH quoted RAYMOND CLAPPER'S caution against the imminence of dictatorship in America. He also quoted the statement of the British Minister of Supply Director General, Lieutenant General Sir WALTER VENNING. SMITH criticized Sir WALTER'S proposal of a British American union after the war, and especially his statement:"We have evolved to the point where no accounts are kept. There is to be no more of the wretched business over how much money we British owe you or how many dollars you owe us." Sir WALTER also advocated an international federation with a"combined Senate."

SMITH criticized this international conspiracy vehemently. He suggested that Lieutenant General Venning should be sent home immediately

for using his high position to try to disrupt our form of government. He read this news story to remind his listeners that "a set of internationalists in England and America and China and Russia and elsewhere are attempting to destroy our identity as an independent nation and bring us into a state of interdependence."

SMITH also stated: "But yesterday we learned what obviously was the reason for this failure of the Government to permit MR. FORD to use his own factory to make tires for the people, even though he said he could do it without using an ounce of rubber. Now here's the dispatch:

"'An arrangement has been reached between the United States Government and the Ford Motor Company, by which the Ford tire factory in River Rouge is to be purchased by the Government and donated to Russia.'

"Thus, Ladies and Gentlemen, you see MR. FORD was not given permit to make tires for you because the Government evidently was arranging to donate the factory to the Russians. But, Ladies and Gentlemen, I hold in my hand a dispatch out of Washington and out of Akron, Ohio, to the effect that the automobile industry itself in Akron is ready to furnish us all the tires we need if LEON HENDERSON will give them the go sign."

November 1, 1942:

Continuing to criticize Lieutenant General VENNING'S statement, SMITH said: "The very idea of any foreigner having the nerve to come to America and advocating the abolition of our Senate after the war; and the very idea of any Britisher or any Russian or any other foreigner suggesting that our United States Senate sit in London or Paris or Moscow as part of a world senate to rule over our people! God save America from such propaganda."

"...If this proposal was being made by an ordinary citizen or an ordinary propagandist, it would be different, but it is being made by a high British official who admits in his speech in Washington that they've quit keeping books, and they just take our money, and no records are being kept."

SMITH repeated his argument about the Ford Rubber factory being shipped to Russia by the United States Government.

November 2, 1942:

"America is facing a food shortage. We are being rationed on sugar. We will soon be rationed on coffee; then comes meat, dairy products, and so forth."

In advocating that each soldier be paid $50.00 in cash and $50.00 in bonds to be saved until their return, SMITH said: "When the war ends, these war factories will close, and the boys will come home. We shall see a period of unemployment, the like of which we have never known, unless farsighted statesmanship takes command.... I am the man that started the movement that got an increase in pay for your loved one in the Army, Navy, and Marines. But if we go on just like we are going on, your son will return from the Army penniless.

"This must not be. The Communists and enemies of America are already lying in wait for the hour when they can prey on the misery of the post-war period in an attempt to destroy the respect of our sons for the American form of government."

SMITH again criticizes Lieutenant General Sir WALTER VENNINGS' public statement.

He referred to the gasoline rationing program as a Wall Street trick. "They don't want us to make rubber out of farm crops, which we could do, and they don't want us to make our tires out of scrap rubber. They want to save that market for the big international rubber monopoly until after the war."

November 2, 1942:

In this speech SMITH defended the two-party system and said that the Republican Party under WENDELL WILLKIE betrayed its trust by pledging loyal opposition and going over to New Deal bureaucracy.

November 2, 1942:

"For many years the experts of international military affairs have anticipated a Japanese threat. But even so, an administration subservient to the rubber monopoly allowed us to subject ourselves to a raw material 12,000 miles away. Now it has been discovered that we can make our rubber out of oil and farm crops. It has been discovered that we can meet our tire emergency with the re-claiming of scrap. But even so, the regimenters call down upon us a program of privation and restraint in the form of rationing and slow-down, which promises to wreck our whole economy, which threatens to turn dynamic Detroit into a chaotic and industrial wreck, just because somebody wants to save a precious monopoly."

November 15, 1942:

SMITH announced that he had been on the radio one to seven times per week through the year and was consequently compelled to neglect his good friends in other states. He announced he would not be able to broadcast over Radio Station WJR as continuously as before, since

he was going to concentrate his energies as Editor of The Cross and the Flag magazine.

SMITH announced: "Every Congressman and Senator opposed by WALTER WINCHELL was re-elected. Most of the Congressmen and Senators who were vociferously supported by WINCHELL were defeated."

SMITH stated that the new Congress in Washington was a people's Congress because the propaganda of an organized group of Left Wingers with strong Communist leanings was repudiated.

SMITH quoted at length from an editorial in the Chicago Tribune, November 5, as the greatest statement concerning this sensational return to commonsense Americanism and the repudiation of the New Deal and Communists.

"Our neighbors, our sons, our loved ones are on thirty-one battlefields. Some of us may not understand all of the mysteries which produce this type of war, but regardless of any opinions, pro or con, which we may have had prior to Pearl Harbor, we are all determined that no stone shall be left unturned, necessary to supply our men with food and raiment and shelter and instruments of defense and offense.

"How guilty would be our souls if we allowed our political opinions to in any way affect our loyalty to America in this dark hour."

"The election on November 3 spelled one more thing. It served notice on Washington that we do not want this war being used as a bureaucratic instrument for the building of any political machine after this war. The voice of the people cries out to those in charge of our Government a warning against any and all attempts to appropriate patriotic loyalty to partisan politics.

"It now becomes the duty of Americans to unite for victory."

He commented on EARL BROWDER'S speech in Detroit, serving notice on America that victory can only be won by the Communist route. He continued: "We cannot win this war if we allow ourselves to be eaten up and devoured from within by these negative forces. Attorney General BIDDLE has called for the deportation of HARRY BRIDGES, the Communist. He has called for the deportation of the head of the Communist Party of California, although WENDELL WILLKIE has come to the defense of the Reds.

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"This past week WENDELL WILLKIE stood before the Supreme Court and pleaded for the Court to grant a decision which would permit this man to remain in America as a citizen.

"All God fearing Americans who send their sons to the chill, bleak fortifications of Iceland, all of us who wrapped our sons in fire as they go out to defend our bases in Greenland, the American mothers and fathers whose sons now face the deadly pagan enemy on Africa's coast, are determined that while our loved ones die in the East and in the West and in the North and in the South, and while our heroic and beloved ones wait through the long months in the prison camps of Tokyo, we shall not permit these advocates of destructive propaganda to eat out the vitals of our homeland by subversive and atheistic and unAmerican propaganda.

"We are conscious of our responsibility to our Allies. The politics of Russia in no way affect our duty to keep faith in a military alliance necessary to bring victory, but we do not want the politics of Britain. We do not want the politics of France. We do not want the politics of Germany. We do not want the politics of Russia. We do not want the politics of China; and we shall not interfere with their politics.

"We give our sons. We form our alliances. We make our sacrifices. We press toward victory, but under God, during the war, through the war, and after the war, America shall remain, America."

As SMITH announced in this last radio address, his radio broadcasts were discontinued by Radio Station WJR after the broadcast of November 15, 1942.

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(Detroit file 62-1126)

[redacted] was recontacted and reported that SMITH was very much concerned about a rumor that WILLKIE was going to be nominated as a Presidential candidate of the Republican Party for the Presidency in 1944, and that there was even a move on foot to make WILLKIE the nominee for both parties. SMITH believed that ALFRED LANDON would be desirable as Secretary of the Republican Party, since he is anti-war and since he testified against the Lend-lease Bill. Informant stated that SMITH has been frequently contacting a Reverend E. J. ROLLINGS who is affiliated with GERALD WINROD and is believed to be a propagandist of that variety in the city of Detroit. b7D

Informant stated that SMITH complained of the discrimination that was practiced against him when he ran for the office of United States Senator from the State of Michigan. He recounted the difficulties that he had in running as a "sticker" candidate, especially in the communities where the voting machines were used. SMITH was rather dismayed over the small vote he obtained and made accusations privately on several occasions that there must have been some vote stealing; however, SMITH was inclined not to ask for an official recount. SMITH was content that his support had proved to be comparatively strong and he believed his power as a political figure was established.

SMITH has continued to contact [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company and has conferred with him at great length according to [redacted] Informant believed that the purpose of the interviews was to arrange for the establishment of an independent third political party. The plans for this political party are still in the formative stage. b7C b7D

SMITH has discussed plans with Attorney [redacted] for a suit which he proposes to institute against WALTER WINCHELL and "Liberty Magazine" for libel which damaged him in his recent political campaign. The alleged libel consists of an article written by WALTER WINCHELL and published in "Liberty Magazine", entitled "Americans We Can Do Without". In this article SMITH was described as being affiliated with WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY and others. The article also stated that SMITH had recently been indicted for seditious utterances. It is presently planned that SMITH will start this law suit in the near future by serving a legal process on the agent of "Liberty Magazine" in Detroit, Michigan, and will demand one million dollars damages. b7C

[redacted] further informed that SMITH has been discussing his plans with [redacted] of Barrington, Illinois. b7D b7C

Concerning the formation of an independent third

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party SMITH has been working with [redacted] of Cleveland, Ohio, who has been contacting key figures in an attempt to form this party. Informant believed that attempts were being made to interest former Postmaster General, JAMES FARLEY, and TOM CORCORAN in this proposition. Confidential Informant also advised that the investigation of SMITH'S income tax returns by agents of the Department of Treasury has been resumed. b7c

[redacted] advised that GERALD L. K. SMITH, organizer of the COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION and "until approximately one year ago publisher of 'The Cross and the Flag', has been supported in his pro-Nazi work [redacted] b7c b7D

[redacted], was interviewed by Special Agent (A) [redacted], and he presented carbon copies of two typewritten documents. The first, dated October 28, 1942, and summarized in [redacted] own language, was an interview which [redacted] had with [redacted] on October 28, 1942. [redacted] described [redacted] as having been "connected with GERALD L. K. SMITH for two years between 1939 and 1941 in a managerial capacity."

[redacted] report set forth that [redacted] stated he had been introduced to GERALD L. K. SMITH by [redacted] in August, 1939. [redacted] made a contact for SMITH with [redacted] and subsequently [redacted], in behalf of the Ford Motor Company, arranged for a weekly broadcast by GERALD L. K. SMITH. The financial arrangement with Station WJR was made by [redacted] who, acting for the Ford Motor Company, guaranteed the payment of the bills for the radio time. This arrangement existed for over a year, and the weekly payments of $375 were paid in advance in lump sums approximating $3,000. Besides the Ford Motor Company, other contributors to SMITH'S support were Bohn Aluminum and Brass Corporation, Briggs Manufacturing Company, The Otis Steel Company and Thompson Products. [redacted] of The Otis Steel Company contributed approximately $500 per week. Most of the automobile company executives in the city of Detroit also contributed to SMITH'S support. [redacted] said he was unable to make any estimate at all of SMITH'S receipts for the reason that he did not know how much money was taken in by [redacted] and several professional solicitors aside from whatever SMITH might have received himself. The solicitors operated on a twenty-five per cent commission, b7c b7D

and [redacted] averaged $5,000 per year in commissions. [redacted] stated to [redacted] according to [redacted] report that during the 1940 Presidential campaign SMITH derived a considerable amount of money from the NATIONAL REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE and the WILLKIE FOR PRESIDENT CLUBS. [redacted] reported tha[redacted]ld him that all collections made at SMITH'S public meetings over and above some $250 for expenses were retained by GERALD SMITH.

The pamphlet "Too Much ROOSEVELT" was sold by SMITH perhaps in the quantity of hundreds of thousands at twenty-five cents per copy. These pamphlets cost SMITH seven or eight cents apiece.

[redacted] reported that [redacted] told him that he [redacted] had accompanied SMITH on numerous speaking engagements made under the auspices of various trade organizations, and SMITH'S compensation was $150 to $200 per speech. [redacted] also said SMITH and he campaigned for EARL LONG, brother of HUEY LONG in Louisiana, and SMITH received $1500 from LONG. [redacted] further reported that [redacted] believed SMITH filed two income tax returns stating his income to be between $7,000 and $7,500 per year, whereas [redacted] estimated his actual income at least seven or eight times that amount. [redacted] report further stated that SMITH maintained four bank accounts ; one at the Commonwealth Bank in the names of [redacted] and [redacted] of the FEDERATION OF AMERICANIZATION OF MICHIGAN, INCORPORATED; the second maintained by [redacted] and [redacted] in the Detroit Bank; a third bank account maintained by [redacted] alone in an unknown bank; and the fourth in the name of BERNARD DUGAN in the Detroit Bank.

All collections that came in the mail in response to GERALD L. K. SMITH'S appeals were divided. Half of them went into the second bank account described above, and the other half was retained by SMITH as personal income and deposited in either the third or fourth bank accounts. [redacted] also suspected that SMITH maintained safety deposit boxes in Detroit banks. [redacted] did not know of any connections between SMITH and the German government or its agents. [redacted] told [redacted] according to [redacted] report, that SMITH and [redacted] had a close relationship, but he was unfamiliar with any financial arrangement between them. [redacted] claimed that after the 1940 election he severed his connection with SMITH, because his only purpose of affiliating himself with SMITH was to do as much good as he could for the REPUBLICAN PARTY. [redacted] concluded his report by stating that [redacted] never kept any accounts of the money he received and was unable to make any estimate; however, he maintained that SMITH was the sole beneficiary of all contributions.

The second typewritten report which Agent [redacted] received from [redacted] was in journalistic form and contained practically no material of evidentiary value and no information relevant to this investigation which has not been previously reported.

ALL b7C, b7D

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These reports are being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Office. This latter report does, however, contain a list of the major financial supporters of SMITH, who are as follows:

[redacted] New York City	$18,000
[redacted] New York City	3,000
[redacted] New York City	2,500
[redacted] New York City	3,000
[redacted] New York City	1,000
[redacted] New York City	15,000
[redacted] New York City	4,500
[redacted] New York City	8,000
[redacted] New York City	2,500
[redacted] Long Island, New York	1,200

ALL b7c

(Detroit file 62-1126)

[redacted] New York City	$ 500
[redacted] New York City	500
[redacted] New York City	350
[redacted] Westchester County, New York	3,500
[redacted] New York City	2,000
[redacted] Long Island, New York	500
[redacted] New York City	2,000
[redacted] Yonkers, New York	(amount unknown)
[redacted]	(amount unknown)

Contributions from [redacted] of Pennsylvania include:

[redacted]

ALL b7c

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[redacted]

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Total Amount $10,000

Governor DAVEY'S political campaign, money paid to SMITH by FRANK POULSON, Chairman of the OHIO STATE DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE and Miss MYRNA SMITH, Secretary to former Governor DAVEY, June, July, August, and September, 1938 $12,000

BRICKER campaign for Governor in Ohio; also money paid by E. J. MILLER of the MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION and FRANK BOGGS, State Chairman of OHIO REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE, September, October and November, 1938 $ 8,000

Inasmuch as there is no indication that these amounts of money were paid to SMITH in violation of any law of the United States over which the Federal Bureau of Investigation has primary investigative jurisdiction, no leads are being set forth to other field offices with respect to these payments at this time.

[redacted]

b

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By letter dated November 4, 1942, the Bureau transmitted to the Detroit Field Office two photostatic copies of a document obtained from the Attorney General on October 28, 1942. This document, prepared by [redacted] set forth in detail his version of the activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH. A careful

b7c
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(Detroit file 62-1126)

review of this material has disclosed that it is substantially similar to information set forth previously in this report as information given by [redacted] to Special Agent in Charge JOHN S. BUGAS on October 9 and 15, 1942. Consequently, the material contained therein will be reported only to the extent that it adds to or differs from the information reported above.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

ALL b7c, b7d

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

10 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information:

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-173 p. 42-57

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

[redacted]

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ENCLOSURES

TO THE BUREAU:

One copy of the October-November, 1942 issue of "The Cross and the Flag."

- P E N D I N G -

CONFIDENTIAL

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE NEW ORLEANS FIELD DIVISION:

* AT ALGIERS, LOUISIANA, will attempt to locate and interview [redacted] who was friendly with SMITH during HUEY LONG'S regime and [redacted] If he is located, will interview [redacted] concerning SMITH'S contacts, finances, supporters and activities. b7c

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION:

AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN, will maintain contact with Informants and obtain copies of all propaganda for prompt transmittal to the Bureau.

- P E N D I N G -

CONFIDENTIAL

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CONFIDENTIAL

Confidential Informants

b2D

[redacted] the War Department, Office of the Director, [redacted] Service Command, 808 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, [redacted]

[redacted]

C

b1

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

TITLE: BERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH was Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTE OF 1,000,000

b7c

S. A. [redacted]

DATE: 12/11/42

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February 18, 1943

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/7/82 BY SP6/JA/Dms

1184

Honorable Prentiss M. Brown
Administrator
Office of Price Administration
Federal Office Building Number 1
Second and D Streets, S. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Brown:

This Bureau has recently received information from a confidential source to the effect that one Bernard Lomas of Detroit, Michigan, who is described as [redacted] business manager for Gerald L. K. Smith, also of Detroit, recently secured a "B" gasoline ration book for Smith.

In this connection I thought you should be advised that we have been further informed that Smith, during the course of a radio address given at Detroit, Michigan, on October 24, 1942, stated substantially as follows:

"On last Thursday I drove to Kalamazoo, Michigan, at a regular rate of speed. I observed all the speed laws, but I ignored this bureaucratic lose-the-war ruling which would slow down our highway traffic to 35 miles per hour. On good, straight, paved roads I drove 40, 50, and 60 miles per hour.

"I was not molested. I was not stopped, and at no time did I drive at an unsafe speed. On the other hand I drove at what I call win-the-war speed. I did this in order to dramatize to my friends and to the people of America how unsound many of our bureaucratic things really are.....

"Inasmuch as the suggestion to slow down to 35 miles an hour was handed down by a Wall Street politician, Bernard Baruch, and the rule was handed down by a railroad president and confirmed by a New Deal bureaucracy, it is not surprising to discover that this slow-down rule is likely to paralyze our whole transportation system and eventually our whole economic order.....

"If this thing goes through, it will empty our churches; it will paralyze our educational system. It will isolate our country people from their neighbors. It will almost destroy the right of free assembly because we will no longer be able to gather together in big

"CATHOLIC" SECTION

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Smith recently sought election to the United States Senate from the State of Michigan and is said to reside at 1753 Seyburn Street, Detroit, Michigan.

1185

This Bureau has no information as to the accuracy of the report that Doman secured a "B" gasoline ration book and, if he did, whether he secured it for Smith. However, in view of the tenor of the above-quoted remarks, I thought that this instance should be called to your attention.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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order to carry on a campaign against the communists and the labor unions, he requested [redacted] to furnish him with some skillful investigators of communistic activities. [redacted] stated that in response to this request an investigator of the Ford Service Department by the name of [redacted] was "loaned" to SMITH for his anti-communist propaganda. Informant said he was not aware of any other investigator that worked for SMITH except that it was possible that other investigators helped out for brief periods. [redacted] stated that while doing this work for SMITH, [redacted] was retained on the Ford Motor Company payroll and he did not believe that any compensation was obtained from SMITH. [redacted] explained that the common interest of SMITH and the Ford Motor Company arose from the fact that both were interested in combating the rising tide of communism among labor unions in the Detroit area.

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b7D

[redacted] that MRS. GERALD L. K. SMITH'S maiden name was SORENSON and she is related in some way to CHARLES SORENSON, Vice President and General Manager of the Ford Motor Company. Informant stated he believes SMITH is still working rather closely with the Ford Motor Company.

[redacted] stated that he never had any indication that SMITH was a Nazi Agent, a Nazi sympathizer, or in any way connected with officials of the present German Government. He further assured that he was unaware of any foreign contacts that SMITH ever had. He stated that all of the accusations against SMITH made in the public press and over the radio are unfounded in this regard. [redacted] suggested that the pressure for the investigation of SMITH and the desire to defame him publicly did not come from the New Deal Administration or the communists so much as it originated from the Jewish people and their organizations. In explaining this, [redacted] stated that SMITH is an intense American nationalist and the Jewish people are internationalists and, therefore, want to silence SMITH. [redacted] also submitted as an additional explanation that SMITH'S motto "Christ First In America" and the name of his magazine "The Cross and the Flag" are distasteful to Jews. [redacted] added, however, that a few rich Jews, such as the Detroit attorney [redacted] are friendly with SMITH in an effort to placate a man whom they think would be a dangerous enemy of all Jews if not befriended by some. [redacted] stated that although SMITH'S public statements are very closely guarded, he knws that SMITH privately is anti-Jewish. He is firmly convinced that the only good Jew is a dead Jew. [redacted]

b7D

[redacted] that the origin

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of the feud between SMITH and the ROOSEVELT Administration goes back to the assassination of HUEY LONG in Louisiana because SMITH contends that some day he will make public his proof that the assassination of HUEY LONG was planned in Washington, D. C. [redacted] stated that SMITH'S genuine hatred for communists was based on the fact that they are against religion, our present form of government, an independent United States of America and many other things that SMITH stands for.

[redacted] that SMITH does not hesitate to publicize the fact that the communists are getting more and more power with the Federal Government. [redacted] explained that the communists have a photostatic copy of a $2000 check to SMITH but that they have been warned not to publicize this evidence because the maker of the check was too "Influential in the Federal Government." [redacted] to state that SMITH'S backers are all the biggest men in Detroit and he would not go into this phase of the investigation without specific authority from [redacted]

[redacted] when questioned concerning any Fascist tendencies that SMITH may have stated that it is very possible that SMITH is a Fascist because of his experience in the southern states. He said that even in Germany the suppression of the Jews is no greater than the suppression of the negroes in the southern states. He also stated that other factors would indicate that SMITH can very possibly be a Fascist are his intense hatred for communists, for Jewish people, his egotistical and dictatorial desires and his lust for power. However, [redacted] stated that he had never heard SMITH make any admissions that would make the [redacted] believe that SMITH would want to lead a Fascist revolution in the United States.

[redacted] that he had no hesitancy in saying that GERALD WINROD of Wichita, Kansas is one of the most dangerous Fascists in the United States and he also knows that SMITH has had contacts with WINROD. However, he was unable to state the extent or the connection of these contacts.

At [redacted]

[redacted] was interviewed by the writer and Special Agent [redacted]

[redacted] SMITH then left Indiana and went to Louisiana and their contact was broken for a period of several years. The next time [redacted] met SMITH was when SMITH was campaigning for Dr. TOWNSEND and his political party in 1936 in Des Moines, Iowa. [redacted] explained that

during this period he himself was engaged in writing for GERALD WINROD'S magazine "The Defender."

In 1939 when [redacted] came to Michigan he heard GERALD SMITH'S radio broadcast. At the end of the broadcast he called SMITH and SMITH came to visit [redacted] SMITH proposed that [redacted] come to Detroit and work with him on some anti-communist publications that he was getting out. [redacted] agreed to work for SMITH in an editorial capacity for a specific sum of money. [redacted] admitted that he went to SMITH'S office in the Industrial Bank building in Detroit, Michigan, [redacted] pamphlet "Dangerous Enemies." He said he also got together some material for the later pamphlet entitled "Too Much Roosevelt," but at that time an argument arose between SMITH and him over [redacted] compensation and [redacted] quit.

[redacted] said that during the period of time that he assisted SMITH, he observed that [redacted] was SMITH'S closest associate. He said that [redacted] was SMITH'S principal collector but SMITH never confided in anyone the amount of money that was collected. [redacted] said that SMITH had two principal sources of information which he used in his publications. First, he was an ardent newspaper clipper and he filed away under carefully selected classifications all the clippings that he took from newspapers; secondly, he obtained the services of the Ford Motor Company's investigators to obtain anti-communistic material, the chief of these Ford Motor Company investigators was [redacted] said that in his opinion much of SMITH'S recent writing is greatly seditious because of the utter malice he bears for the present United States Government and also for his subtle but, nevertheless, bitter anti-semitism. He said that in his opinion, SMITH uses all the Nazi propaganda devices for causing disunity among a people whom the Nazis had aimed to conquer.

[redacted] said that he knows SMITH has had some contact with the German Government because when SMITH was in New York, according to SMITH'S own admission to [redacted] the German Consul in New York City offered SMITH practically limitless sums of money for his services as an outlet for world propaganda. SMITH told [redacted] that he had to refuse this offer. [redacted] also stated that SMITH had told him that [redacted] negotiated with SMITH in an attempt to make SMITH become active in his organization. SMITH was somewhat interested in this offer but eventually turned it down because [redacted] was to be the attraction and SMITH merely the mouthpiece. He also said that SMITH admitted to him after coming to Detroit that he had been offered $1,000,000 by HENRY FORD if SMITH would make his propaganda anti-Jewish. [redacted] said that he did not know if this last boast

ALL b2, b7D

of SMITH'S was sincere.

[redacted] said that SMITH advised him in 1933 to get in touch with WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY who was organizing a Silver Shirts Fascists Movement in the United States. [redacted] said that he wrote to PELLEY and in his reply letter PELLEY sated that DR. AND MRS. SMITH had been in training for six weeks at Ashville, North Carolina and had recommended [redacted] as a desirable member. [redacted] said that he and his wife read this letter many times and then burned the letter with all the propaganda material which had been received from PELLEY because they had no sympathy with what appeared to be a revival of the KU-KLUX KLAN.

[redacted] said that as far as he knows SMITH had little contact with MRS. ELIZABETH DILLING. He stated that he believed SMITH was working in close conjunction with REV. GERALD B. WINROD.

[redacted] In December, 1941, GERALD WINROD had a series of lectures at the Christian Temple for an entire week at Pontiac, Michigan, which is [redacted] own Church. [redacted] said that during that week SMITH made frequent contacts with GERALD WINROD. [redacted] said he believed REV. WINROD was a Fascist because when he returned from Germany in 1936 he was highly complimentary of the changes that ADOLPH HITLER effected in Germany. [redacted] stated that SMITH was almost always egotistical and apparently this egotism manifested itself in a lust for political power due to SMITH'S long association with HUEY LONG.

b7c
b7d

[redacted] said that SMITH was violently anti-Jewish and as a possible basis for this prejudice, [redacted] said that DR. WEISS who assassinated HUEY LONG in the presence of SMITH was probably Jewish. He said LONG'S assassination was responsible for SMITH'S hatred for the Roosevelt Administration. In conclusion, [redacted] summarized that SMITH definitely has Fascist inclinations and is an exceptionally shrewd man, which would make SMITH a dangerous candidate for Fascist leadership in the United States.

At [redacted]

[redacted] said that he has not been in touch with SMITH since 1940 but prior to that time he had noticed from SMITH'S radio speeches and private utterances that he was strongly

b7D

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against Roosevelt, communists and CIO. He was very much in favor of GERALD WINROD and Congressman MARTIN DIES. [redacted] stated that in his opinion SMITH was not sincere in any of his apparent convictions but would argue in favor of any movement if it were profitable. b7D

At Detroit, Michigan:

[redacted], Detroit made available to the writer a file of correspondence that he had had with SMITH. A letter dated October 1, 1941, from SMITH to [redacted] was to the following effect: b7C, b7D

[redacted] told me that you or your friends were apprehensive concerning my attitude toward the Jews. That attitude is now the same as I outlined it in documents which I previously wrote to you. The tide of anti-semitism is rising in both houses of Congress and in the minds of ordinarily temperate-minded citizens. The frequent smears against WHEELER, NYE, LINDBERGH, CLARK, WOOD and all known non-interventionists create undercurrents of resentment which are expressing themselves in many different forms including anti-semitism. I warned Jewish leaders five years ago not to "give the works" to suspected anti-semites as they gave it to me in 1936. In two large mass meetings recently, I have endorsed LINDBERGH. "Any intelligent observer knows that his Des Moines speech was not anti-semitic. He merely named three of the four groups whose so-called official organizations are constantly plugging for war." b7C

"If American citizens like yourself do not want the Jewish people to take their share of the blame for pro war propaganda, then you should devise ways and means for directing, quieting or take the blame - for shutting up such adversaries as are constantly being elevated to positions of high authority where they act as spokesmen of American Jewry."

"LINDBERGH in naming the three most persistent non-interventionists overlooked one, namely the Communist Party, which has now become the fair-haired mistress cloistered in the wing of the New Deal Dynasty..."

"Now I ask you to put yourself in my position. I don't know of one single elected Jewish leader that has been officially my sincere friend within the last five years. Occasionally I have been the recipient of a kind word or two from someone like yourself, and, of

course, the SOKOLSKY article (GEORGE SOKOLSKY article in the New York Forum) was sabotage. The 'war party' has arranged to give me "the works." These men who are being smeared are my friends. They are not anti-semitic. They are good Americans and they represent eighty per cent of the American people." "Your Jewish leaders in Washington, D. C. said the only thing that would save America would be some means of silencing by imprisonment or otherwise such obstructionists as GERALD SMITH....Practically every good American I know on this side of the fight feels like a martyr and I know many who will gladly accept im - prisonment rather than to surrender their liberty to this set of thieves and Benedict Arnolds now running our Government...."

"We believe in the constitution and when the elected representatives of the people declare war, we will be in the front line of service and sacrifice to help win it but we don't propose to be solicited by these fire side methods being employed by our President who remains the demigogue. It will take more than a fire-side chat to make us believe that the Panama flag is the American flag."

"We are not only ready to support national defense but we believe that when our President and his henchmen trap us through coersive methods and petty practices into giving away our materials which we need for national defense to foreign countries, he not only menances our safety but commits treason against our people...."

"This letter is not confidential and you may show it to any one who has enough sense to recognize honesty when they see it."

Other letters in [redacted] file were as follows:

April 25, 1942, GERALD SMITH to JOHN S. KNIGHT, Editor Detroit Free Press objecting to the headline that "Reds and Jews are Trying to Shield REV. FATHER CHARLES E. COUGHLIN." SMITH said that the quotation was inadequate because SMITH never mentioned the word "Jews."

Letter dated May 4, 1942, JOHN S. KNIGHT admitted that his copy desk changed the words "Reds" and "Christ Killers" to "Reds" and "Jews." KNIGHT denied that there was any libelous misstatement therein.

Letter dated May 5, 1942, from SMITH to [redacted] with a copy of KNIGHT'S later which he termed a scandalous admission. SMITH stated that he never introduced the Jewish issue but that it might be possible for a fair minded person to decide whether SMITH'S defense of COUGHLIN indicated that SMITH was anti-semitic. SMITH noted on the bottom

of this letter that in his interview with JOHN S. KNIGHT, KNIGHT admitted to him the terms "Christ Killers" and "Jews" were synonymous.

[redacted] estimated that SMITH'S office expense was approximately $100 per week for employees and about $15 a day for postage. He said that as far as he knew the corporation with which SMITH had organized was serving no purpose whatsoever since all the money came in to SMITH and all correspondence went out over his signature. [redacted] submitted a copy of a letter dated April 10, 1942, which clearly shows that SMITH was then engaged in the free distribution of the booklet entitled "A Hoop of Steel."

[redacted] b7

An examination by Special Agent [redacted] Accountant, of the account of [redacted] 2006 Industrial Bank Building in the Industrial Bank, Detroit, Michigan, revealed nothing of significance to this investigation. b7

[redacted] stated that SMITH made his first radio speeches in Detroit, Michigan, over Radio Station WXYZ each Sunday in April 1939. Since May, 1939, practically without interruption, he has made radio speeches each Sunday evening over radio station WJR. He also attempted to have his speeches translated into the Polish language and broadcast over Station WJBK but this proved unsuccessful since his doctrines had no appeal to the large Polish Catholic community in Hamtramck, Michigan. b7

When SMITH came to Detroit he was employing as his Office Manager BERNARD DOMAN. Upon his arrival here, he became closely associated with [redacted] who had been a close friend of [redacted] and was able to contact many influential persons on behalf of SMITH. SMITH'S principal collector was [redacted] but [redacted] and SMITH were in continual disagreement and apparently did not trust one another very well. For the first few weeks SMITH had only one girl working in his office taking care of the incoming mail, but after the first few broadcasts it came in so heavy that he had to enlarge his office. [redacted] believed that the receipts amounted to about $200 a week for a prolonged period of time. However, this amount was insufficient to cover radio broadcastings and office expenses and, therefore, it was b7 b7

necessary to have men like [redacted] and [redacted] solicit private individuals for contributions. Informant stated that SMITH at one time was principally engaged in attacking communist activities among Detroit labor unions and in doing so, sometimes sent his employees among the communists to get samples of their literature. Besides his radio addresses, SMITH spoke to various Chambers of Commerce, Religious Groups and Civic Clubs. During January, 1941, SMITH was principally occupied in writing a pamphlet "War Mongrels and the Trend of the War." As was his custom, he did most of his work at home because he couldn't stand the noise of typewriters and other noises which are common around business offices. b2c

All the radio addresses had to be approved by the attorneys for Station WJR. SMITH was particularly anxious to have his speeches reviewed by one of the attorneys, [redacted]. After SMITH'S copies were approved, SMITH would frequently deviate from the approved script on the radio and this made it necessary for the radio station to require SMITH to put his speech on a transcript record and the actual broadcast was made by playing the record. [redacted] said it was clear that SMITH had an intense hatred for ROOSEVELT and he frequently hinted that ROOSEVELT'S associations planned the assassination of HUEY LONG. He frequently threatened that some day he would disclose the names of the conspirators but has never yet done that. [redacted] stated that SMITH frequently argued in favor of or against current proposals whenever it was profitable for him to do so. [redacted] recalled that SMITH argued against socialization of the medical profession and at that time he sent out letters requesting financial assistance to every doctor and dentist in the local telephone directory. In this regard, [redacted] said that SMITH always made a practice to steal the telephone directory from every city he visited so he could use the names and addresses to augment his coveted mailing list. b

[redacted] that when SMITH first came to Detroit he was given considerable assistance by a [redacted] who was head of a manufacturers group. He gave SMITH mailing lists of employers and employees for different factories. At about the same time [redacted] started to collaborate with SMITH. SMITH moved his offices from the Detroit Leland Hotel to the Industrial Bank Building. SMITH has been heard by [redacted] to state that the young [redacted] who was landlord of the Industrial Bank Building was interested in his work and furnished the offices at a very modest rent. The informant also stated that SMITH worked very closely with [redacted] February 5, 1941, SMITH addressed b

the Foreign Affairs Committee of the United States Senate in hearings on the Lend-Lease Bill and SMITH was extremely eloquent and almost cried when he made references to the late Senator HUEY LONG. SMITH was secretely chagrined when all the Senators refrained from questioning him with the exception of Senator BENNETT CHAMP CLARK.

[redacted] that through the early part of SMITH'S career in Detroit, Michigan, his chauffeur and valet was HERMAN "DUTCH" GRUNDMEYER. [redacted] that GRUNDMEYER had known SMITH when he was in Louisiana and finally left SMITH on February 20, 1941, because he was disgusted with SMITH'S hypocrisy. The informant stated that he believes GRUNDMEYER'S address is Algiers, Louisiana. b

On March 2, 1942, SMITH called a meeting of the Committee of One Million at the Masonic Temple which was attended by Senator NYE and his wife, Labor Conciliator DEWEY and [redacted] The principal speaker was Senator NYE. b

Informant stated that when SMITH was in Washington he ate at the Madrillon Restaurant, Washington, D. C., and explained that he was a close friend of the owner who financed GENERAL FRANCO'S Fascist revolution in Spain.

[redacted] said that ever since SMITH arrived in Detroit he enjoyed the cooperation of the Ford Motor Company; specifically he was furnished with the services of two investigators of communist activities, named [redacted] and [redacted] according to his own admission, was a former member of the Communist Party and boasted that his contacts with the Communist Party made it easy for him to get information about the Communists' activities. [redacted] was SMITH'S principal source of information. He also frequently brought to SMITH'S office 3 x 5 cards on which were contained information about communists. These cards were referred to as the "Ford Company Red File." The informant said that aside from this material SMITH also relied on newspaper clippings for his material. From these sources SMITH was able to write two pamphlets entitled "Dangerous Enemies" and "Too Much Roosevelt." These pamphlets were edited by SMITH'S friend [redacted] Near the conclusion of this work, however, [redacted] also known as [redacted] engaged in an argument with SMITH over his compensation and took the materials he was editing home to [redacted] and refused to return them until he was paid. SMITH became exceptionally angry and went up and got the materials from [redacted] b

[redacted] did not know of any contact between b7

SMITH and WINROD except to the extent that they exchanged publications and quoted from one another.

[redacted] stated that SMITH attempted to explain the accusation that he was one of PELLEY'S Silver Shirts. SMITH said that he and MRS. SMITH merely wrote to PELLEY asking for some of his literature. When he received literature from PELLEY the copies were serialized with numbers and since that time SMITH'S enemies have referred to him as a member of PELLEY'S Silver Shirts and have stated that he and his membership number correspond with the serial number on this serial.

[redacted] said that SMITH corresponded with MRS. ELIZABETH DILLING of Chicago, Illinois, and obtained a copy of her book "The Red Net Work" from which he frequently borrowed material for his own publications. SMITH sometimes commented that he regarded MRS. DILLING as a deep student of the vicious communist movement. He argued with her seriously one time over the payment of a quantity of books which he bought from MRS. DILLING.

As far as [redacted] was able to ascertain, SMITH did not have any contact with [redacted] Similarly, the informant was not aware of any contact SMITH had had with officials of the German Government. Informant stated that SMITH had studied ADOLPH HITLER'S "Mein Kampf" and commented that it was a marvelous book and he advised other people to read it. [redacted] was unable to elaborate on SMITH'S comment that it was a marvelous book and could not say whether he agreed with its contents or merely marvelled at the fantasy of the writer.

[redacted] that SMITH'S outstanding characteristics are his love for power and his egotism. [redacted] that his personality is such that if he had an opportunity to seize power he would undoubtedly become dictator in the exercise of it. [redacted] that SMITH is known to have preached against Jews and Negroes and as many other elements which are advocated by Nazi propaganda.

Copies of radio speeches delivered by SMITH over Radio Station WJR were obtained through a source previously recorded and they are as follows:

"GERALD L. K. SMITH
Sunday, August 9, 1942
WJR, Detroit

"Good evening, ladies and gentlemen:

(Detroit File 62-1126)

"On last Thursday night I opened my upstate campaign for the United States Senate at Saginaw, Michigan. I spoke in the great Saginaw auditorium to a record-breaking crowd - more than two thousand people came out through a downpour of rain to join hands in this fight to put a fearless voice on the floor of the United States Senate. Loyal friends and workers attended this Rally from all over the state of Michigan. Some came over two hundred miles. Many could not come because of the automobile tire shortage.

"This tire situation is really becoming serious. Churches are being hurt, business is being destroyed, war industry is being slowed down - and the tragic part of it all is that if we would take this automobile tire situation out of the hands of the stupid boondogglers and the bureaucratic tyrants, we could begin to have tires without 60 days, millions of them by Christmas and tires for everybody by Easter - without in any way injuring the war effort. In fact, it would speed up war production. It would make the people happier. It would build morale.

"Although it's too late to save the tourist industry this year, it would give hope to the tourist industry of Michigan and elsewhere, on which they might build their plans for next year.

"I am going to speak all over the state of Michigan, and before I close this address I am going to announce the names of many towns where I am going to speak. Get hold of a pencil right away so you can write down the names of the towns in which you are interested and where you might be able to attend a meeting.

"Now, back to the big Saginaw meeting. Toward the close of the Rally we unveiled the automobile made of substitute rubber and then, along with this tire, we showed the people who attended the Saginaw Rally other exhibits of substitute rubber. I demonstrated that tires could be made out of potatoes, wheat and corn, and so during this tire exhibit a corn farmer, a wheat farmer and a potato farmer came up and assisted in the ceremonies.

"This tire which I exhibited in Saginaw, and other exhibits, will be exhibited wherever I speak in this campaign. Whenever you hear I am going to speak near your home, bring your friends to the meeting so you can see the kind of tires we could begin to have in 60 days

if it wasn't for the conspirators, the politicians and the international monopolies.

"Concerning this matter, the ussue of my campaign was raised by President Roosevelt when he vetoed the bill which had been passed by Congress authorizing the manufacture of rubber from farm crops. Why is Mr. Roosevelt opposed to making rubber out of farm crops? He says he has appointed a committee to investigate, but he knows that a committee of the United States Senate has been investigating for over six months and they have demonstrated that rubber can be made of oil, as well as potatoes, wheat and corn.

"This past week, a meeting of the most eminent scientists in America was held in Peoria, Illinois. They announced that 7 pounds of rubber could be made from a bushel of wheat or a bushel of corn. The New Deal politicians say that we might run out of grain. This year they are destroying two million acres of wheat in Kansas alone.

"Here is a very sensational Associated Press dispatch:

"'Washington, Aug. 5. - C. R. Starnes, of Gladewater, Texas, an independent oil operator, told the Senate Patents Committee today that there exists a conspiracy to prevent the development of synthetic rubber vitally delaying prosecution of the war effort.

"'He contented that the "conspiracy" was "managed by international cartels and patent pools" and said that he had discovered its existence during the past six months in attempting to "put six refineries to work producing aviation gasoline and synthetic rubber and other material vital to the war effort."

"'As he opened an outline of his charges, he declared that he intended to "mince no words" while "American boys are dying on the battlefields."

"'He said that the purpose of the obstruction to production of symthetic rubber was to "establish and maintain a monopoly in the United States and in the world" and "to drive out competition which might survive after the war.'

"Now, who has been appointed to investigate rubber? A representative of the farmers? No. An elected representative of the people? No. On the same day that the President vetoed the bill to permit

the farmers to produce rubber from farm crops, he appointed Bernard Baruch, the wall Street banker, and President Conant of Harvard University.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I repeat - unless this rubber situation is taken out of the hands of the Wall Street Bankers and their friends and, unless we begin to permit the great chemists and scientists and manufacturers of America to solve our automobile tire problem, unless we do this and do it quickly, ladies and gentlemen, we might lose this war.

"Hitler is using on all his war machinery the very kind of rubber which Mr. Roosevelt, by his veto, forbids us now to manufacture. Hitler has 36 thousand of these farm crop rubber factories in Germany and there are 30 thousand of them in Poland.

"Could it be that the great international monopolies are cutting the throats of the American farmers? Could it be that the international financiers are trying to keep the farmer and the independent oil operator from sharing in this new one billion dollar industry?

"Automobile tires will solve the housing problem 90% If a man has tires, he can drive to work. He doesn't need to live right next to the factory. It will go a long way toward solving the farm problem because it will give an outlet for farm products when this war is over.

"Now, I am going to visit many communities in Michigan - small towns, middle-size towns and large towns. I will speak in farm communities, on store porches, in the street - and if you hear that I am going to speak in your town and you are my friend, kindly arrive a little early so that you can help in any way that is need__ to make arrangements for the meeting.

"Now, I repeat, I am going to bring this automobile tire exhibit with me to every meeting I address. Every person who attends one of my meetings will get a chance to see the kind of a tire you and others could have in sixty days, if we could either smoke out or fire the bureaucrats that are holding back the wheels of progress.

"Now, listen very carefully, while I tell you where I am going to speak in the next few days. Don't try to write down the names of all the towns. Just write down the names of the towns that interest you and be sure that you get the time correctly.

(Detroit File 62-1126)

"This coming Tuesday, August 11 - St. Louis, Michigan, at 10:00 in the morning, Alma at noon, Chesaning at 3:00 p.m. St. Charles at 7:00 p.m. and Vassar at 8:30 p.m. Then on this coming Thursday, August 13, I will speak at St. Johns at 10:00 in the morning, Grand Ledge at 12:30, Charlotte at 3:00 p.m., Eaton Rapids at 5:00 p.m., Mason at 7:00 p.m. and Williamston at 9:00 p.m. Then on this coming Friday night, there will be a big rally in Lansing at the Pruden Auditorium. That's the big auditorium in Lansing. I repeat, a great big rally at Lansing, Michigan at the Pruden Auditorium this coming Friday night. And on this coming Saturday night we will have a big rally at Sandusky, Michigan.

"Now, I remind you again that at each one of these meetings we will exhibit tires madeof substitute rubber which could have been in production six months ago and which we should be having right now.

"A few weeks ago when I announced for the Senate and wrote down as one of the 14 planks in my platform - Tires for Everybody - they called mea rabble rouser, a lunatic and a demagogue. But, today, the greatest scientists and industrial statemen of the nation agree that I speak the truth.

"Another plank in my platform is $100 per month for every soldier, sailor and marine. I was the first man to appear before any Congress committee and ask for an increase in pay for the men of the armed services. We fought for $100 and got $50. We are paying the makers of guns $10.00 a day. Why shouldn't we pay the gun shooters at least $100 a month? We could make arrangements for them to save $50 a month so that when they got out of the Army they would have one or two thousand dollars on hand and it wouldn't be like last time when the poor soldier boys were mustered out into unemployment and poverty.

"The great audience at Saginaw in our opening rally endorsed 100% my crusading platform, which is as follows: 1. 100% support of the war effort. 2. $100 per month for every man in the armed services. 3. Tires for everybody. 4. Free speech and free press for all good Americans, including Father Charles E. Coughlin. 5. A square deal for the Townsend Plan. 6. America First in War and Peace. 7. Build a hoop of military steel around America after this war which will guarantee protection from invasion and make it unnecessary to wage future wars of aggression. 8. I am reconsecrated to the 7 basic principles of the Committee of 1,000,000. 9. A farm program based on the teachings of the Holy Bible. 10. Fight without compromise in defense of Labor's right to organize and bargain collectively through leadership loyal to America and opposed to all forms of Nazi-Communism. 11. Food must come before whiskey. 12. Save the Little Businessman. 13. Protect the great tourist industry. 14. Christ First in America.

(Detroit File 62-1126)

"Ladies and gentlemen, I carry on this hard fight. You can imagine in speaking as high as six and seven times a day, as well as editing my magazine and preparing my radio addresses and handling my heavy mail - what a tax it is on my body. Thanks to a good Christian father and mother, I have been given a strong body and a strong constitution. I am the people's candidate and I am supported financially by the people.

"I will visit every section of the state of Michigan and shake hands with every friend who wants to meet me. Please pray for me.

"You have never seen a public man abused, persecuted, the way you will see me abused and persecuted within the next four weeks. I will never be able to carry the load unless I have your loyalty, your prayers and your support. Write to me. Don't worry about street address - just write to me, Gerald L. K. Smith, Detroit, Michigan. Help me - help me. Encourage me. Tell me what I should know. Send me facts that I need for my messages."

"GERALD L. K. SMITH
WJR, Detroit
Sunday, August 16, 1942

"Good Evening, Ladies and Gentlemen:

"My statewide campaign for the United States Senate proceeds with great momentum. I am speaking as high as six and eight times a day in as many different communities.

"It is very evident that the great masses of the common people of the state of Michigan are determined that they shall have a voice in the affairs of the government by sending a fearless crusader to the United States Senate.

"The crowds that are attending my meetings are the largest in the campaign history of the state. One newspaper in the state wrote an editorial suggesting that there was little or no interest in politics this year. That's the truth when it comes to oldtime stand-for-nothing, do-nothing, rubber stamp politics. But when it comes to a campaign like mine, where the candidate really discusses the issues of the hour and deals with boondoggling stupidity and bureaucratic tyranny in a fearless manner - the people not only attend the meetings in great numbers, but hand on every word, because the people of America - of Michigan - love to hear the truth fearlessly and dynamically spoken.

(Detroit File 62-1126)

"Thousands of people are turning out to see my exhibit of automobile tires made of substitutes. The greatest scientists tell us that there are seven pounds of rubber in a bushel of wheat or corn. Mr. Henry Ford has already told us that with the thiokol process he could be producing tires within thirty to sixty days without the use of any vital war materials.

"Now, I want every listener to get a pencil because toward the end of my address I am going to read off the names of the towns where I expect to speak this week.

"On this coming Wednesday I shall attend the Free Fair at Ionia. A certain newspaper man, who conspired with some New Deal Fifth Columnist of the Wendell L. Wilkietype, got up a newspaper story the other day to the effect that Mr. Howard Lawrence, president of the Ionia Free Fair, had invited all the candidates for high office to attend the Ionia Free Fair and be introduced, with the exception of myself. But within a few hours after this story appeared in the newspapers, I received an invitation over the long distance telephone from Mr. Lawrence to come to Ionia on Governor's Day and be the guest of the Fair Association at the Ionia Country Club.

"Now, I expect to be at the Ionia Country Club to meet these candidates for high office on both tickets, but that's not why I'm coming to Ionia. I'm coming to Ionia to meet thousands of my friends who will be attending the Ionia Free Fair. Mr. Lawrence, president of the Fair, says that he will prepare a special booth in the center of the fair ground where I shall exhibit these tires that can be made immediately without rubber and with rubber substitutes.

"Now, if you had not planned to attend the Ionia Free Fair, please plan to do so this coming Wednesday and I will be some place in a central spot on the grounds where I can shake hands with all my good friends and where I can show you this automobile tire exhibit.

"They wanted to call me insane for lifting up the slogan a few weeks ago, when I announced my candidacy, "Tires for Everybody" - but as the axiom goes - "He who laughs last laughs best."

"Now the wisest scientists in America agree that we can begin to meet this tire problem immediately if we could get it out of the hands of the Wall Street Bankers, the oil monopolies and the international

rubber trust.

"The ninth point in my platform is a farm program in harmony with the teachings of the Bible. One 'smart alec' editor said - "If there had been any doubt about Gerald Smith being a rabble rouser and a demagogue, that doubt was removed when he said "Tires for everybody" and "A farm program based on the teachings of the Holy Bible." Well, in the first place, I am willing to risk my political future in the state of Michigan with the people who still believe the Bible. I'm an old-fashioned Christian who agrees with Abraham Lincoln, who said, "If a man is a student of the Bible, he is a well-educated man."

"So I went to this editor who had ridiculed my farm program and said, among other things - "Do you know why it was that back in Bible days when all the world was starving that Egypt was able not only to feed herself, but able to feed the whole world?" The editor answered, "Why?" And I said - "Because Joseph was not a New Dealer. If Joseph had been a New Dealer, he would have burned up his extra corn the year it was growing in abundance instead of saving it for the year of the drought and the famine."

"To summarize the Bible plan in modern language for the farmer, I would use these words - Raise all you can raise when you can raise it - store it when you have too much so that when you have too much so that when you cannot raise it you'll have enough.

"Ladies and gentlemen, that's not only the Bible plan, but that's the old-fashioned, American plan. If we're going to pay the farmer out of the government treasury in order to keep his income up to where it ought to be, let's use some old-fashioned, American, common sense and pay the farmer for what he produces instead of for what he destroys.

"I wonder how many people listening in to me tonight have a nice smoked him on hand. Many people love to eat a nice ham steak smothered in brown sugar, seasoned with pineapple and fruit juices. Well, most of you haven't had a nice ham steak for many days. Why? Because the great-grandmother of that cured ham that you did not have today for dinner was dropped in the river or ground into fertilizer back a few years ago when we were slaughtering pigs, burying cattle and plowing under cotton by the order of the New Deal.

"No, I am not ashamed of my farm program, because it is not only based on the teachings of the Bible, but on old-fashioned, red, white and blue American common sense.

"Another plank in my platform, as I run for the United States

Senate, is "Save the Little Businessmen." Unless you little businessmen and you little manufacturers begin to get behind some fighting, fearless crusader like Gerald L. K. Smith, you're going to be right out in the breadline. These 'rubber stamp' Congressmen are not going to do anything for you. And these quiet, high-colared, dignified candidates are not going to fight your battles.

"Just walk down your main street and look over the business establishments or walk around the square. Your automobile dealers are virtually in the breadline, your tire dealers are out of business, your independent filling station man is broke, the big monopolies will soon begin to buy up the properties of the little independent fellow at half price, the hardware man is going broke because they've quite making hardware. The refrigerator man is gone, the furniture man is on his way out and so forth, and so forth. This doesn't count thousands of little manufacturers who have been unable to get war contracts and are forbidden by priorities to buy the materials necessary to stay in business.

"You may say, but oh yes, this is war. That's the truth. And no sacrifice is too great to make for victor. But what are we going to do with these little businessmen and manufacturers? Are we just going to stand back and watch them shrivel up and die and see the great middle class destroyed?

"I say that at least 500 million dollars should be set up as a special fund to re-finance the little businessman so he can get through the war and get back on his feet after the war. Oh, you say, it's too much money. Well, the Secretary of Commerce, Mr. Jesse Jones, member of the President's Cabinet, set aside 600 million dollars for the big oil companies - the Standard and five others - for the purpose of experimentation. Why can't we do as much for the little businessmen, at least as it has been done for the big oil monopolies?

"Ladies and gentlemen, and I am speaking right now especially to those who are the students of political science. If you will look into the question very carefully, you will find enough facts to prove we've got a set of bureaucrats in Washington who are determined to wipe out the middle class.

"Yes, we're all 100% in support of the war effort, but while we support the war, we must see to it that we defend America on the home front and on the main street, as well as on the battle front.

"Now, get out your pencil and listen very carefully while

(Detroit File 62-1126)

I read the names of the towns where I propose to speak this coming week. Don't try to write down the names of all the towns, just write down the names of the towns in which you are interested, giving special attention to the time of my appearance in your community. I want all my good friends and you who are my loyal friends known who I mean - I want you to please be at the meeting place a little early so that you can help with any arrangements that may be necessary.

"Tuesday morning at 10:00 I will speak in Yale, Michigan. At noon I will speak in Marlette. Cass City 2:00 p.m. Harbor Beach 5:00 p.m. Bad Axe 8:30 p.m. That's Tuesday, the day after tomorrow.

"Then on Wednesday during the day I will be attending the Ionia Free Fair at the invitation of Mr. Howard Lawrence, the President, and at night, Wednesday, August 19, I shall speak in Adrian, Michigan at the Armory.

"Thursday, August 20, I shall speak at Hastings, Michigan, at 3:00 p.m. Grand Rapids 8:30 p.m. in the Public Auditorium.

"Friday, I shall speak at Allegan at 10:00 in the morning. Paw Paw 12:30, Niles 3:00 p.m., Cassopolis 5:00 p.m., Three Rivers 7:00 p.m., Sturgis 8:30 p.m.

"Saturday, August 22, I shall speak in Coldwater at noon, Hillsdale 3:00 p.m., Marshall 5:00 p.m., Albion 8:30 p.m.,

"Don't fail to listen in next Sunday at 7:15 and I will tell you my speaking arrangements for the following week.

"Can you imagine the heavy load I am carrying? First, I have to fight off the Communists that want to put me in jail. They said they wanted to put me in thesame cell vacated by Earl Browder, the No. 1 Red, when he was turned loose. Then, I have to fight a certain type of New Dealer who really shudders when he thinks of my being in the Senate. Then, there's a certain set of New Deal Fifth Columnists within the Republican party that are trying to under-cut my campaign.

"My advice to these gentlemen is - "If you want to fight, I'll give it to you. And when I start on you I'm going to call names and I'll summarize some of your political practices and when you get through with me you'll have discovered that you have run into a buzz saw that cuts about three ways at one time.

(Detroit File 62-1126)

"But, in spite of these enemies, the great rank and file of the common people of the state of Michigan are my friends. They know I speak the truth. They know I'm right.

"If I didn't have an iron constitution and strong body, I couldn't carry on this fight. I have to make six and eight speeches a day, edit the magazine, prepare my radio manuscripts and answer a heavy mail. But God is with me. Victory lies ahead. But I cannot carry on without the help of the people - you, the people. Please continue to help me. Pray for me and I shall not betray the trust you manifest.

"God bless you - God bless and save America."

"GERALD L. K. SMITH
WJR, Detroit
Sunday, August 23, 1942

"Good Evening, Ladies and Gentlemen!

"Since last Sunday, I have spoken many places in Michigan. In Bad Axe, Michigan I was informed by the local newspaper that we had the largest crowd ever gathered for any purpose in the Thumb section. People came for many miles and from practically every county in the Thumb area.

"We are informed that in our numerous meetings we are having the largest crowds in the history of Michigan campaigning. One Michigan newspaper wrote an editorial suggesting that there was no interest in politics this year. Well, that's true if you're talking about oldtime, stand-for-nothing, do-nothing campaigning.

"The American people are all fed up on 'bunk', flattery, patronage methods and political fixers - but my campaign is a crusading campaign. My meetings are set up and conducted on a crusading campaign basis, and everything I say in this meeting contains a fearless truth which most candidates are afraid even to refer to, but which strikes the very heart of the peole's problems.

"A few months ago they wanted to almost brand me a traitor because I said that we must begin to fight and fight and fight to solve this tire problem. This automobile tire situation is the most tragic thing that could take place in our home life, aside from a famine.

"People who are running out of tires are absolutely desperate - and when I say desperate, I mean desperate. Imagine a farmer

living from three to ten miles from town. When he gets down to three tires, he is a prisoner on his own farm. All over Michigan today farmers' wives and their families are standing out by mail boxes with crates of eggs, marketable produce, begging some neighbor to help them get to the market.

"This thing is becoming more serious every day. Imagine how this farmer feels when he discovers through the reports of such men as the eminent chemist of the Dow Chemical Company that rubber could be made of his corn, his wheat, his potatoes. Imagine how the Michigan farmer and the American farmer, as well as the city dweller feels when he reads where a bill was passed through the lower house of Congress, through the upper house of Congress, to provide the manufacture of automobile tires and other rubber products from farm crops -- only to be vetoed by the President.

"In a few minutes I will give you the names of the towns where I propose to speak this coming week. Get a pencil so that later on in the address when I name these towns, you can copy down the names that are of interest to you.

"I have before me a very sensational telegram. Before I read the telegram to you, I shall give you the background of the telegram. No citizen of any importance or any consequence in Michigan has chosen to attack me. Occasionally, a newspaper will take a little swing at me, only to discover that many of its readers are my loyal and respectful followers.

"My enemies are not my opponents in this Primary campaign. My enemies are the enemies of America. They are the people who fear and hate the high and noble principles for which I stand. They cringe when I talk about bureaucratic tyranny. They coil and hiss like serpents when I throw up the slogan, "CHRIST FIRST IN AMERICA."

"Aside from the atheistic Communist Party in Michigan, my chief attacker has New York City columnist, Walter Winchell. Winchell, apparently, has been picked as the one to use the 'hatchet' on Gerald L. K. Smith. He has been vicious - he has been libelous - he has been merciless in his attacks upon me through the press and over the radio.

"Some weeks ago, I made a challenge to Mr. Winchell and I make it again: I make this challenge to you, Mr. Walter Winchell. You call on the rabbi, who is the pastor of the Jewish synagogue to which you belong. I shall call on the pastor of the Christian church to which I belong. Let these two men choose a Catholic priest. Then, let these three men of God - your Jewish rabbi, Mr. Winchell, my pastor, and the good priest - make up a committee to investigate the career of Gerald L. K.

Smith. If they find that I have not lived a patriotic, Christian life as a loyal American - I'll retire from public life. But if, on the other hand, they find your accusations against me, Walter Winchell, are false -- you get off the radio and go into the Navy on a full-time basis.

"Recently, Mr. Winchell made a very bitter attack on me through the columns of Liberty magazine - and in connection with his attack upon me he condemned me because of my association with Senator Robert Reynolds, Congressman Roy Woodruff and United States Senator Gerald P. Nye.

"Personally, I consider these three men very honorable company. Senator Reynolds, as you know, is chairman of the Military Affairs Committee of the United States Senate. True enough, Mr. Winchell has attacked some scoundrels - but, by and large, the list of people whom he has attacked the most viciously include many of America's greatest citizens, such as Mr. Cameron, who for years has been the voice of the Ford Motor Company, such as Senator Wheeler, Charles A. Lindbergh, Congressman Hamilton Fish, United States Senator Brooks, and so forth, and so forth.

"So, when this New York City columnist attacks Gerald L. K. Smith he adds me to this honor roll of great men on his smear list.

"But in his recent article in the Liberty magazine, he indulged in a type of misrepresentation that goes clear outside the realm of decency. Therefore, on August 12, I wrote the Liberty magazine a letter in which I warned them with these words - "Unless I receive a settlement from you for these deliberate lies which you have circulated all over the United States, I shall bring suit against you and Walter Winchell for at least $1,000,000. It is obvious that the Winchell article has been written and timed so as to injure me in my campaign for the United States Senate."

"This letter was sent air mail, reaching New York the morning of August 13. The same afternoon I received the following telegram. Now, listen very carefully while I read it to you.

"' In response to your letter, we are sorry for the error. An apology and retraction is appearing the first available issue of Liberty, which is the September 12 issue on sale September 2."

"There you have it, ladies and gentlemen. The magazine with nation-wide circulation compelled to apologize for an article written by Walter Winchell about Gerald L. K. Smith. Isn't it reasonable to believe that if his remarks are irresponsible in this particular instance that they thus far have been irresponsible and unreliable concerning other incidents and individuals?

"I want every God-fearing man and woman listening to me

tonight, who believe in my integrity, to resolve that you will pray for me, that you will holdup my hands and help me to pass through the Gethsemane that lies ahead. No one has been tortured, lied about, persecuted and harassed by the most vicious enemies on earth more than I shall experience within the next few weeks. Only the prayerful support of my thousands of friends can give me the strength to carry on this fight, as I speak from five to eight times a day, crying out with a fearless voice in this, the people's campaign, with this, the people's voice.

"I am the friend of the friendless, I am the voice of the weak, I am the voice of the little man, the little farmer, the little worker, the Townsendites, the friends of Father Coughlin, the great unheard masses, the workers in the mill, the hired girl in the kitchen, the hired man on the farm, the little storekeeper, the waiter, the waitress, the barber, the miner, the great rank and file of people who, when they hear me speak, say - that's just the way I feel, but I didn't know how to say it.

"One of my critics is worried about where I get my money for this campaign. This critic made an attack upon me in an attempt to arouse suspicion in the minds of the people. Well, the answer to this superficial criticism is - I am unashamed and proud to say that my money comes from the people and that in this campaign 99% of my campaign fund has come from people who have given me $25 and less. No big interest, no big contributors can sit behind the scenes and pull my coat tail and tell me what I can say and what I cannot say.

"My freedom is my life. My liberty is my love. I would rather rot in a concentration camp than to sacrifice that liberty. Yes, I say with the founding fathers - "Give me liberty or give me death."

"Let me emphasize to my Detroit friends that I am speaking in the Masonic Temple auditorium at the corner of Second and Temple streets - that's the big Masonic Temple in the heart of Detroit. I am speaking there this coming Friday night. For your information, this auditorium is exceedingly comfortable, because it is air-conditioned. No matter how hot it is outside, this room is always very comfortable. It has just been newly air-conditioned.

"The public is invited to attend this rally. At this rally in the Masonic Temple, as in other rallies, I shall exhibit tires, such as can be built and rebuilt, of substitutes made of mineral oils and farm crops. I am sure many people in the Detroit community will want to see this tire exhibit this coming Friday night, August 28, when I speak in person at the Masonic Temple.

(Detroit File 62-1126)

"My other speaking engagements for the week are as follows: Belding tomorrow afternoon, Monday, at 3:00. Ionia tomorrow night, Monday, at 8:30 p.m. Big Rapids Tuesday noon, Cadillac 3:00, Traverse City 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, August 26, Clare, Michigan at 12:00 noon, Gladwin 3:00 p.m. Mt. Pleasant 5:00, Midland 7:00 and Ithaca at 9:00. That's Wednesday. This coming Thursday, Standish 10:00 in the morning, Tawas City 12:00 noon, Harrisville 3:00, Atlanta 6:30, Alpena 9:00 at night.

"Then, as I announced a few moments ago, I will be in Detroit at the Masonic Temple on Friday night at 8:30. Then, on this coming Saturday I shall speak at Brighton 12:00 noon, Howell 3:00 p.m. Dexter 5:00 p.m., Flat Rock 7:00 p.m. and Monroe at 9:00 p.m.

"My exhibition of tires which can be built without a single ounce of rubber of substitutes based on farm crops and mineral oils - this exhibit will be made in every one of my meetings.

"Now, I don't need to tell you that this is a hard, tough schedule. Therefore, I must depend on all my good friends to help me. Be at the meetings a little early so that anything you can do to help make them successful you can do.

"I look forward to the pleasure of meeting personally and shaking hands with thousands of my friends again this week.

"Help me. Help me. My victory will be your victory. God belss you - God bless and save America."

ENCLOSURE TO THE BUREAU: One copy of the "Cross and the Flag" August, 1942.

- P E N D I N G -

(Detroit File 62-1126)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE CHARLOTTE FIELD DIVISION

At Charlotte will obtain copies of any correspondence or other documentary material indicating the relationship between Subject and WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY. It is pointed out that SMITH'S membership number was believed to have been #3223 and also that PELLEY and SMITH were believed to have been corresponding with one another about August 15, 1933.

THE NEW ORLEANS FIELD DIVISION

At Algiers, Louisiana, will attempt to locate and interview HERMAN "DUTCH" GRUNDMEYER who was friendly with SMITH during HUEY LONG'S regime and later Chauffeur and Valet for SMITH at Detroit, Michigan, until February 20, 1941. If located will interview GRUNDMEYER concerning SMITH'S contacts, finances, supporters, and activities.

THE DETROIT FIELD OFFICE

At Detroit, Michigan, will maintain contacts with informants and obtain copies of Subject's propaganda for prompt transmittal to Bureau.

- PENDING -

(Detroit File 62-1126)

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

All
b7c, b7D

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 8

PAGES REVIEWED: 83

PAGES RELEASED: 47

NOTES: _____

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
September 14, 1942

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

DECLASSIFIED BY [illegible]
ON 8-10-77

Dear Sir:

[redacted] whose identity is known to you, has been contacted during the week of September 7, 1942, and stated that SMITH is devoting all his energy these days to the conduct of his campaign for the Republican nomination for the United States Senate from the State of Michigan.

Informant supplied no information except that which was purely political in character and none of his information was relevant to this investigation.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/27/82 BY [illegible]

b7c

[redacted] 62-1126

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-129

6 SEP 18 1942

54 SEP 25 1942

COPY IN FILE

DATE DESTROYED
88 OCT 13 1964

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

4 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) IRS _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-130

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
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FBI/DOJ

CC-285a

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62-43818-130

[redacted]mae

b2

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-8BS/MC

Date: September 29, 1942

To: SAC, Detroit

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
SEDITION

MAILED
SEP 29 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

There are enclosed herewith for your information and for the completion of your files photostatic copies of the income tax return of Subject for the year 1938.

Enclosure

mae

F

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 16 1942

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Lad
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
[redacted]

TTHIS IS FBI WASH DC 0711

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/21/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

FBI DETROIT 9-16-42 10-10 ~~PM~~ AM EWT EJG
DIRECTOR
TAPE. GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, INTERNAL SECURITY, SEDITION.
SUBJECT FAILED TO OBTAIN REPUBLICAN NOMINATION AS CANDIDATE FOR US
SENATOR FROM MICHIGAN. SUBJECT PLANS TO CONTINUE COMMITTEE OF ONE
MILLION AND THE CROSS AND THE FLAG IN WHICH HE WILL CRITICIZE FEDER
GOVERNMENT.
BUGAS
TIME SHOULD BE AM INSTEAD OF PM.
END
OK FBI WASH DC WV 10-14AM

RECORDED 62-43818-131
F B I
18 SEP 17 1942

Memo for the Director 9-18-42
[redacted] b7c

26

SEP 20 1942

DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

[redacted]lem b7c

August 16, 1942

62-4381

Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

I thought you would be interested in being advised that Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith of Detroit, Michigan, whose activities have been under investigation by this Bureau for a period of months at the request of the Department in an effort to establish a possible violation of the war-time statutes, failed in his attempt to obtain the Republican nomination as candidate for United States Senator from the State of Michigan.

Subject is the founder of the Committee of One Million and the editor of the publication entitled "The Cross and the Flag." It is reported that Smith plans to continue his activities in connection with this organization and his publication and intends to criticize the Federal Government in future issues of this magazine.

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

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DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-8BTD/INF

SEP 21 1942

RECORDED

[redacted]

D-3

62-43818-13

F B I

18 SEP 17 1942

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FOR DEFENSE BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

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83 OCT 13 1964

[redacted] 8-13-42 b7c

The field office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at Detroit has for the last two months been preparing a dossier on Gerald L.K. Smith, National Chairman of the Committee of One Million and candidate for the United States Senate on the Republican ticket in Detroit in 1941. Agents have been contacting people who formerly worked with him. Some of these people have been called in and threatened with deportation if they did not talk, some having been called in as many as ten times. During this period Smith has called at the local field office and demanded protection against what he called "planted evidence" to embarrass him.

It is reported that the investigation on Smith is being carried on by an agent named [redacted] who is a Jew, and it is apparent that he is working with [redacted], the Dies agent who is also believed to be on the payroll of the American Jewish Committee and B'Nai B'Rith. b7c

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818-13

[redacted] of the Committee of One Million [redacted] it is stated, was called in by the F.B.I. and asked to reveal everything; that [redacted] informed them that if he talked he would have all the manufacturers including Henry Ford against him, as most of them donated money to campaigns; that he had to live in this town and couldn't do so if he talked. [redacted] stated that he would talk if a Grand Jury was called but was doing no talking until then, and preferably not then. After he was pressed to state who Smith's contacts and friends were, he stated "Your boss, J. Edgar Hoover is one of them". When it was stated that this could not be true, [redacted] said, "Call your Grand Jury and you'll find out." b2

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

It is said that Smith has admitted to confidential sources that the Communists have succeeded in getting a photostat of a check for $2000.00 given him by [redacted] It seems that considerable pressure must have been exerted by Washington officials on the Communists not to publish this check. They say they have his cancelled check but do not say who gave it to Smith. [redacted] is a Jew and it is said Henry Ford has stated to his intimate friends that he got him out of the plant or he would have stolen the buildings. Ford was not aware that [redacted] was a Jew until he had worked there for over a year and when he finally learned it [redacted] was hastily set up in the finance end and put out of the factory. It is believed that [redacted] fears his support of Smith will become known. b2

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

AUG 2 - 1942

Smith is said to be taking a long view of things and is banking on the misery that will inevitably come after the war. His confidants, Burton K. Wheeler, Nye, Dies, Hoffman, Day, Hoover, John L. Lewis, possibly Vandenberg, Wier of ~~Steel, Ford of auto, etc.~~, will prove a powerful bloc after the war. It was said that Smith is bidding for power and is positively lined up with Lewis who 'would sell his soul to the Devil to be President. If Smith is ever indicted for sedition it is believed that he will pull down the biggest names in America with him.

[redacted] 25 SEP 21 1942 399

b2c, D7D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 11/12 BY 2 2 2

It has been stated that the only thing that is saving Smith from the Administration's purge is that pulling him down would also involve some of the biggest manufacturers of war materials and would leave scars that would not heal.

Smith is also said to be tied in with Lindberg and has discussed with him the possibility of Lindberg's running for State Senate in Michigan. Lindberg had not been in Detroit long enough to establish legal residence and could not run. However, Walter Winchell predicted a week ago that Lindberg would shortly run for a high office

It is said that Smith is also being supported by [redacted] the Jewish attorney who is head of the local American Jewish Committee. [redacted] is playing as close as possible to Henry Ford on the theory that some of the Jews must be friendly to Ford or he may go against the Jews as he did in 1922.

b2v

[redacted] is said to have escaped further question by the F.B.I. by taking a trip out of Detroit for two months and not saying where he was going. It is believed that while in Washington he contacted Senator Norris and to have appealed to him for protection against the F.B.I.

Smith's magazine, "The Cross and the Flag" was termed seditio by a Federal Grand Jury on July 24, 1942.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICH. K.C. FILE NO. 100-3598

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Kansas City, Missouri	9-16-42	9-6-42	[redacted] KC

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, a.k.a. GERALD L. K. SMITH; The Committee of One Million	INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Kansas City files on Hudson De Priest have no information regarding De Priest's contact with SMITH.

R U C

REFERENCE: Report of [redacted], Detroit, Mich. 8-11-42.

DETAILS: K. C. File [redacted] title [redacted] Internal Security - G was reviewed, and found to contain no mention of name of G. L. K. SMITH, or of any Contacts [redacted] of Wichita, Kansas may have had at Detroit, Michigan on July 16, 1942 or on any other date.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/29/82 BY [illegible]

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [illegible]

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2 - Kansas City

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62-43818-134

RECORDED

7 SEP 18 1942

54 SEP 24 1942

FILED

Smith

Gerald Smith Seen Disqualified in Race

LANSING, Mich., Sept. 10 (C.T.P.S.).—A victory for Gerald L. K. Smith, Detroit radio orator and former Huey Long aide, in his race for the Republican U. S. senatorial nomination might deprive the party of any legally accepted candidate at the November election, one of Smith's rivals warned today.

Elton R. Eaton, Plymouth publisher, asserted that Smith's custom of taking up a free-will offering after each of his campaign rallies will make it impossible for him to meet requirements of the State's election laws regarding reports on campaign contributions.

File 213

NOT RECORDED

62-43818-A

CH-2 371 1 362

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DATE 9/29/80 BY SP6 Bsjmc

WASHINGTON TIMES-HERALD
MORNING EDITION SEP 11 19

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

JKM
62-43818

September 12, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
Sedition

Re: [redacted]

While talking to SAC Bugas of Detroit on another matter today, I told him of the memorandum dated September 2, 1942 from Commissioner Earl G. Harrison of the Immigration and Naturalization Service in the captioned matters. Mr. Bugas was advised that a copy of the memorandum would be sent to him and this has been done.

It was pointed out to Mr. Bugas that if [redacted] had not been interviewed recently, he should be, and that even though he does immediately furnish what appears to be complete information in his possession relative to Gerald L. K. Smith, such should not be accepted as a complete change of heart on his part. It was suggested that they recontact [redacted] occasionally for the next two or three months concerning the Smith case and also try to find some other matters in which he might serve as an informant.

It was further pointed out that there is no particular necessity for an expeditious withdrawal of the Bureau's suggestion for withholding action as to [redacted] by the Immigration Service, but that a period of two or three months should be taken to determine whether he has acquired a proper patriotic outlook.

Respectfully,

J. K. Mumford

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DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-8570/MW

ALL b7c,b7

RECORDED & INDEXED 211-140

62-43818-135

2 SEP 21 194

FOR DEFENSE
BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

JEM:BK
9-14-42
62-43818-126
62-43818-135

RECORDED

Honorable Earl G. Harrison
Commissioner
Immigration and Naturalization Service
Franklin Trust Building
15th and Chestnut Streets
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

My dear Commissioner:

This will acknowledge receipt of your memorandum dated September 2, 1942, your reference [redacted] relative to [redacted] an applicant for the creation of a record of registry, and its enclosure consisting of a memorandum addressed to you by [redacted] District Director, Detroit District of your Service, bearing date of August 24, 1942.

I must advise you that as of September 12, 1942, [redacted] had not furnished pertinent information to this Bureau nor had he taken any action which would tend to change his status. I have issued instructions that he be recontacted, however, by a representative of this Bureau, and I shall advise you in the future when he has displayed an attitude which would indicate that he has acquired a pro-American and patriotic outlook.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
SEP 15 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DATE 9/23/82 BY SP-8B3/MK

RECEIVED-ROOM 5640 F.B.I. U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

SEP 14 1942

RECEIVED-FBI LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

1942 SEP 12 15 23 PM

SEP 23 1942

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-3636

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CHARLOTTE, N. C.	9-17-42	9-16-42	[redacted] [redacted] :mrh

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, also known as Gerald L. K. Smith; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Files of the Charlotte Office concerning WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY and Silver Shirts of America reviewed with negative results for correspondence between PELLEY and subject.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated September 2, 1942, at Detroit, Michigan.

DETAILS: The files of the Charlotte Office, as well as the bulky exhibits, pertaining to the case entitled WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY, SILVER SHIRTS OF AMERICA have been thoroughly reviewed. There is no information contained therein indicating that subject has ever corresponded or been in any way associated with the Silver Shirts of America.

For the information of the Detroit Office WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY moved from the Charlotte Division to Noblesville, Indiana, approximately two years ago, and the office of origin in the PELLEY case at the present time is the Indianapolis Office.

As there is no further investigation to be conducted in this division this case is being referred upon completion to the office of origin.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: Edward Schultz SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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2 Indianapolis (Info)
2 Charlotte

RECEIVED 13 SEP 1942

COPY

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UNDEVELOPED LEAD:

The DETROIT FIELD DIVISION at Detroit, Michigan, will consider the advisability of requesting the Indianapolis Office to check the records of that office to see if any correspondence has transpired between subject and WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY or the Silver Shirts of America.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

September 24, 1942

EGF:MLC
Call: 2:40 pm
Dictated: 10 am, 9-25-42

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH

[redacted]

b7c

At this time, SA [redacted] of the Detroit Office advised that technical coverage on both Smith's residence and office, which was temporarily discontinued August 17, 1942, had been reestablished on September 1 and September 10, 1942. Coverage on Smith's office lines Randolph 9547 and 3163 was resumed September 1, 1942. The residence line Fitzroy 8264 was resumed September 10, 1942.

Respectfully,

E. G. Fitch

E. G. Fitch

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 9/29/82 BY [illegible]

RECORDED

62-43816-13

6 SEP 26 1942

FIVE

FOR DEFENSE
BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
September 24, 1942

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FILES
DATE 6/10/77

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED BY 60 80/LED/ON 5-10-77

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

FITC #

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/7/82 BY SP6 BJA/ 204,4

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that the following information has been received from [redacted], whose identity is known to you. b7D

On September 15, 1942, the primary election for the nomination of the Republican candidate for the office of United States Senator from the State of Michigan was held in Michigan and resulted in the defeat of GERALD L. K. SMITH. SMITH has privately made accusations that there must have been something crooked about the election. He has also offered the explanation that the New Deal Democrats feared that he would be too strong a Republican opponent and, consequently, voted as Republicans in the primary election against him. SMITH explained to his mother, who resides in Wisconsin, that "they pass the word down the line for all the Jews to vote, and they had a holiday, so they, the Jews, stepped in the last minute and they beat me. But all the white people voted for me." SMITH continued that although he lost the election, he received 120,000 votes, which gives him the balance of power in Michigan and no candidate can be elected without the support of his following.

SMITH explained to [redacted] at Lansing, Michigan, that although he lost the primary election he has succeeded in promoting in the State of Michigan sentiment against the New Deal. SMITH said that he thought with his large following, he could lay the foundation for a good organization with the cooperation of "several of them." b7C

62-43818-13

Mrs. MURRAY KNOWLES, who is active in United Mothers of America and who, with her husband, was a former member of the America First Committee, has previously reported has been contacting Mrs. ELIZABETH [illegible] of Chicago, Illinois. Mrs. KNOWLES has made the suggestion to SMITH that all of the pre-Pearl Harbor isolationists and opponents of the New Deal should

SEP 28 1942

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unite into an All-American Party and in this way their strength would be felt. SMITH'S associates have been working on this suggestion ever since September 15, 1942, by mailing circular letters and by making private telephone calls soliciting contributions for this All-American Party. SMITH himself on September 22, 1942, attempted to contact [redacted], presently personnel manager of Bohn Aluminum and Brass Corporation. When he was unable to reach [redacted] he spoke to [redacted], saying "that they are neglecting something that is terribly important, and if he doesn't get in touch with him it is going to be too late and it will be a case of everybody getting his picture in the papers all over the country unless they get game and say how they are going to operate. SMITH concluded by saying, "I can't go to work and I can't protect anybody unless I know what his conduct is."

SMITH has also attempted to contact Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS, Washington, D. C., [redacted] Ford Motor Company, and [redacted]. When SMITH attempted to contact [redacted] he was advised by [redacted] that [redacted] had been in Washington for a three-months' period (it is noted that [redacted] has been a traveling companion of [redacted] for several years). [redacted] stated that [redacted] had gone to England on a bomber in the capacity of a major as an expert on motors, but she didn't think that this fact was supposed to be generally known.

SMITH and his associates have been preparing their report on the expenses of the political campaign. SMITH told [redacted] ED BARNARD, Detroit political leader, "I want to make sure that it is good enough, but still I don't want to make it too good." SMITH then made an appointment to meet BARNARD to get suggestions about the report.

SMITH has been having trouble with his bank account at the Detroit Bank, having checks returned for insufficient funds. Mrs. SMITH, who keeps the accounts, has expressed her belief that somebody at the bank was "knifing" SMITH and his associates.

SMITH has also continued to contact [redacted] of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and [redacted] has promised both financial support and advice to SMITH on the conduct of his political affairs.

On September 11, 1942, SMITH was advised by [redacted] attorney for radio station WJR, Detroit, Michigan, that the Civil Rights Federation was going on the air that night with WILLIAM POWER MALONEY. Mr. MALONEY

ALV
b7c

planned to talk on the evils of seditious propaganda, and in the closing announcement persons that were named in the indictment in Washington, D. C., last month were to be named on the air. Then the annoucement continued, "This same indictment handed down in Washington charged that the publication and distribution of the Detroit magazine called "The Cross and the Flag" is part of the conspiracy against our war effort. "The Cross and the Flag" is published by GERALD L. K. SMITH."

[redacted] stated that there was nothing he could do to prevent this statement since it is an accurate report of the indictment.

BERNARD DOMAN, SMITH'S manager, agreed that this was different from the case where they made WINCHELL retract his statement that SMITH had been indicted. It is noted that the Civil Rights Federation is active in Detroit, Michigan, as a Communist-front organization and it is further noted that this broadcast was actually made just a few days before the primary election in which SMITH was defeated.

Mr. MURRAY KNOWLES, former America First leader in Detroit, Michigan, has been contacting BERNARD DOMAN and supplying him with a book which is not yet identified.

Informant stated that since the primary election is over, the investigation of SMITH for evasion of income tax has been resumed by the special agents of the Treasury Department.

BERNARD DOMAN has stated to [redacted] that she should not be grieved over the outcome of the primary election because SMITH was going to continue as usual with the publication of his magazine which would be out toward the end of September, 1942, and with his Sunday broadcasts. As has been previously noted, [redacted] was former distributor for Father COUGHLIN'S Social Justice magazine. SMITH has written an editorial for the next issue of his magazine which contains the sentence: "Every man and woman that voted for me had to wipe all of this mud out of his eyes when he went to the polls."

On September 13, 1942, just prior to the primary election, SMITH advised [redacted] of Lansing, Michigan, that the Detroit newspapers were not smearing him as bad as he thought they might have. He said they might have run a lot of pictures of all those people that had been sent to

ALL b7C

Letter to the Director
September 24, 1942

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

Atlanta Penitentiary, and in that way put SMITH in the middle and they might have run articles about SMITH'S connection with WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY, now serving fifteen years. SMITH explained, however, that the Michigan newspapers were hesitant to indulge in such a practice because they might suffer a decrease in circulation.

Immediately after the election, SMITH contacted [redacted] at Grand Rapids, Michigan. SMITH asked [redacted] if he thought there was any vote stealing in his district, and [redacted] replied that he did not know about that. b7c

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

EGF:MLC
Call: 8:55 am
Dictated: 9:20 am
62-43818

September 23, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

[redacted] b7D

Inasmuch as the Detroit Office advised that a technical surveillance [redacted] covering the telephones of the above subject, was discontinued for a temporary period August 17, 1942 and whereas there is an indication that such surveillance has been reestablished without notification having been furnished to the Bureau, SA [redacted] of the Detroit Office was contacted concerning this matter and was instructed to furnish the Bureau with the exact date on which this surveillance was reestablished. b7D b7C

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DATE 10-19-81 BY SP7MAC
#88.444

Respectfully,

E. G. Fitch

E. G. Fitch

RECORDED 62-43818-139
F B I
18 SEP 25 1942

FOR DEFENSE
BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

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Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit - Michigan

September 30, 1942

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080/LEG ON 6-10-77

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/7/82 BY SP6BJAI OMS 204,433

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, et al
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that the following additional information has been received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau:

b7D

[redacted] of the office of the Collector of Internal Revenue, Treasury Department, Detroit, Michigan, who has previously been in contact with SMITH concerning the investigation of SMITH'S income tax returns, attempted to contact SMITH on September 24, 1942. [redacted] stated that he wanted to see Mr. SMITH, but that it was not in connection with Government business, but concerning another matter. SMITH told his employe who advised [redacted] that neither SMITH nor his manager, DOMAN, could be located. On September 26, 1942, [redacted] called SMITH and explained that he wanted to see him on the 24th to warn him about certain persons who did not want to let SMITH talk at the Republican State Convention in Michigan. [redacted] made a luncheon appointment with SMITH for September 26, 1942, at the Statler Hotel.

SMITH has been attempting to contact CHARLES A. LINDBERGH at the Ford Motor Company, Willow Run Bomber Plant, but had not succeeded in contacting him. SMITH conferred for about two hours with [redacted] Ford Motor Company, on September 23, 1942, and related to his wife after the conference that the men at the Ford Motor Company are panic-stricken and are open to suggestion. SMITH further stated that [redacted] had been out to the Ford Motor Company trying to blackmail them. SMITH explained to his wife that [redacted] had not worked for him in years and he told [redacted] that he "didn't care what they do to [redacted]

b7D

SMITH directed his secretary, [redacted] to make out two separate financial reports for his political campaign, one was to be made by GERALD SMITH, the candidate, and the other by the Committee of One Million, and the reports were to show that all of his campaign funds were received and handled by the Committee.

SMITH, still elated over receiving more than 120,000 votes in the Michigan primary election for United States Senator, feels that he

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83 OCT 13 1964

Letter to The Director
Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH

September 30, 1942

can control the Republican Party vote in the November elections. SMITH said that before he decided what to do with the support of his followers he wanted to confer with [redacted] Michigan Republican leader, who was to confer with a man in Washington, D. C.

b7c

SMITH telephonically contacted [redacted], Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and demanded immediate help from [redacted] and asked for $1000. SMITH pleaded with [redacted] and finally got him to promise that he would send $100 immediately.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

John S. Bugas
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Kg
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I attach hereto a list of individuals as to whom complaints have been received indicating possible violations of statutes within the Bureau's jurisdiction. As to certain of them, I believe current investigations are pending. It will be appreciated if you will make available at your earliest convenience summaries of any information and copies of any reports in your files, other than those previously furnished, concerning these subjects. For your assistance, I am also attaching a list of all of the reports reflected by the records of the Division of Communications and Records to have been forwarded by the Bureau to the Department in any of these cases.

In this connection it will be further appreciated if you will also procure and forward photostatic or other copies of all income or other tax returns as well as any supporting documents filed by these persons for the years 1939 to 1941, inclusive. In those cases in which the individuals have been identified by the Bureau with suspected subversive organizations, copies of the organizational returns, if any, are also requested. Any comment which the Bureau may care to make in the summaries asked for concerning the relevancy of any information appearing in such returns will be of assistance.

It is contemplated that the Treasury Department may be asked to make a field examination in certain of these cases and I should like to be advised as to whether such action will prejudice or interfere with any pending investigation or other action which the Bureau may have in mind. Any request for such examination made to the Treasury Department, of course, will include a request that the Bureau be offered an opportunity to participate therein.

/S/
Lawrence M. C. Smith
Chief, Special War Policies Unit
War Division

Attachments

ENCL

RECORDED 62- 438,8-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 14 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FIVE

GERALD L. K. SMITH

Bureau memorandum of January 2, 1942 re: Gerald L. K. Smith.

Bureau memorandum of February 9, 1942 re: Gerald L. K. Smith; Committee of One Million; Internal Security.

Bureau memorandum of February 11, 1942 re: Gerald L. K. Smith.

Bureau memorandum of April 23, 1942 re: Gerald L. K. Smith; Committee of One Million; Internal Security; Sedition.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, April 27, 1942, entitled, "Gerald L. K. Smith - Committee of 1,000,000".

Bureau memorandum of May 11, 1942 re: Gerald L. K. Smith.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, May 20, 1942, entitled, "Gerald L. K. Smith".

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, May 23, 1942, entitled, "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith also known as Gerald L. K. Smith; The Committee of 1,000,000".

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, June 11, 1942, entitled, "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, also known as Gerald L. K. Smith; The Committee of One Million".

Bureau memorandum of June 12, 1942 re: Gerald L. K. Smith.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, June 29, 1942, entitled, "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, also known as Gerald L. K. Smith; The Committee of One Million".

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, July 22, 1942, entitled, "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith aka Gerald L. K. Smith; The Committee of One Million".

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, August 11, 1942, entitled, "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith aka Gerald L. K. Smith; The Committee of One Million".

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Kansas City, Missouri, August 11, 1942, entitled, "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith aka Gerald L. K. Smith; The Committee of One Million".

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Indianapolis, Indiana, August 25, 1942, entitled, "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith aka Gerald L. K. Smith; The Committee of One Million".

ENCLOSURE

62-43[illegible]-141

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GERALD L. K. SMITH (Cont'd)

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at New Orleans, Louisiana, August 28, 1942, entitled, "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith aka Gerald L. K. Smith alias Gerald L. K. Schmidt; The Committee of One Million".

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Atlanta, Georgia, August 28, 1942, entitled, "Gerald L. K. Smith". b7c

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, September 2, 1942, entitled, "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, also known as Gerald L. K. Smith, The Committee of One Million".

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JKM:BK
10-24-42

62-43818-141

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EX-34

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LAWRENCE M. C. SMITH
CHIEF, SPECIAL WAR POLICIES UNIT

Reference is made to your memorandum bearing reference "RPW," which is undated but was received at this Bureau October 13, 1942, and requested all available information and the securing of income tax returns concerning [redacted] Gerald L. K. Smith and [redacted].

Please be advised this Bureau has conducted no investigation in connection with its war effort concerning [redacted] of Chicago, Illinois.

b2c

All pertinent data have been furnished the Department in the cases relative to [redacted] and Gerald L. K. Smith.

Although no advice has been received from the Department in the premises, you will no doubt recall there has been considerable publicity apparently emanating from the Department to the effect that Elizabeth Dilling, William Griffin and Charles Hudson were among twenty-eight individuals indicted by a Federal Grand Jury in the District of Columbia on the charge of conspiracy to commit sedition and that these persons are awaiting trial pursuant to that charge. Mr. Ugo Carusi, Executive Assistant to the Attorney General, has recently advised me of the Attorney General's desire that this Bureau locate H. Victor Broenstrupp, another of the defendants indicted along with the three named hereinbefore in this paragraph. The Attorney General's desire in this regard is, of course, being complied with. All pertinent data in the files of the F.B.I. concerning these four persons have been furnished the Department, and you may wish to contact the Criminal Division concerning them as that Division would appear to be in possession of the facts in which you are interested.

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In view of the above, no further action will be taken based on your memorandum pending receipt of a further request from you. Further, in view of the expressions of interest which have emanated from the Department in the past concerning those persons named hereinbefore other than [redacted] I am offering no comment in answer to your query concerning the relevancy of the information made available to you.

b2c

CC - Wendell Berge

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

COMM. STAMP ON ORIGINAL

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DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-8B75/AC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 19 1942

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lack
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease

[redacted]

b7c

FBI DETROIT 9-19-42 10-50 AM EWT BMB
DIRECTOR
TAPE. GERALD L. ~~LOOK~~ K. SMITH, INTERNAL SECURITY, SEDITION. ALTHOUGH ~~SMITH~~ SMITH FAILED TO GET ~~REPUBLICAN~~ REPUBLICAN NOMINATION FOR U. S. SENATE, HE OBTAINED OVER ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND VOTES. HE NOW CONTEMPLATES MERGING FORCES WITH ALL ISOLATIONIST LEADERS INTO AN ALL AMERIC PARTY. ASSISTANCE RECEIVED FROM MRS. MURRAY KNOWLES WHO IS CONTACTING MRS. ELIZABETH DILLING. CONTRIBUTIONS ARE SECRETLY SOLICITED BY TELEPHONE. PARTY PLATFORM WILL ATTACK ROOSEVELT ADMINISTRATION AND PROSECUTION OF WAR.

BUGAS

END
OK FBI WASH DC WV 10-55AM

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DATE 9/26/82 BY SP4 BTD/MC

RECORDED 62-43818
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F B I
14 OCT 1942

28 OCT 23 1942

SECRET SECURITY

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y mr

New York, N.Y. October 12th, 1942.

Hon. Mr. Biddle, Attorney Gen'l. U.S.,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Sir:

After hearing Mr. Winchel last night, he spoke of you going to try Joe Kamp and Gerald Smith for un-American activities. I am giving you the names of a few people who have contributed right straight along, I believe, to the Kamp publications, located at 342 Madison Ave., N.Y. City. These same people have contributed to another publication with the same purposes in mind anti-Jew anti-Roosevelt, anti-Labor, namely, the National Republic, run by George Blasser, 103 Park Ave., City, and Walter Steele, of Washington, D.C. Both of these outfits Kamp and Blasser have employed the same salesmen who go from one to another. When they take a woman and they play mostly old ones for the Kamp deal, these same salesmen join the Blasser racket and take the same woman again. You may, if you wish, contact [redacted] These people might tell your office a few things if they dare.

b7c

I believe a raid on the files of Kamp and Blasser would reveal a lot of information the gullible American people have been waiting for.

[redacted] of P.M. New York City, has a copy of the canvass used by the salesmen of both these outfits, and I believe this to be only a mild one. The Blasser deal, I understand has the OK from the Metropolitan police of Washington, D.C.

b7c

Hoping these few lines will benefit your office a great deal.

AN AMERICAN

RECORDED

62 - 43818

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 17 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DATE 10-19-81 BY SP7MAC
#88-VVV

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN. FILE NO. ATLA. 62-562 VG

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Atlanta, Georgia.	10-20-42	10-2,6,8,9-42	[redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION.	INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted] has no information concerning or recollection of subject. [redacted] describe [redacted] as unethical, unscrupulous, exceptionally heavy drinker, and most liberal thinker, and as good friend and staunch supporter of subject. [redacted] believed presently in Detroit in company with the subject.

RUC.

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] New Orleans, Louisiana, August 28, 1942.

DETAILS: [redacted] and advised that he had no recollection of the subject or any activities in which he might be engaged. He searched the records of the Ansley and consulted with several of his employees, including the house officer, but was unable to advise as to any acts of indiscretion which the subject might have committed while staying at that hotel.

Inquiries at the 22 Marietta Street Building resulted in ascertaining [redacted] had closed his office in that building approximately eight months ago and no information could be developed as to his present whereabouts.

Contact was had with [redacted] for the City of Atlanta, and he advised that he was well acquainted with [redacted] in that [redacted] was a [redacted] He stated that [redacted] who had been accused of many unethical acts in practise, had been a promoter and peanut politician, and had been successful in securing his position on the Board. [redacted] stated that [redacted] was irresponsible in that he advocated new and most liberal ideas without first giving them careful

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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62-43818-1144

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2 Atlanta

cc Dir of Pers 12/26/42
cc Dir of Pers 11/3/42

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/29/82 BY SP [illegible]

consideration. He stated that [redacted] had the habit of getting exceptionally drunk and calling him, and that within the last sixty days he had received a call from [redacted], who advised that he was in Detroit, Michigan, and was working with the subject. [redacted] advised that [redacted] was a staunch supporter of HUEY LONG during the time that LONG was active and had aided in perfecting the arrangements whereby LONG addressed the Georgia Legislature in session. He cited as an example of [redacted] activity that [redacted] arranged a number of chairs to be reserved for prominent men in Atlanta, and who would be seated on the legislature floor during the time LONG would address the legislature. [redacted] stated that [redacted] reserved one of these chairs for him, and that [redacted] insisted almost to a point to where it became monotonous that [redacted] occupy this seat during HUEY'S stay in Atlanta. b7 b7

He recalled that [redacted] was an especially good friend of the subject and believed that they had some organization in which they were both interested. Other than that he could supply no details concerning either [redacted] or the subject. b7c

Through [redacted], who is Executive Officer to Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, Atlanta, and a former lawyer in Atlanta, it was ascertained that [redacted] had an exceptionally low reputation among [redacted] of Atlanta in that he was not ethical, unscrupulous, [redacted] He counselled against contacting [redacted] for any information of any type in that he believed that [redacted] would attempt to utilize the contact for his own gain. b7c b7

As the Result of [redacted] contacts with [redacted] with whom he is well acquainted, he succeeded in ascertaining that [redacted] is presently in Detroit, Michigan, engaged in some kind of political patriotic activity with the subject.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

CC-285a

JPHa:MJ
RECORDED 11-3-42
62-43818-144

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Egan
Miss Gandy

For your information, I wish to advise that a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] submitted in connection with the above-entitled matter at Atlanta, Georgia, on October 20, 1942, was forwarded to the Division of Records under date of November 3, 1942.

b7c

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Detroit, Michigan

FILE NO. 100-4754

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Indianapolis, Indiana	10/21/42	9/11,14,16, 22,24,26/42.	[redacted] [redacted]ESS

b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, aka Gerald L.K. Smith, alias Gerald L.K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Records of Butler University indicate that SMITH only attended that school occasionally for two semesters beginning February, 1927. Informants reveal that SMITH came to Indianapolis 1923 as pastor of the Seventh Christian Church where he was pastor for approximately two years resigning to become pastor of the University Park Church where he remained until 1929, at which time he resigned to go to Kingshighway, Shreveport, Louisiana due to his having got the University Park Church in debt; his failure to pay his debts, and his frequencies from the pulpit, the Church Board was about to ask for his resignation when he resigned. Informants advise that he lived beyond his means, was unreliable, did not pay his obligations unless forced to do so, and had a great desire for publicity. [redacted] No evidence of any immoral conduct while in Indianapolis.

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 12/21/82 BY [illegible]

cc Dir of Rec 12/26/82 [illegible]

- R U C -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at New Orleans, Louisiana August 28, 1942.

b7c

DETAILS: AT INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

b7c, b7d

On September 11, 1942, [redacted] of Butler University, made available the records

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J.M. Lopez		62-4381 Enl 145

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C. Dir. of Rec. 11/3/42 [illegible]

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2 - Indianapolis

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9 OCT 23 1942

RECORDED & INDEXED

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EX-24

JN FILE

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 7—3034

concerning GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH during his attendance at that school. These records reflected that he had entered on February 8, 1927 and received credit for four hours work during the next two semesters. The only grades received by him were one in Christian Doctrines, B-, and one in the summer session in the same subject, B-. SMITH, at the time of his entrance, stated that he was born February 27, 1898 at Pardeeville, Wisconsin and graduated from the Viroqua High School, Viroqua, Wisconsin in June, 1914 and that he received a Bachelor of Oratory degree from Valparaiso University in 1917, and that he was a member of the Disciples Church.

Under date of September 11, 1942, [redacted] of the School of Religion, Butler University, informed the writer that he became very well acquainted with SMITH during his stay in Indianapolis. He stated that when SMITH left the Seventh Christian Church in about 1926 or 1927, he resigned to be minister of the University Park Church. From then on, he was associated with him through that church and occasionally when SMITH attended Butler Universit in the school of religion. He stated that SMITH did not attend school very much and didn't think that when he did attend he learned very much. [redacted] stated that he had no idea why SMITH left the Seventh Christian Church; however, while he was pastor at the University Park Church, he accumulated quite a lot of debts, one of which was a $400.00 note with the Fletcher Trust Company on which he was an indorser, and that when SMITH went to Louisiana, he had not paid this note which necessitated him writing to SMITH and requesting in strong terms that he do so in the near future and after some time, the note was paid.

[redacted] further stated that the reason that SMITH went to Louisiana was that he had got the University Park Church terribly in debt and on numerous occasions, he did not conduct services when he should have and for this reason, the church was about to ask for his resignation when SMITH surmised same and handed in his resignation and immediately thereafter went to Louisiana to the Kingshighway Church at Shreveport.

[redacted] also stated that SMITH lived beyond his means and believed that he accumulated quite a lot of other debts, but he was unable to state whether or not he ever paid them. He indicated further that although he had not seen SMITH but on one occasion since his departure from Indianapolis, he believed SMITH was the type of man that would go into most any kind of work as long as it paid him well and he had heard that he was being furnished with money from the Henry Ford Corporation at the present time.

[redacted] stated that there was never any question by anyone concerning SMITH's moral character to the best of his knowledge.

ALL
b7c, b7D

On September 11, 1942, [redacted] advised that she was a member of the University Park Church at the time SMITH was the pastor there. She stated that she was extremely fond of SMITH at the time he was in Indianapolis, but she understood he changed his ways quite a lot since he left here. She further stated that the only reason that she knew of why SMITH left here was that he was called to the Kingshighway Church in Shreveport, Louisiana.

[redacted] stated that while SMITH was in Indianapolis, he had two children with him most of the time, one of which was a girl by the name of BEATRICE who lived with him for about three years and when he left Indianapolis, he left this girl with a [redacted] who presently resides at [redacted] In addition to the girl, he had a boy, GERALD, whom she understood that he adopted while in Indianapolis. She further stated that so far as Mrs. SMITH was concerned, she was a very lovely woman and she never saw one of them without seeing the other one.

On September 14, 1942, the writer contacted [redacted] He informed the writer that SMITH came to Indianapolis as a minister for the Seventh Christian Church where he remained as such for about two years when he resigned to become minister of the University Park Church which was resultant of two churches merging and SMITH thought this would give him greater opportunities because he had visions of building a huge church. Upon becoming minister of this church, SMITH prevailed upon the members to buy a group of lots and as they were located in an expensive neighborhood they proved eventually to be too much of an undertaking and resulted in the lots being given back to their former owners and the Church taking a great loss.

[redacted] stated that in order to paint a picture of the type of individual that SMITH was, he cited as an example that in 1920, SMITH opposed him as a candidate for the secretary of the Indiana Christian Missionary Society for which SMITH campaigned very actively, such proceedure breaking all precedence in church. He stated that SMITH was a pious individual seeking publicity and wanted to be in the public eye at all times.

[redacted] went on to relate that while SMITH was in Indianapolis, he went to four or five different people to borrow $500.00 to purchase a lot on which to build a home for himself and he knows that three of these individuals leaned him a total of $1500.00 while $500.00 was all that was needed to purchase this lot.

ALL b7c, b7D

[redacted] stated that he did not know very much about SMITH's personal life, but never heard of any scandal pertaining to his morals and to the best of his knowledge, it was without blemish.

[redacted] obtained copies of the official year books of ministers published by the Disciples of Christ that showed SMITH as a pastor of the following churches:

1921 - Pastor of Footville, Wisconsin Church
1922 - Church not shown, but showed SMITH at Beloit, Wisconsin
1923 - Pastor of a church, name of which is not shown at Kansas, Illinois
1924-1927 - Pastor of Seventh Christian Church, Indianapolis
1927-1929 - Pastor of the University Park Christian Church, Indianapolis
1929 - Kingshighway Church, Schreveport, Louisiana

On September 22, 1942, the writer contacted [redacted] who stated that she had been a member of the University Park Church during the time that SMITH was pastor there.

[redacted] revealed that SMITH was liked extremely well by some members of the congregation and disliked equally by other members, although she could not explain the reason for this, but believed it was due to some of the members being extremely conservative while others were more liberal towards the way church services should be conducted.

[redacted] stated further that she had never heard any criticism on SMITH's moral conduct and thought that he had a very lovely wife and that they always appeared to be very happy.

On September 22, 1942, the writer contacted [redacted] at [redacted] who stated that he was a member of the Board at the University Park Church during the time that SMITH was a pastor at this church. [redacted] reiterated the information given by [redacted] as to the reason that SMITH left that church and went to Shreveport, Louisiana.

[redacted] informed the writer that SMITH would lead a dual life such as giving the reason to his congregation for not being able to be at his church on Sunday that he was to preach at another church in some other part of the state whereas he would go off sometimes with his wife for a week-end and on other occasions, he would be attending political rallies. He further stated that in his opinion, SMITH was a liar and never paid his bills unless forced to do so.

[redacted]

ALL
b7c, b7D

[redacted]

Smith

[redacted] stated that SMITH's wife was a very lovely person and her maiden name was ELEANOR SORENSON and was born and raised in Janesville, Wisconsin. She further related that she has a brother who is a practicing physician in Elkhorn, Wisconsin, whom she was sure would be able to furnish the full information as to the circumstances surrounding his sister's marriage to SMITH. She was also under the impression that Dr. SORENSON was not fond of SMITH.

[redacted] stated that SMITH was a promoter as a result of which he got the church terribly in debt and the members dissatisfied with him to the extent of asking for his resignation. However, prior to their formal request, SMITH found out about it and made arrangements to go to the Kingshighway Church in Shreveport.

[redacted] stated finally that she was positive there was never any scandal conderning SMITH's approaching any girls in his Sunday School class or any others and whenever he went out, Mrs. SMITH was always with him.

[redacted]

ALL
b7c, b7D

The writer contacted [redacted] on September 26, 1942 who revealed that he was on the Board at the Seventh Christian Church at the time SMITH was pastor there. He further stated that he was unable to give any reason why SMITH left the Seventh Christian Church with exception of the reason to build a new church near Butler University which he thought would give him greater opportunities for expansion. He further informed that he never heard of any immoral conduct on the part of SMITH during his residence in Indianapolis.

Under date of September 26, 1942, [redacted] of [redacted] after consulting her records, advised that she had no information pertaining to subject under date of September 26, 1942.

[redacted] of the Identification of the Indianapolis Police Department advised that their files did not contain the names of GERALD L.K. SMITH

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

A: U
b7c, b7

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

THE MILWAUKEE FIELD DIVISION

At Elkhorn, Wisconsin

Will interview Dr. SORENSON in an effort to ascertain from him the full circumstances surrounding SMITH's marriage to his sister ELEANOR.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

INDEX TO INFORMANTS

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
October 13, 1942

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

~~PERSONAL and CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080/LED/el
ON 8-10-82

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/82 BY SP4BTS/mh

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was;
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

[redacted]

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that the following additional information has been received from [redacted] whose identity is known to you:

On September 28, 1942, SMITH advised Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS that despite his defeat for the Republican nomination he was going to run as an independent Republican. SMITH wanted Senator REYNOLDS to advise his good friend (possibly Senator PRENTISS M. BROWN) so that the friend would realize that if SMITH didn't get the election, the friend's election would be assured.

SMITH advised his close friend Reverend LELAND MARION of Pontiac, Michigan that he was going to release a statement to the press at noon on September 30, 1942, that despite his defeat in the Primary Election of the Republican Party and his failure to get the Republican nomination for the office of United States Senator from the State of Michigan, he intended to run as an independent Republican candidate for the same office in the November Elections.

SMITH was obtaining assistance in his political campaigns from Mrs. MURRAY KNOWLES, former member of the America First Committee and active leader of United Mothers of America in Detroit, Michigan.

SMITH plans to have small stickers printed which his followers can paste onto the ballot in the November Elections. He met some difficulty in this however because he learned that the official ballots were not leaving any blank space for such stickers.

62-43818-146

In a conversation between a [redacted] and SMITH'S ~~Manager, BERNARD~~ BOMAN, [redacted] said that he has heard that HENRY FORD has enough tires to last his employees eighteen years. [redacted] suggested that SMITH contact HENRY FORD personally and get a statement from him because this news

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23 NOV 7 1942

FILE

was sensational in view of the fact that FORD has approximately 200,000 employees. Mr. DOMAN advised [redacted] that SMITH obtained a tire, which he displays at his political campaign meetings, indirectly from FORD. He said he wasn't sure whether the tire came directly from Dr. HALE or the Ford Motor Company but he explained that Dr. HALE worked with the Ford Motor Company on the same process for the manufacture of synthetic rubber. b7

SMITH held one of his organizational political meetings on the night of October 8, 1942 and the meeting was apparently satisfactory from SMITH'S point of view.

Some criticism was made to Mr. DOMAN by a [redacted] who took exception to remarks about HUEY LONG being a great man and making his mistakes only when under the influence of liquor. [redacted] criticizes this on the ground that HUEY LONG was not here to defend himself and respect should be shown to the dead. Mr. DOMAN explained that these comments were made by SMITH because the enemies of SMITH were always condemning him for having been a Lieutenant of HUEY LONG and SMITH wanted to make it clear that this was nothing he had any reason to hide. b7

Informant stated that SMITH on October 8, 1942 announced, "Before we will submit to being city-slicked by another WENDELL WILKIE or any of his Michigan stooges, we will start a new party and nominate CHARLES A. LINDBERGH for President.

Mr. DOMAN and a [redacted] of the United Mothers of America discussed the great ovation that SMITH received at his meeting when he praised CHARLES A. LINDBERGH. [redacted] said that she wished SMITH could obtain the public endorsement of himself by CHARLES A. LINDBERGH. [redacted] then mentioned the fact that Communist newspaper reporters were attempting to interview SMITH. She stated that the recent publicity given to HENRY FORD'S statement on the Federation of the World was probably a misquotation due to prejudice of unfavorable newspaper reporters. She said that HENRY FORD certainly doesn't believe in any World Federation because CHARLES LINDBERG doesn't and HENRY FORD is right in with LINDBERGH. b7

SMITH spoke to his mother in Delavan, Wisconsin and after receiving compliments on his radio speech told his mother that he was one of the most abused men in the world and that his enemies were even trying to put him in the Federal Penitentiary.

GERALD SMITH told C. J. SMITH that he had succeeded in finding out who are the real leaders of the Foreign Policy Association. He said they were Rabbi WISE, ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, and HAROLD LASKI whom SMITH termed the notorious English Communist. SMITH said that these people stood for a "big super-dooper world government and that's the nigger in the woodpile". SMITH

said he didn't know about this previously.

SMITH commented on WALLACE'S statement by saying that WALLACE didn't want us to spoil the great rubber industry because that might interfere with international relations. SMITH commented sarcastically, "We can crawl on our stomachs and go to town on our knees but we mustn't hurt the feelings of the British-Dutch rubber monopoly."

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas
ems

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Post Office Box #2118
Detroit, Michigan
October 29, 1942

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Kramer
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

INTERDEPARTMENTAL AGENCIES

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-8BTS/MC

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY - CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

DECLASSIFIED BY 10281/4 ON 8/10/83

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that the following additional information has been received from [redacted] whose identity is known to you. b7D

SMITH at this time is devoting his entire energy toward the promotion of his political campaign as an independent Republican candidate as United States Senator from the State of Michigan. SMITH refers to his own campaign as a "Sticker Campaign" because the official ballot will not have his name on it, nor will there be any place for the sticker. It will be necessary for his followers to paste a sticker reading "United States Senator Gerald L. K. Smith" over the name of Senator PRENTISS M. BROWN or Judge HOMER FERGUSON, and then to mark a cross in front of the sticker.

SMITH is having difficulty with his "Sticker Campaign" in view of the fact that the Secretary of State, HARRY F. KELLY, Republican candidate for Governor in this same election, is not making any provision for SMITH as a Third Party Candidate in districts where voting machines are being used. SMITH has threatened injunction proceedings against this ruling.

SMITH has sent a telegram challenging his opponents BROWN and FERGUSON to debate the rubber tire issue and other serious issues of the campaign. As yet, no acceptance has been received. BROWN and FERGUSON debated between themselves over the radio and SMITH regarded this as entirely unilluminating since there were no real issues between them except who will receive the salary of United States Senator.

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EX-21

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SMITH has still publicly hinted that if the Republican Party does not throw off the control of stuffed-shirt politicians and return to the principles of the "common man", he will find it necessary to organize an all-American party and have CHARLES A. LINDBERGH as the standard bearer in 1944.

SMITH is still making the principal issue of his political campaign the alleged attempt of the Government to protect the international rubber monopoly at the expense of the public. SMITH still insists that there are enough rubber tires to fit all normal consumption. He cites as authority for his argument certain press releases proceeding from statements of rubber manufacturers in Akron, Ohio. SMITH contends both, privately and publicly, that rubber rationing is entirely unnecessary and that gasoline rationing is accordingly unnecessary since its admitted purpose is to conserve rubber. SMITH has attacked the 35 mph speed as unconstitutional and attacked the present administration of slowing down the war effort to a pace of 35 mph when it is necessary to speed up the war effort to win the war. SMITH, in open defiance of the 35 mph restriction, publicly announced that he would drive to Battle Creek, Michigan, on October 22, 1942, at speeds between 25 mph and 65 mph. SMITH admitted that he actually drove at speeds up to 65 mph and was not molested by law enforcement authorities.

SMITH has privately criticized the Democratic campaign poster which read, "Support your Commander and Chief, both Democratic". SMITH said that that campaign slogan was no good and that he would pounce on it.

Representative CLARE HOFFMAN of Kalamazoo, Michigan, attempted to contact SMITH on October 10, 1942, but was unsuccessful.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-7144

167

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	10/28/42	10/5,6/42	[redacted] [redacted] MLB

b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, also known as: Gerald L. K. Smith; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Mrs. DILLING stated to Bureau Agent that she is acquainted with Subject, who is her good friend, and that he is being persecuted for his attacks on Communism. Captain EARL SOUTHARD is Secretary-Treasurer and leader of Citizens Patriotic Committee, formerly known as "Citizens Keep America Out of War Committee," which caters to pre-war isolationists. ELIZABETH DILLING, German-American National Alliance, We the Mothers Mobilize, Inc., the Patrick Henry Forum and other organizations in Chicago under investigation by Federal Grand Jury for alleged sedition. Citizens Committee presently holds meetings in support of candidacy of Congressman DAY and Senator BROOKS.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] made at Detroit, Michigan, July 22, 1942.

b7c

DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:

In a conversation between Mrs. ELIZABETH DILLING and the Writer in May of 1942 Mrs. DILLING stated that her good friend GERALD SMITH was being persecuted by the Department of Justice for his opposition to Communism. At this time the Writer observed in Mrs. DILLING's office a copy of a greeting card from Subject, bearing pictures of Subject, his wife and his son.

From information in the Detroit Field Office, Mrs. DILLING carries on her activities through the Patriotic Research Bureau in connection

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

RECEIVED-RECORDED 62-5248-818-148 NOV 14 1942

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2 - Chicago

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with which she employs three female assistants, all of whom are very loyal to Mrs. DILLING and will do or say nothing to incriminate her or any of her friends and associates. Inasmuch as Mrs. DILLING is presently under indictment in Washington, D. C. for sedition, it is not deemed advisable at this time to interview her or her assistants concerning the relationship between her and the Subject of this case. Therefore, leads set out in reference report requesting information concerning the relationship between Mrs. DILLING and SMITH are not being covered at this time.

The files of the Chicago Field Office reflect that [redacted] However, the files of the Chicago Field Office reflect that [redacted] was a strong isolationist prior to the war, is still an ardent supporter of Senator BROOKS and Congressman DAY and the Chicago Tribune and is well acquainted with Captain WILLIAM J. GRACE and EARL SOUTHARD of the Citizens Committee. Leads set out in reference report to determine the relationship between [redacted] and the Subject of this case are not, therefore, being covered at this time.

The files of the Chicago Field Office do not reflect any information concerning any relationship between Subject and [redacted] of the Chicago Tribune.

The files of the Chicago Field Office in the case entitled "CITIZENS KEEP AMERICA OUT OF WAR COMMITTEE, also known as Citizens USA Committee and Citizens Patriotic Committee," INTERNAL SECURITY - G, SEDITION, reflect that Captain EARL SOUTHARD and Captain WILLIAM J. GRACE of Chicago are the leaders of the Citizens Committee, which prior to December 7, 1941, was strongly isolationist and since December 7, 1941, has confined itself to supporting the candidacy of Congressman DAY and Senator BROOKS of Illinois. It is further noted that Captain SOUTHARD and Captain GRACE have both testified before the Federal Grand Jury at Chicago investigating sedition in connection with the activities of the Citizens Committee. It is further noted that the membership list of the Citizens Committee includes officers of the German-American National Alliance, We the Mothers Mobilize, ALBERT and ELIZABETH DILLING, two of Mrs. DILLING's personal secretaries, [redacted] WILLIAM KULLGREN and DONALD J. McDANIEL, both presently under indictment for sedition in Washington, D. C., and [redacted]

For the information of the Detroit Field Office, no information has yet been developed concerning EARL SOUTHARD or the Citizens Committee upon which prosecutive action may be predicated; [redacted] At this time it is not deemed advisable to interview either SOUTHARD or GRACE concerning the relationship between the Citizens Committee and the Subject of this case.

b7

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J. EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CONFIDENTIAL

FBC-287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

JKM:BK
11:45 A.M.

October 14, 1942

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CLASS. & EXT. BY 7/7/92 [illegible] ams
REASON-FCIM 1-2.4.2 3
DATE OF REVIEW 7/7/92
204,433

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
Sedition

[redacted] b7c

[redacted]

I spoke to SAC Bugas, Detroit, about this case while talking to him today, and told him of the above report. He informed me that [redacted] had in fact had an appointment with [redacted] on October 8, 1942, and that later that day [redacted], one of [redacted] men, brought [redacted] to Mr. Bugas' office and before both of them stated definitely that [redacted] had told [redacted] and definitely wanted [redacted] to tell the FBI everything he knew in this case whether it involved [redacted] Mr. Ford, Mrs. Ford or anyone else. [redacted] acknowledged that he fully understood these instructions. He had with him two of what he called exhibit books which contained uncancelled checks and other alleged documents and data. He also stated that he had additional material in safety deposit boxes, one of which was located in Washington, D. C. He was anxious to secure that additional material and return with it to Mr. Bugas. He is due back in Detroit this afternoon and Mr. Bugas has a tentative appointment with him for this evening. [redacted] indicated that it would take him four or five hours to cover the matter thoroughly.

Mr. Bugas advised me he had his previous conversations with [redacted] on records and will take the same precautions in the above described planned interview. As soon as this interview is effected and he has the complete data, he will submit it to the Bureau. He was urged to do this at the earliest opportunity.

Respectfully,

J. K. Mumford

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62-43818-149

OCT 19 1942

FOR DEFENSE BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

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CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted] b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

November 3, 1942

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

SAC, DETROIT

Transmit the following message to:

GERALD L. K. SMITH, I S, SEDITION. RE YOUR LETTER NOVEMBER ONE LAST FURNISHING INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY [redacted] SUBMIT THIS INFORMATION TO BUREAU IMMEDIATELY IN REPORT FORM FOR REFERRAL TO DEPARTMENT. b7c

HOOVER.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/29/82 BY SP-8BTJ/MC

RECORDED 62-43818-154

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15 NOV 4 1942

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
NOV 3 1942

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

32 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- [X] Deleted under exemption(s) b7c, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- [ ] Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.
- ____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.
- ____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): _____
- [ ] For your information: _____
- [X] The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: 62-43818-151

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FBI/DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 9

PAGES REVIEWED: 253

PAGES RELEASED: 88

NOTES: _____

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

WB:ESL:ilh

146-28-43

1178

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

165

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

November 9, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR,
Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Re: Gerald L.K. Smith;
The Committee of One Million.

Reference is made to pages 10 and 11 of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 29, 1942, at Detroit, Michigan, in which there is set forth a summary of the income tax returns of the subject Smith, and to page 16 of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 23, 1942, containing information that the Treasury Department was to investigate the alleged fraudulent federal income tax returns of Gerald L.K. Smith.

b7c

Information is requested as to whether the then contemplated investigation has been completed and its results, and if such investigation included the tax returns filed on behalf of "The Committee of One Million," "The Federation of Americanization," and any other organization which may be used by Smith in the acquisition or disposition of funds. The income tax inquiry should, of course, include these organizations.

There is set forth on page 6 of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated August 28, 1942, at New Orleans, Louisiana, information allegedly supplied to the Bureau's [redacted] 1935 by [redacted] concerning a file said to have been compiled by the Hearst organization on Smith's past. It is requested that this file be secured or duplicated if it is still in existence, or that its former existence and the information alleged to have been contained therein be verified by interviews of the parties mentioned by [redacted] It is further requested that any leads based upon an examination of this material be developed by investigation.

b7c
b7D

ctw to Detroit 12/10/42 JPHa

ck 12/14/42 JPHa

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83 OCT 13 1964

The Criminal Division also desires that the birth records at Pardeeville, Wisconsin, be searched to ascertain the truth of the allegation that Gerald L.K. Smith's name originally was "Schmidt." The subject is said to have been born either on February 7 or February 27, 1898.

Referring to page 2 of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 23, 1942, at Detroit, Michigan, in which mention is made of an article carried by the United Press from New York on October 20, 1936, concerning the announcement by Smith of the formation of a Fascist organization to seize the Government of the United States, it is requested that an effort be made to secure a copy of Smith's announcement if it was in writing, and, in any case, that you attempt to locate and interview, concerning the context thereof, persons present when Smith made such announcement. b7c

With further reference to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 23, 1942, it is requested that [redacted] mentioned on page 5 of the report, be interviewed concerning her knowledge of Smith's activities and contacts. b7c

The report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 11, 1942, at Detroit indicates on page 5 that Smith corresponded with William Dudley Pelley reporting progress he was making with the organization of "The Committee of One Million." The following excerpt from the February 21, 1942, issue of "The Hour" likewise indicates the existence of correspondence between Smith and Pelley: "On August 5, 1938, H.E. Martin, executive director of the Silver Shirts of America, sent to Dr. L.M. Birkhead, director of the Friends of Democracy, a letter which stated: b7c

> "'Answering your letter of the 3rd regarding Mr. Gerald L.K. Smith's connection with the Silver Shirts, which you say he denies, we have on file certain letters and telegrams received from him.... The letters are all written on Silver Shirts of America letterheads and signed by him. His registration number as a member of the Silver Shirts was 3223 and his wife's number was 3220.'"

However, it is stated in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated August 25, 1942, at Indianapolis, Indiana, that no correspondence between Smith and Pelley was included in the material seized from Pelley by Special Agents of the Indianapolis Field Division. b7c

Special Agent [redacted] suggests that Pelley's printing establishment was located in Asheville, North Carolina, from about 1932 to 1940 and that correspondence between Pelley and Smith may have been among some seized by some local official at Asheville. The Criminal Division likewise has learned that certain of Pelley's files were seized in 1934 or 1935 by the McCormack-Dickstein Congressional Committee and are presumed now in the custody of the Clerk of the House. It is requested that an effort be made to locate correspondence between Smith and Pelley, and if such effort prove unsuccessful to locate H.E. Martin and interview him on the nature and location of the correspondence to which he referred in his above-mentioned letter. b7c

A number of reports indicate that Gerald L.K. Smith was once an organizer of the Silver Shirts, and that he organized a group of Storm Troopers at Shreveport, Louisiana, in 1934 or early 1935. It is requested that an attempt be made to identify and interview persons acquainted with this activity of Smith.

The report of Special Agent [redacted], dated April 24, 1942, at Detroit mentions a copy of Smith's publication "Too Much Roosevelt" as being attached thereto. The Criminal Division desires that a copy of this publication be made available to it for review. b7c

It is desired that reports on the investigations requested herein be furnished to the Criminal Division at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully,

Wendell Berge

WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General.

[redacted] b7c
62-43818-152
12/14/42
RECORDED

1177

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
WENDELL BERGE

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
SEDITION

Reference is made to your memorandum of November 9, 1942, relative to the above-captioned subject.

Concerning your specific inquiry as to subject's reported former association with William Dudley Pelley, I wish to advise that under date of December 11, 1942, a copy of a report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Charlotte, North Carolina, on September 17, 1942, was transmitted to the Division of Records. From a review of this report you will note that the files of the Charlotte Office of this Bureau reflect no indication of correspondence between Pelley and Smith. b7c

Further, in this connection, I invite your attention specifically to page 6 of the report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on September 2, 1942, and page 7 of the report submitted by the same Agent at Detroit, Michigan, on August 11, 1942. Copies of these reports were made available to you under dates of September 17, 1942 and August 18, 1942, and, as you will observe, the citations referred to both have pertinence to the question of Smith's alleged association with Pelley and the Silver Shirt movement. b7c

Pursuant to the specific request set forth in the next to the last paragraph of your memorandum, there was transmitted to the Division of Records under date of December 11, 1942, a photostatic copy of Smith's publication "Too Much Roosevelt," mentioned as an enclosure in the report of Special Agent E. A. Solomon, at Detroit, Michigan, on April 24, 1942.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 14
DEC 15 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED READING ROOM
DEC 7 1942
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/30/82 BY SP2 [illegible]

137
39 DEC 21 1942

[redacted] 1174

62-43818-152 b7c

Date: December 10, 1942

To: SAC, Detroit

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/30/82 BY SP4BTJ/pkc

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

Reference is made to the Bureau's teletype of November 3 and the Bureau's letter of November 4, 1942, both in connection with the above-captioned matter.

As you were instructed in reference communications, it is desired that you promptly submit a report properly summarizing the information furnished your office by [redacted] and the information set forth in the document prepared by [redacted] copies of which were made available to you with the Bureau's letter of November 4, 1942. b7c b7D

For your further information in connection with your future investigation of this matter, there are set forth below pertinent portions of a memorandum recently received from the Criminal Division of the Department in connection with this case. As you will observe, the below-quoted portions of the memorandum have to do with additional inquiry in this matter which is desired by the Criminal Division:

"Reference is made to pages 10 and 11 of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 29, 1942, at Detroit, Michigan, in which there is set forth a summary of the income tax returns of the subject Smith, and to page 16 of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 23, 1942, containing information that the Treasury Department was to investigate the alleged fraudulent federal income tax returns of Gerald L. K. Smith. b7c

"Information is requested as to whether the then contemplated investigation has been completed and its results, and if such investigation included the tax returns filed on behalf of 'The Committee of One Million,' 'The Federation of Americanization,' and any other organization which may be used by Smith in the acquisition or disposition of funds. The income tax inquiry should, of course, include these organizations.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

MAILED 8
DEC 11 1942
FBI

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JAN 5 1943
354

"There is set forth on page 6 of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated August 28, 1942, at New Orleans, Louisiana, information allegedly supplied to the [redacted] in 1935 by [redacted] b7c b7D concerning a file said to have been compiled by the Hearst organization on Smith's past. It is requested that this file be secured or duplicated if it is still in existence, or that its former existence and the information alleged to have been contained therein be verified by interviews of the parties mentioned by [redacted] It is further requested that any leads based upon an examination of this material be developed by investigation.

"The Criminal Division also desires that the birth records at Pardeeville, Wisconsin, be searched to ascertain the truth of the allegation that Gerald L. K. Smith's name originally was 'Schmidt.' The subject is said to have been born either on February 7 or February 27, 1898.

"Referring to page 2 of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 23, 1942, at Detroit, Michigan, in which mention is made of an article carried by the United Press from New York on October 20, 1936, concerning the announcement by Smith of the formation of a Fascist organization to seize the Government of the United States, it is requested that an effort be made to secure a copy of Smith's announcement if it was in writing, and, in any case, that you attempt to locate and interview, concerning the context thereof, persons present when Smith made such announcement. b7c

"With further reference to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 23, 1942, it is requested that [redacted] mentioned on page 8 of the report, be interviewed concerning her knowledge of Smith's activities and contacts. b7c

"The report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 11, 1942, at Detroit indicates on page 5 that Smith corresponded with William Dudley Pelley reporting progress he was making with the organization of 'The Committee of One Million.' The following excerpt from the February 21, 1942, issue of 'The Hour' likewise indicates the existence of correspondence between Smith and Pelley: 'On August 5, 1938, H. E. Martin, executive director of the Silver Shirts of America, sent to Dr. L. M. Birkhead, director of the Friends of Democracy, a letter which stated: b7c

'"Answering your letter of the 3rd regarding Mr. Gerald L. K. Smith's connection with the Silver Shirts, which you say he denies, we have on file certain letters and telegrams received from him... The letters are all written on Silver Shirts of America letterheads and signed by him. His registration number as a member of the Silver Shirts was 3223 and his wife's number was 3220."'

"However, it is stated in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated August 25, 1942, at Indianapolis, Indiana, that no correspondence between Smith and Pelley was included in the material seized from Pelley by Special Agents of the Indianapolis Field Division. Special Agent [redacted] suggests that Pelley's printing establishment was located in Asheville, North Carolina, from about 1932 to 1940 and that correspondence between Pelley and Smith may have been among some seized by some local official at Asheville. The Criminal Division likewise has learned that certain of Pelley's files were seized in 1934 or 1935 by the McCormack-Dickstein Congressional Committee and are presumed now in the custody of the Clerk of the House. It is requested that an effort be made to locate correspondence between Smith and Pelley, and if such effort prove unsuccessful to locate H. E. Martin and interview him on the nature and location of the correspondence to which he referred in his above-mentioned letter.

b7c

"A number of reports indicate that Gerald L. K. Smith was once an organizer of the Silver Shirts, and that he organized a group of Storm Troopers at Shreveport, Louisiana, in 1934 or early 1935. It is requested that an attempt be made to identify and interview persons acquainted with this activity of Smith."

As a review of your file in this case will show, some of the information requested in the Criminal Division memorandum has already been covered in the reports most recently received in connection with this case. However, subsequent to the submission of the report requested in the first two paragraphs of this letter, it is desired that your office thoroughly review its file in this case and set out appropriate leads in order that the additional inquiry desired by the Criminal Division may be carried out.

The Criminal Division has lately evidenced considerable interest in this case and accordingly it should be self-evident that this matter should be placed in line for prompt and continuous investigative attention.

CC-285

b7c

[redacted]lem
Date: November 4, 1942

PERSONAL ATTENTION

To:

SAC, DETROIT

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH; INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

I am transmitting herewith two photostatic copies of a document made available to me by the Attorney General on October 28, 1942. This document, prepared by [redacted] relates to the activities of Gerald L. K. Smith. I desire that the material contained therein be carefully reviewed and furnished the Bureau in report form. Based on this information, appropriate leads should be set out with a view to verifying any of this information indicating a possible violation on the part of Smith of any Federal statute coming within the jurisdiction of the Bureau.

b7c b7d

This request should receive immediate attention and the report should be carefully prepared, inasmuch as upon its receipt in the Bureau copies thereof will be made available to the Department. You should also give expeditious attention to the request contained in my teletype of November 3, 1942, instructing that you submit to the Bureau in report form the information furnished you by [redacted] as set out in your letter of November 1, 1942, addressed to the Bureau.

b7c b7d

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/30/82 BY SP.8073/mc

Enclosure

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Coffey
Mendon
Cramer
McGuire
Quinn Tamm
Tease
Gandy

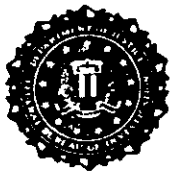
62-43818 1153

RECORDED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
NOV 9 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
☆ NOV 4 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit - Michigan
November 2, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/30/82 BY SP 8B05 mc

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated September 14, 1942, regarding Gerald L. K. Smith.

Please be advised that on Saturday, [redacted]

b2
b7D

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas
John S. Bugas
Special Agent in Charge

JSB:ed

Ltr to Immigration 12/10/42 gpt

EX-1

RECORDED

62-45[illegible]-154

B I
2 NOV 5 194[illegible]

COPIES DESTROYED
83 OCT 13 1964

COPY IN FILE

JPHa:IS
62-43818 -154
12/10/42

Honorable Earl G. Harrison
Commissioner
Immigration and Naturalization Service
Franklin Trust Building
15th and Chestnut Streets
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/30/82 BY SP-8BTJ/MLC

My dear Commissioner:

With further reference to our previous correspondence concerning [redacted] and his application for the creation of a record of registry, I wish to note, for your information and for the completion of your file in this matter, [redacted] b7c b7D

For your further information, [redacted] appeared at this Bureau's Detroit Field Office and voluntarily furnished certain information concerning the activities of Gerald L. K. Smith. The authenticity of the information so furnished is presently being checked by investigation. b7c b7D

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
DEC 12 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DEC 23 1942

JOHN HOOVER
DIRECTOR

SC-287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

JKM:BK

October 21, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 5/15/81 BY 2542
65,581

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Recently Mr. Kramer was telephonically advised by the New York Office of a report by an informant that the Dies Committee had "raided" or "seized the records" of Gerald L. K. Smith and Father Coughlin at Detroit. I accordingly called Detroit and requested SA [redacted] Acting, to check on the matter. He subsequently called and advised that no such action had been taken. However, he did state then that he had learned that [redacted] who is well known to that office and to the Bureau, had been associating during the past several days with one [redacted] an investigator for the Dies Committee and supposedly an employee of G-2 from Chicago, and that they had been making some inquiries about Smith and Father Coughlin.

I subsequently asked SAC Johnson, Chicago, while talking to him on other matters, about [redacted] status. He informed me that [redacted] had formerly worked part time in the Dies Committee office although a Lieutenant in G-2, but that recently he has been working full time for G-2 and ostensibly has no further connection with the Dies Committee. I advised Mr. Johnson of [redacted] presence in Detroit and suggested that if he could discreetly determine what [redacted] is doing there, he advise Detroit.

SA [redacted] Detroit, today informed me that he had had an opportunity to talk to [redacted] pursuant to my suggestion yesterday, that he had learned from [redacted] that [redacted] was granted a 10 day leave of absence about a week ago to permit him to come to Detroit to conduct inquiries concerning Gerald L. K. Smith and Father Coughlin. Immediately upon arrival in Detroit, [redacted] called [redacted] who was at the time in New York and [redacted] returned to Detroit and has since been working with [redacted]

[redacted] told [redacted] that he, [redacted] had made absolutely no investigation with regard to Smith since he learned some time ago that the FBI was investigating Smith. However, [redacted] learned that [redacted] called [redacted] yesterday trying to make an appointment with her in an effort to get for [redacted] the information they think [redacted] concerning Smith. In view of [redacted] which is about to take place, it is known that [redacted] has not been able to get an appointment with her as yet. You will recall that in any event, [redacted] furnished what appeared to be all of his information to Mr. Bugas some days before [redacted]

FOR DEFENSE
BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

62-43112-155
INDEXED
F B I
15 NOV 17 1942

Ex-7 D105
memo to Messrs Tamm + Ladd
10-23-42
[redacted]

ALL b7c

As far as Father Coughlin was concerned, [redacted] told [redacted] that he is trying to get in touch with a man named [redacted] who is presently in the northern peninsula of Michigan, but will eventually return to Detroit, as he has information indicating that in about 1938 or 1939, Mr. Schwartz, the editor of Father Coughlin's paper, is supposed to have tried to hire [redacted] for a one year period to disseminate German propaganda. b7c

[redacted] stated the lead as to [redacted] would be checked out and that they would keep themselves advised of [redacted] and [redacted] activities, and advise the Bureau. [redacted] pointed out that [redacted] stated [redacted] has "a pocket full" of Dies Committee subpoenas, but has apparently not used any of them. b7c

Respectfully,

J. K. Mumford

J. K. Mumford

62-41818-155

October 25, 1942

RECORDED
EX-7

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM
MR. LADD

In regard to the attached memorandum of October 21, 1942, addressed to Mr. Ladd by Supervisor Mumford concerning the activities of one [redacted] I think this matter should be taken up with MID, because basically, it seems to me to be most undesirable that a man can hold a Lieutenancy with G-2 and presumably be giving all of his time to that organization, and then be able to take a leave of absence of a week or two weeks and proceed off on a private investigation for either a Congressional Committee or some private detective agency. It is all most confusing, and of course definitely undesirable. Either [redacted] ought to be kept in the Army and kept to Army duties, or released entirely therefrom and perform civilian functions.

We definitely have the jurisdiction over the investigation of any subversive activities upon the part of Gerald L. K. Smith or Father Coughlin and it does not tend to clarify the picture at all for an individual to be going in and out of the Army to conduct investigations for persons not connected with the Army. I would like to have this matter taken up with Colonel Bissell and see whether a stop cannot be put to it.

Very truly yours

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Attachment
(See Mr. Tamm's copy)

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/30/82 BY SP.3613/mc

SENT FROM D. O.
10:32

EX-7

5 OCT 27

ENCLOSED COPY FILED IN 62-

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

GCB:ggm

November 3, 1942

Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Reference is made to the Director's memorandum to Mr. Tamm and you dated October 25, 1942, with reference to the activities of one [redacted] a G-2 employee at Chicago. Mr. Hoover instructed that the matter be taken up with Colonel Bissell to see why a G-2 employee should be granted leave in order to work for the Dies Committee in making an investigation of Gerald L. K. Smith and Father Coughlin.

I discussed this matter with Colonel Bissell and in the writer's presence Colonel Bissell called [redacted] who is the G-2 officer in the 6th Service Command in Chicago. [redacted] advised Colonel Bissell that Congressman Dies had sent a wire to General Aurand, Commanding General of the 6th Service Command asking that [redacted] be loaned to his committee to make certain investigations. General Aurand, not knowing what to do with this request, referred it to the Adjutant General's Office, which organization authorized [redacted] to do what Dies wanted. General Aurand did not know what was expected of [redacted] and Colonel Bissell personally severely criticized [redacted] for not advising General Aurand of the probable use to be made of [redacted]. Colonel Bissell told [redacted] that the Gerald L. K. Smith and Father Coughlin investigations were definitely within the jurisdiction of the FBI and stated that by allowing a G-2 man to enter into the FBI's jurisdiction even under the cloak of the Dies Committee was very embarrassing to G-2 headquarters in Washington. I heard Colonel Bissell advise [redacted] that it was very improper for him to fail to advise General Aurand in this matter and heard him state that it was also improper for [redacted] to enter into this investigation.

[redacted] was apparently very apologetic about his dereliction and stated that [redacted] was back on duty with G-2. He also stated to Colonel Bissell that any further requests of this type will be immediately referred to G-2 in Washington for consideration.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Respectfully,
E. A. Tamm

G. C. Burton

D105 62-43818-156
B 1

G. C. Burton

15 NOV 17 1942

FOR DEFENSE BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/30/82 BY [illegible]

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-43818-159

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

DETROIT FILE No. 62-106

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	11/13/42	9/2,3,9,26,28, 29; 10/1/42	[redacted] NG

TITLE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,
with aliases Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000

CHARACTER OF CASE
INTERNAL SECURITY
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

b7c

PUBLICATION FILE

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Further information corroborating SMITH'S support by Ford Motor Company and free office space. Further information concerning SMITH'S anti-Jewish attitude and declarations. SMITH complied with request of Treasury Department and recently filed income tax return for 1938. SMITH'S explanation for late filing, attacked United States Government for harassing a crusader against bureaucratic tyranny [redacted] b7D

SMITH defeated in Primary Election for nomination as Republican Candidate for United States Senator from Michigan but received 120,000 votes. After conference with Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS, SMITH ran as independent Republican Candidate for election to same office. SMITH still in contact with Ford Motor Company through [redacted] and attempting to contact CHARLES A. LINDBERGH. SMITH has specifically intimated that he plans to organize an independent Republican Party, which will sponsor CHARLES A. LINDBERGH for President. SMITH receiving financial support from [redacted] National Workers League endorsed SMITH. b7E

367

cc Dir Rec 12/3/42

A

I ENCL.

1372

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/5/85 BY SP6B1 204,433

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: John L. Burgess SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

58 DEC 8 1942 203

RECEIVED 1942 NOV 16 1942 RECORDED & INDEXED

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
5 Bureau
1 USA, Detroit
3 Detroit
2 New Orleans

COPIES DESTROYED
OCT 13 1964

COPY

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 7—2034

(Detroit file 62-1126)

b7c

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated September 2, 1942 at Detroit, Michigan. (62-43818)

DETAILS: AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

[redacted] and had heard that SMITH gets $1,000.00 a week from the Ford Motor Company. He also said that the contributions which are received from followers of SMITH, are used to carry the expenses of the office and that SMITH'S own income comes from outside sources, such as the money, which he is believed to receive weekly from the Ford Motor Company. [redacted]

b7c
b7D

Informant also learned that SMITH was a close friend of GERALD WINROD of Wichita, Kansas, [redacted]

b7D

Informant supplied two copies of the July, 1942 issue of "The Cross And The Flag", one of which is being forwarded to the Bureau.

At a later date, Informant supplied the writer with two copies of the August, 1942 issue of "The Cross And The Flag", one of which being forwarded to the Bureau.

Informant also supplied copies of SMITH'S campaign literature which appears to be purely political and for that purpose i being forwarded to the Bureau but is being retained in the files of t Detroit Field Office.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

[redacted]

charges that SMITH was anti-Jewish. Informant stated that SMITH always denied these charges against him and went to great pains to prove that the prejudice was all on the other side and that the Jews were making it hard for SMITH to get along with them. Informant stated that he believed SMITH was genuinely anti-Jewish in his sentiments but said that he expressed this prejudice only in subtleties. He elaborated by saying that the sort of propaganda, which SMITH intends to revoke anti-Jewish prejudice, is represented by his defense of Father COUGHLIN'S "Freedom Of The Speech", by his slogan "CHRIST First In America", and by his repeated challenge to WALTER WINCHELL that WINCHELL'S Rabbi and SMITH'S Pastor should select a Catholic priest and these three churchmen would then consider whether SMITH had ever done anything wrong [redacted] Informant stated that outside of the fact that SMITH is anti-Jewish and is a power seeker, he has never had any indication that SMITH is Fascistically inclined.

Informant said that several years ago he recalled SMITH having said that GERALD WINROD was a very dangerous Jew baiter and potentially a dangerous Fascist leader and should be watched.

Informant stated that he had no knowledge of any contact that SMITH had ever had with WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY, ELIZABETH DILLING, or any officials of the Ford Motor Company.

Informant also stated he was unaware of any arrangement by which SMITH was obtaining free office space in the Industrial Bank Building.

Informant concluded by saying that undoubtedly SMITH'S repeated attacks on the Administration and its persecution of the war effort tend to check the public faith in the Administration but he said that he was unable to state whether SMITH was merely a critic or else a seditionist with some further axe to grind.

[redacted]

ALL
b7D

4-750 (2-7-79)

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XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

1 Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); IRS _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-157 P. 4

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-157 p. 5

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FBI/DOJ

(Detroit file 62-1126).

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that on September 15, 1942 Subject was defeated in his attempt to obtain the Republican nomination for the office of United States Senator from Michigan. SMITH offered to his friends the explanation that the New Deal Democrats feared that he would be too strong a Republican opponent and consequently the Democrats voted against him in the Republican Ticket in the non-partisan primary election (under Michigan law the primary elections are open to voters of all parties without restriction requiring them to vote only for candidates of their own party). b7D

SMITH explained to his mother, who resides in Delavan, Wisconsin, that "they passed the word down the line for all the Jews to vote and they had a holiday so that they, the Jews, stepped in the last minute and they beat me but all the white people voted for me". SMITH continued that, although he lost the election, he received 120,000 votes, which gave him the balance of power in Michigan and prevented any candidate from being elected without the support of SMITH'S following.

According to the Informant, SMITH advised [redacted] of Lansing, Michigan, that, although he lost the primary election, he succeeded in promoting in Michigan strong sentiments against the New Deal. SMITH thought that with his large following he could lay the foundation for a good organization with the cooperation of "several of them". b7C

[redacted] who is active in United Mothers of America and who with her husband was a former member of the America First Committee, as previously reported, has been contacting Miss ELIZABETH DILLING of Chicago, Illinois. [redacted] made the suggestion to SMITH that all the pre-Pearl Harbor Isolationists and the opponents of the New Deal should unite into an all-American Party and in this way their strength would be felt. SMITH'S associates immediately began working on this idea soliciting contributions by mail and private telephone calls for the political campaign. SMITH himself attempted to contact [redacted] Bohn Aluminum and Brass Corporation. When he was unable to reach [redacted] he spoke to [redacted] saying, "They are neglecting something that is terribly important and if he doesn't get in touch with me, it is going to be too late. It will be a case of everybody getting his pictures in the papers all over the country unless they get together and see how they are going to operate." SMITH concluded by saying, "I can't go to work and I can't protect anybody b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 5 OF 18

FILE NUMBER : 62-43818

SUBJECT GERALD L. K. Smith

PART III

FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
REQUEST

SUBJECT GERALD L. K. Smith

PAGES REVIEWED: 3994

PAGES RELEASED: 2979

NOTES: SECTIONS 10-14

NO DUPLICATION FEES FOR THIS PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 10

PAGES REVIEWED: 63

PAGES RELEASED: 63

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

Department of Justice
Washington

JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

December 4, 1942

Mr. Edgar J. Edgar Hoover

Re: L. A. Smith

We have had previous correspondence about a man [redacted] an informant on Gerald L. K. Smith. I have certainly been told by several persons for a period extending over a year and a half that [redacted] was afraid to talk because he was in fear of his life and actually expected to meet with violence.

I am now told that [redacted] in Indianapolis, under circumstances that appeared to be mysterious.

I understand several private individuals have interested themselves in this matter and plan to look into it to see if there has been foul play.

Will you kindly investigate [redacted]

James Rowe, Jr.

RECORDED & INDEXED
F B I
8 DEC 14 1942
EX-36

CC-285

JPHa:IS
62-43818 -174

RECORDED

Date: December 10, 1942

To: SAC, Indianapolis

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

The Bureau is in receipt of a recent communication from the Department, which requests that inquiry be made [redacted] an informant in this matter, [redacted] In this connection the Department has commented that it has received information from several undisclosed sources to the effect that [redacted]

In view of this request, it is desired that your office [redacted] This should be done immediately and you should promptly inform the Bureau as to whether the records mentioned, or any similar records available to you, give any indication that [redacted]

The Detroit Office should check any pertinent records of the type mentioned which are available in Detroit, and should further inform the Bureau of any information in its possession concerning the circumstances [redacted]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Miss Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
DEC 10 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

memo to Jane Rowe Jr. 1/6/43
Tell back Detroit 1-15-43

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8 BTS/LC

JPHa'DXM
RECORDED 62-43818 - 174
1-15-43
18
EX 53

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SP4BTP/AC

Reference is had to your memorandum of December 4, 1942, wherein you requested that the Bureau investigate [redacted] furnished certain information concerning this case.

In this connection you are advised that [redacted]

Mr. To
Mr. E.
Mr. Cle
Mr. Glavin
Mr. La
Mr.
Mr.
Mr.
Mr.
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Krame
Mr. U. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SUBPEIAED

An informant, [redacted], has advised that he received a telephone call from [redacted] at about 8:00 A.M.

RECEIVED READING ROOM
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51 JAN 29 1943

b2,b7D

on the morning of October 17, 1942, and that in answer to [redacted] request he went to the latter's hotel about 8:30 A.M. and thereafter was constantly in company with [redacted]

[redacted]

The informant in this matter stated that he had not met [redacted] prior to October 17, and that he is not further conversant with the latter's activities. He did state, however, that [redacted] had told him that he, [redacted] had arrived in Indianapolis at 7:00 A.M. on the morning of October 17th. In this connection it was determined that [redacted] checked in at the Lincoln Hotel at 7:15 A.M. on that date.

Additional inquiry pertaining to [redacted] activities [redacted] is being conducted and you will be furnished with any further pertinent information developed.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

b7D
b7C

Department of Justice

Office of the Assistant to the Attorney General

Washington

December 12, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. K. MUMFORD

In accordance with our conversation this morning, I am listing below the Bureau's reports which appear in the file I have examined in the Gerald L. K. Smith case. Would you be good enough to let me know what other material the Bureau has in connection with this case.

9 1. May 20, 1941 - Agent [redacted] Detroit
52 2. April 27, 1942 - Agent [redacted] - Detroit
53 3. June 6, 1942 - Agent [redacted]
101 4. June 29, 1942 - Agent [redacted]
? 71 5. May 23, 1942 - [redacted] b7c b7D
116 6. July 22, 1942 - [redacted]
116 7. August 11, 1942 - Agent [redacted]
117 8. August 11, 1942 - Agent [redacted] - Kansas City
123 9. August 25, 1942 - Agent [redacted] - Indianapolis
13510. August 29, 1942 - Agent [redacted] - Atlanta
14011. August 28, 1942 - Agent [redacted] - New Orleans
12812. September 2, 1942- Agent [redacted]

C. E. Rhetts
Special Assistant to the
Attorney General

memo to Rowe
atten Rhetts 12/14/42
gpHa

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18 DEC 17 1942

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8 BTJ

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12/14/42
62-43818-~~100~~
62-43818-175

RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
MR. JAMES ROWE, Jr.

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SEDITION

Reference is made to the memorandum addressed under date of December 12, 1942, by Mr. C. E. Rhetts to Mr. J. K. Mumford of this Bureau, which set forth a list of the Bureau's reports in this matter which Mr. Rhetts has been able to locate to date.

For your assistance in this matter, there are enumerated and described below the other reports and items of correspondence between the Bureau and the Department in this case as reflected by the Bureau's files:

1. A memorandum dated January 2, 1942, addressed to Mr. Lawrence M. C. Smith, transmitting copies of three leaflets entitled "13 Mistakes of President Franklin D. Roosevelt"; "Committee of 1,000,000"; "Petition to Congress and President Roosevelt No A.E.F."
2. A memorandum dated February 9, 1942, addressed to Mr. Lawrence M. C. Smith, transmitting a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 20, 1941, at Detroit, Michigan. b7c
3. A memorandum dated February 11, 1942, to Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge, transmitting a copy of the circular prepared by Smith entitled "The Undelivered Speech."
4. A memorandum dated April 27, 1942, addressed to the Attorney General setting forth certain information as to subject's intention to run for the office of United States Senator.
5. A memorandum dated April 25, 1942, addressed to Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge transmitting a copy of the April, 1942 issue of "The Cross and the Flag."
6. A memorandum dated May 11, 1942, addressed to Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge transmitting a photostatic copy of a press release of the Committee of 1,000,000 dated April 24, 1942, and a portfolio of speeches by Smith

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 14
DEC 15 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/16/80 BY SP8 [illegible]

(called 7:00 P.M. [illegible])

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delivered over radio Station WXR at Detroit, prior to April 27, 1941. This memorandum also transmitted a copy of the April, 1942 issue of "The Cross and the Flag."

7. A memorandum dated May 27, 1942, addressed to Mr. James Rowe, Jr., setting forth certain information concerning an interview had with [redacted] in this matter. b7c b7D

8. A memorandum dated June 9, 1942, addressed to Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge, which transmitted a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on May 23, 1942.

9. A memorandum dated June 11, 1942, addressed to Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge, transmitting a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] at Washington, D. C., on June 4, 1942, together with photostatic copies of subject's weekly broadcast from October 29, 1941 to December 24, 1941. b7c

10. Memorandum dated June 12, 1942, addressed to the Attorney General enclosing a copy of a contemplated radio address which was to have been delivered by subject on June 7, 1942.

11. A memorandum dated June 19, 1942, addressed to Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge transmitting photostatic copies of twenty-three radio addresses delivered by subject over Station WXR, Detroit, December, 1941, to May, 1942, as well as a copy of the transcript of subject's speech delivered at the Maccabees Building, Detroit, Michigan, on May 12, 1942.

12. A memorandum dated June 19, 1942, addressed to Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge transmitting a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, on June 11, 1942.

13. Memorandum addressed to Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge dated on July 21, 1942, transmitting a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated on June 29, 1942 at Detroit, Michigan, and copies of subject's radio broadcast from Station WXR, Detroit, for May 31 and June 7, 1942. Also transmitted with this memorandum was a copy of the June, 1942 issue of "The Cross and the Flag." b7c

14. A memorandum dated August 19, 1942, addressed to Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge transmitting copies of reports submitted on August 11, 1942, by Special Agent [redacted] of Detroit and Special Agent [redacted] at Kansas City, together with a copy of the July, 1942 issue of "The Cross and the Flag."

15. A copy of the report made by Special Agent [redacted] of Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 21, 1942, transmitted to the Division of Records under date of November 3, 1942.

16. A memorandum dated November 5, 1942, addressed to Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge advising of transmittal under date of November 3, 1942, to the Division of Records of a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] at Atlanta, Georgia, dated October 20, 1942.

17. Memorandum addressed to Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge under date of December 14, 1942, advising of the transmittal to the Division of Records under date of December 11, 1942, of the report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Charlotte, North Carolina on September 17, 1942, and a photostatic copy of subject's publication "Too Much Roosevelt."

b7c

18. A report made by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan dated December 11, 1942, which was transmitted to the Division of Records under date of December 14, 1942.

As indicated, the reports and items of correspondence listed above, together with the reports mentioned in Mr. Rhetts' memorandum, constitute all of the information which has been received and transmitted to the Department in connection with this case. Additional copies of any of this material which you cannot now locate will, of course, be furnished on your further request.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

JPHa:WMJ
12-11-42

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Pursuant to the request made by Mr. C. E. Rhetts on December 10, 1942, of Mr. J. K. Mumford of this Bureau, there is transmitted herewith a photostatic copy of the document prepared in connection with this matter by [redacted] b2c b7D

As you will no doubt recall, the original of this document was made available to this Bureau as an enclosure with a memorandum from the Attorney General dated October 28, 1942.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-2 Rothlin

RECORDED & INDEXED
★ DEC 12 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 17 1942

33 JAN 7 1943

311

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

EFR:FLB,JR.

146-28-43

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

JAN 6 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith
Committee of One Million

This refers to my memorandum dated December 23, 1942 requesting information or an investigation to ascertain whether or not Smith was a candidate at the Michigan general election for senator in 1942, required to file a statement of campaign contributions and expenditures under the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925. Since the dispatch of that memorandum, Smith has filed an account in the Office of the Secretary of the Senate, Washington, D. C. This account was not notarized or dated, and the date of receipt is not a matter of public record. It shows contributions of $8545.31 and expenses of $8895.02.

The omissions in the statement, taken with Smith's denial that he was a candidate in a letter filed therewith, suggest that he does not admit his candidacy; notwithstanding this quotation from The Cross and The Flag for December, 1942, page 8: "I sought the Senate as an independent sticker candidate". It is therefore requested that you continue the investigation requested on December 23, 1942 to establish the exact facts of Smith's campaign with a view to proving his candidacy. It is also suggested that you determine his actual contributions and expenditures for comparison with those set out in his filed statement. It will also be appreciated if you will procure and forward the statement of contributions in the primary election requested in the first paragraph of the memorandum referred to above.

Respectfully,

RECORDED

Lawrence M. C. Smith
Chief, Special War Policies Unit
War Division

62-43818-177
F B
JAN 1943

SAC-Detroit
4-5-43 SRH

See Bu memo to Burger (ee Smith 1/2/43)

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS

FEB 15 1943

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

C O

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
January 6, 1943

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/8/83 BY SP6BJA/DMS
204,433

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH was;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION

Please be advised that the following additional information was received from [redacted] whose identity is known to you: b2D

SMITH'S principal activity since his defeat in the election for the office of United States Senator from the State of Michigan has been the formation of a third political party. At first, he was planning to name this political party "The American Party" but now he plans to call it "The Safety First Party". He claims that he has no intention of creating an independent third party but that the purpose of the party is a precautionary device in order to assure the continuation of the two party system in America and prevent the recurrence of a situation such as in 1940 when both the Republican candidate and the Democratic candidate were working hand in hand as New Dealers.

SMITH has been in very close touch with HARRY BENNETT, Personnel Director of the Ford Motor Company and has been reporting to BENNETT the progress that has been made in the formation of this political party. SMITH'S principal contact man who has been active in New York and Washington has been [redacted] of Cleveland, Ohio. b7c

While SMITH was contemplating using the name "The American Party" he ascertained that the identical name had already been used by Mrs. BLANCHE WINTERS, 8127 East Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, Michigan. Mrs. WINTERS was contacted by SMITH and SMITH'S new attorney, Mr. U. S. HIGGBLOM. It was learned from Mrs. WINTERS that although she had organized the American Party in fourteen states it was politically dead in Michigan in that it was not entitled to be listed on the official ballot. SE

SMITH in discussing his plans with Mrs. WINTERS, said that

FOR DEFENSE BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

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there was going to be an American Party in order to force the Republican Party to do the right thing and felt that she had chosen a very appropriate name. Mrs. WINTERS agreed that the Republicans must not allow WILLKIE to be nominated again and that a party such as the American Party would make the Republican Party stay in line. SMITH made the point that it was very important to have delegates to the National Convention and he pointed out that ROBERT VIETIG, Detroit Organizer of the America First Committee made it a point to get delegates before he closed up.

SMITH reiterated that the America First Organization should never have been discontinued. SMITH expressed his opinion to Mrs. WINTERS that perhaps it would be better to reorganize the America First Committee all over the country and such organization could be achieved before actually making an attempt to organize a third political party. SMITH said he did not think that the third party should be formed until public opinion was tested to see if the people would receive a compromise organization.

SMITH explained that his desire was merely to set up a machinery to put candidates on the ballots in case the people were betrayed by both the Republican and Democratic Parties as they were in 1940. He said the one great lack was a working mechanism to do this. He stated that a known partisan organization such as the Committee of One Million could not finance such a movement since it was against the law. He considered the name America First Party to indicate that it was merely a sort of committee registered to collect funds and to do business.

SMITH discussed with his friend MURRAY KNOWLES, former outstanding member of the America First Committee in Detroit, his ideas and catch phrases for the political movement. He asked KNOWLES how he liked the catch phrase "The America First Party, America first and safety first" - "This is not a third party, it is a guarantee of the preservation of the two party system" and "No international government, but a national government with an independent destiny."

SMITH suggested that the personality symbol should be GEORGE WASHINGTON who stood for isolation; the spiritual symbol the cross and the flag (the same as for the committee of one million); and the patriotic symbol the American eagle.

SMITH also propounded the slogan "Isolationism is not dead, America must remain independent. GEORGE WASHINGTON, not HENRY WALLACE, shall determine the destiny of America". SMITH also suggested the slogan "Clothe America first, Feed America first, Defend America first, and defend the four freedoms of America first." SMITH thought that all these slogans might be used in the launching of the campaign of the Safety First Party. SMITH believed that if the Republican or Democratic Parties nominated such a man as

Senator BURTON K. WHEELER or CHARLES A. LINDBERG, then there would be no need to have an independent political movement. SMITH emphasized that his principal desire was to launch a Safety First movement without either the Democratic or Republican Parties feeling that he was out to displace them.

SMITH is attempting to interest Mrs. PAUL FITZSIMMONS, Newport, Rhode Island, vice-chairman of the Republican National Committee in his political movement. On December 21, 1942, informant advised that SMITH received a telegram from Mrs. FITZSIMMONS as follows:

> "Writing you today. Could you send me six copies of the circular dated December 1. Many thanks."

SMITH discussed his plans for the political movement with Captain JOHN TREVOR of New York City, New York. TREVOR advised SMITH that he had been questioned by an investigator from the United States Treasury Department as to the amount of money he had given SMITH. It had been alleged that TREVOR had given SMITH $500.00 but TREVOR said he told the investigator he could not recall having given SMITH anything. SMITH'S comment was "Liberty is beginning to show her head". SMITH advised TREVOR that in the instant political campaign in Michigan he had polled 112,000 votes and that he had to be candidate in order to stay on the radio. SMITH then explained his purpose to TREVOR in forming a New Party and said that this New Party would not back a candidate of their own ranks but would rather there was a good member of an old party. In other words, the purpose of the New Party would be "to chastise" the other parties.

SMITH added the Democratic and Republican politicians were afraid of what SMITH himself, HENRY FORD, and Reverend CHARLES E. COUGHLIN were going to do but SMITH made it clear that all they wanted to do was "just be good Americans". They thought it was good patriotism to say "America First".

Captain TREVOR commented that there were quite a few that agreed with them.

SMITH has also been obtaining assistance from Mr. R. A. COFFMAN in organizing his independent political movement. He has requested Mr. COFFMAN to proceed to Atlanta, Georgia and contact Governor EUGENE TALMADGE.

SMITH has also discussed his plans with Mr. J. EDWARD JONES of New York City and Baton Rouge, Louisiana. SMITH told JONES that he had received a two-page letter from Congressman HAMILTON FISH whom he had lauded in the most recent issue of the "Cross and the Flag". SMITH remarked that HAMILTON FISH had asked SMITH to write an analysis of the ROOSEVELT Political Philosophy and SMITH promised to send a copy of this analysis to JONES.

SMITH also discussed his plans for an independent political party with Captain EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago, Illinois, and SOUTHARD felt that a third party should be formed as a measure of preparedness in case the Republican Party should "sell out" to the New Dealers like they did in 1940. SMITH repeated to HUBERT H. LUCKER and Mrs. MURRAY KNOWLES that Captain SOUTHARD had related that Captain SOUTHARD'S brother was in Hong Kong and was grossly mistreated by the Japanese. Captain SOUTHARD had further been captured by the Japanese and they cut off his toes and inflicted 23 wounds on his body. SMITH commented that "if we don't stop sending this stuff to Russia and get down to fighting this war we will be defeated for the Japs are the strongest nation in the world." SMITH described Captain EARL SOUTHARD as being "with the Chicago Tribune."

When SMITH related this story to Mrs. KNOWLES he added his own comment "these internationalists and Jews don't care what happens to our people in the Pacific. They are only concerned with Hitler." SMITH criticized Senator-elect HOMER FERGUSON for "consorting with Jews". SMITH explained his opinion that now is the appropriate time to come out with an anti-League of Nations Campaign. SMITH suggested that the proper line of propaganda would be to argue that if we enter into any form of world government the distribution which will remain thereunder will result in taking our food, our rubber, and everything and give it to all the others. SMITH was emphatic that all the propaganda should point out that all our efforts should be made toward improving the conditions under which the United States soldiers live because "nothing is too good for our soldiers." Mrs. KNOWLES suggested that SMITH should campaign for free transportation for soldiers on furlough. SMITH suggested that it was a good idea to permit free transportation while on furlough once each year. Mrs. KNOWLES thought that she would suggest four times a year. SMITH countered with saying that the platform could bee free transportation for soldiers on furlough at least once a year.

[redacted] advised further that GERALD SMITH is continuing to collaborate with Reverend E. J. ROLLINGS, who is an associate of Reverend GERALD B. WINROD of Wichita, Kansas. SMITH has accommodated ROLLINGS by having his stenographic force prepare various stencils for ROLLINGS, mimeographed letters for SMITH and ROLLINGS together and attempted to obtain small religious souveniers for transmission to men in the forces of the United States. b7c

SMITH, as previously reported by [redacted] has attempted to contact CHARLES SORENSON, vice-president of the Ford Motor Company, believed to be SMITH'S cousin by marriage. SMITH'S purpose was to prevail upon Mr. SORENSON to urge HENRY FORD to write a personal letter to the Cleveland Local Draft Board of [redacted] requesting the deferment of young [redacted]

b7c

This request is based upon his essential activity at the Ford Motor Company. Mr. FORD actually wrote such a letter by the draft board in Cleveland classified young [redacted] in Class 1-A and ordered him to report for physical examination. Mr. SMITH is now attempting to get HENRY FORD to request an appeal.

SMITH suggested that young [redacted] that he should attempt to obtain a commission in the United States Navy. SMITH said that he had heard that the Army was getting too big and that the Navy enlistments were going to be favored. SMITH told [redacted] that he should interview [redacted] who was in charge of all special recruiting for the United States Navy in Detroit. SMITH described [redacted] as a man whom HARRY BENNETT elected for the Board of Regents of the University of Michigan but was not the one that had been the coach of football at Northwestern University.

SMITH commented favorably on the replacement of LEON HENDERSON by PRENTISS M. BROWN to the Head of the OPA because even though SMITH disliked his former opponent, PRENTISS M. BROWN, he said he would rather have a white man from Michigan than a Jew from New York.

SMITH commented to a person unknown to Informant that it was difficult to shop in Detroit during the Christmas buying season because of the negroes and foreigners made it uncomfortable for the "regular people".

Investigators of the Treasury Department are continuing their investigation of SMITH'S income tax returns from 1936 through 1941. This investigation, according to informant, is because SMITH displayed some anxiety although he frequently states to his friends that he has nothing to worry about because he has reported every cent of income he ever had. He blames the institution of this investigation on is usual enemies. SMITH'S most bitter enemy continues to be WALTER WINCHELL concerning whom he wrote an article in the December issue of the "Cross and the Flag" entitled "WALTER WINCHELL - The Pop-Gun Patriot". SMITH is still planning to institute a million dollar law suit against WALTER WINCHELL in the near future, the principal issue which he is now discussing with his Attorney USA HEGGBLOM is whether it will be possible to institute the suit in Detroit, Michigan. SMITH is adverse to instituting the suit in the Eastern District of New York, Southern Division because he was afraid that in New York there was danger that there might be a Jew on the Jury which would ruin his chances.

SMITH stated that he had received information that a Committee of the Senate would be formed to investigate the Assistant United States Attorney General and others for a conspiracy to smear opponents of the New Deal. SMITH also discussed with Mr. HEGGBLOM the indictment at Washington, D.C.

of twenty-eight persons for seditious conspiracy.

SMITH remarked that it was a shame the way TOWNSEND let his organization degerate into a racket.

SMITH sought HUBERT LUCKER and dicussed with LUCKER the investigation that was in progress by the Internal Revenue Agents. SMITH said that Internal Revenue agents had made inquiries about LUCKER since SMITH'S records showed LUCKER had handled some of the money. SMITH explained carefully that he did not want HUBERT to do anything for him but told him no doubt some details that HUBERT had porbably forgotten and HUBERT would be embarrassed on being questioned. SMITH said he just wanted to refresh HUBERT'S memory. For this purpose SMITH and LUCKER met at SMITH'S home on December 26, 1942. SMITH lamented that his own son had left home after SMITH had done so much for him. SMITH told LUCKER that HENRY FORD had personally given GERALD SMITH, Jr. a position at Ford Motor Company and young SMITH quit and later SMITH got his son a job at the J. L. Hudson Company Department Store and his son quit there also. SMITH said that during the Christmas buying season he had gotten his son re-employed at the J. L. Hudson Company through the WEBBERS. (The operators of the J. L. Hudson Company and relatives of EDSEL FORD).

SMITH continues to contact Mrs. DAVID STANLEY of Cleveland, Ohio, and through her obtains the cooperation of the United Mothers of America, whose headquarters are in the Arcade Building, Cleveland, Ohio.

SMITH was critical of ROOSEVELT'S appointment of LEON HENDERSON to a position of Food Administrator in England. He told Captain EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago, Illinois that ROOSEVELT had appointed "HENDERSON to London to give our food away." SOUTHARD replied that they would give his butter to the Russians, his jelly to the Greeks, and his peanut butter to the Syrians. SMITH attempted to quote the Scripture "He that provideth not for his own is worse than an infidel."

SMITH has planned to hold a meeting of his followers at Eagle's Hall in Detroit, Michigan on January 10, 1943, and he has distributed 1,000 tickets in the hope that his 200 most loyal supporters will attend the meeting. He said that he would discuss numerous subjects, including

1 - HENRY WALLACE'S plan to put us in an international government.
2 - Can America feed the world?
3 - Facts about gas rationing.
4 - Does America face a famine?
5 - Will feed America first or will we feed the foreigners first and starve America? We have the same number of men in the Army as we did the last war and did not have rationing, why do we have it this time? Why do we

go without meat while the New Deal Overlords feast and banquet in Washington an champagne and numerous kinds of meat?

6 - LEON HENDERSON'S trip to London.
7 - Will WILLKIE be nominated again?
8 - Will ROOSEVELT be nominated for a Fourth Term?
9 - Senator WHEELER'S plan to investigate lend-lease.
10 - The truth about fuel oil rationing.
11 - The indictment of STANLEY NOWAK.

SMITH announced to Mr. KNOWLES that there would be a question and answer period at the conclusion of his speech. SMITH also plans to make a speech in Chicago on January 15, 1943, in Minneapolis in the morning of January 17, 1943 with a radio address in the afternoon of January 17, 1943. He also plans to speak at St. Paul, Minnesota on the night of the 17th. SMITH is also planning to make speeches in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Cleveland, Ohio, as well as in Erie, Pennsylvania.

Informant overheard a conversation between SMITH and his attorney HEGGBLOM and SMITH said in his opinion food should be distributed in the following order:

Service men
American citizens
Allies
Neutrals and others

SMITH commented that he noticed the man who represented the American consumer had been removed from the Administrative Board in Charge of Food Rationing so that now the Commission included only representatives from the Army and Navy and foreigners so that now "they can just sit and clean us out".

SMITH commented to [redacted] that he had heard from a man the "Gestapo" was following war workers to work and returning home so that they could see if they did any excess driving. SMITH remarked "Who ever dreamed that that thing would come to America". Informant believed that SMITH was being sarcastic about the F.B.I. or some other American Law Enforcement Agency. b7c

Informant revealed that the Federal Communication Commission was interested in obtaining scripts of SMITH'S radio addresses at Radio Station WJR. SMITH was advised of this fact when officials of Radio Station WJR asked him to supply certain copies which they did not have.

Yours truly,
John S. Bugas
JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

NEW YORK MIRROR

DAILY AND SUNDAY

235 EAST 45TH STREET
MURRAY HILL 2-1000

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

December 22, 1942

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Before Mr. Winchell went away he said that if anything came along that we thought would be of interest to you--to send it right along.

We have just gone through an accumulation of radio mail and found these. I hope it is all right to send all this stuff to you.

Best wishes to you and Mr. Tolson for the season.

sincerely,

[redacted]

for walter winchell

[redacted] b7c

Thanks for the Gmail

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY [illegible]
11/21/83
su: 62-43818 sbc

RECORDED
62-43818
F B
17 JAN 1943

GLC:SB :AJ
~~62-43818-172~~

62-43818-179

January 2, 1943

RECORDED

[redacted]
New York Mirror
235 East 45th Street
New York, New York

Dear [redacted]

I want to thank you for your letter of December 22, 1942, together with the enclosures attached thereto.

You may be assured that the items forwarded to you have been carefully noted and will receive appropriate attention by the FBI.

Your continued interest in forwarding these matters to me is indeed appreciated.

Sincerely,

J. Edgar Hoover

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/82 BY

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JAN 4 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JAN 2 7 43 PM '43
RECEIVED READING ROOM
F B I
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

234

Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease

Department of Justice

Office of the Assistant to the Attorney General

Washington

January 8, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

In your memorandum of December 28 you inquire whether it is believed that Gerald L. K. Smith's activities are such as to suggest a violation of Federal Statutes and, if so, to advise you to this effect and indicate the theory and statutes on which any prosecution would be based.

As you know, Smith's activities have been a matter of interest to the Criminal Division and the Special War Policies Unit for some months.

Smith's speeches and his publication, The Cross and the Flag, have had a decidedly seditious flavor but Smith seems to have been quite well advised on the extent to which he could safely go in this direction. As a consequence, the Criminal Division and the Special War Policies Unit have agreed that in the absence of some evidence of a direct tie-up with the Axis, a sedition prosecution would not be warranted.

In the various reports furnished by you with respect to Smith there have been several suggestions of a possible connection with the Axis, but nothing has been developed beyond this suggestion.

I understand that while you have maintained a general interest in Smith's activities, you have never undertaken an intensive investigation of him and his connections, largely because you have never been asked to do so and because no specific violations of law have been suggested by the Criminal Division or the Special War Policies Unit.

I believe such an intensive investigation should be made and I am outlining below a few of the leads, most of which have been indicated by various Bureau reports, which I should suppose ought to be pursued.

RECORDED
INDEXED
62-43818-180

1. In a report dated June 11, 1942, by Special Agent [redacted] of Detroit, reference is made to a memorandum in the Detroit files of the Bureau (Detroit

JAN 12 1943

Left to Detroit 1/8/43

b7c

EX-10

1. (Cont'd)
file 62-1222) indicating that [redacted] What is this information which [redacted] purports to have?

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b7D

2. Various attempts have been made to establish Smith's membership in the Silver Shirts of America and reports of the Bureau indicate that no records of the Silver Shirts can be located which indicate Smith's membership. In the report of June 11, 1942 referred to above an interview is reported with [redacted] in which [redacted] is reported to have said that Smith's and his wife's membership cards in the Silver Shirts are in possession of [redacted] has this statement been confirmed? If not, I would suggest that [redacted] be questioned concerning this and the cards obtained from him if he has them and is willing to release them.

b7C

3. In a report dated May 23, 1942 by Special Agent [redacted] in Detroit, reference is made by [redacted] both of whom are supposed to be Nazi sympathizers.

b7C
b7D

I would suggest that this lead be developed to ascertain whether any actual connection between Smith and German agents could be established.

4. In this same report of May 23, 1942, [redacted] reports a conversation with Smith in the course of which he said [redacted]

b7C
b7D

A fuller account of this conversation and any further information which this informant may have on this subject would be desirable.

Reference to this informant was made in Mr. Berge's memorandum to you dated December 9, 1942.

5. In a report dated April 27, 1942 by Agent [redacted] of Detroit, reference is made to [redacted] I would suggest that fuller details be obtained from this informant as to his knowledge of Smith's connections with [redacted]

b7C
b7D

180

6. In a report dated September 2, 1942, by Agent [redacted] in Detroit, reference is made by [redacted] who is said to have left Smith in February 1941. [redacted] is said in this report to be residing possibly in Algiers, Louisiana. In a later report of August 12, 1942, [redacted] is said to reside at [redacted] Louisiana. b7c b7D

[redacted] may well have a considerable amount of information concerning Smith's movements and contacts and might be able to give information as to possible German or Axis connections.

7. In a report dated August 28, 1942, by Agent [redacted] in New Orleans, Louisiana, reference is made to some correspondence between Smith and a [redacted] San Antonio, Texas. It is stated that Smith's letter of July 8, 1933, to Fack inquiring how he could communicate with Hitler, together with Fack's replies, are in the files of the San Antonio Field Office of the Bureau. I have previously suggested to Mr. Mumford that these be obtained from the San Antonio Office so that Smith's signature can be verified. It would also be helpful to know more about Dr. Fack and his connections with the German Government. b7c

8. Smith's letter just referred to is said to be signed Gerald L. K. Schmidt and other suggestions have been made that Smith's real name is Schmidt. A request was made by Mr. Berge on November 9, 1942 that the birth records in Pardeeville, Wisconsin, be examined to ascertain Smith's true name. I should like to know the result of this investigation.

9. On one occasion Smith instituted a libel suit against the Washington Herald and on another occasion against the magazine Time. I understand that the attorneys for the Washington Herald, Davies, Richberg, Beebe, Burick & Richardson of Washington, D. C., and the attorneys for Time, Cravath, DeGersdorff, Swaine & Wood, 15 Broad Street, New York City, have extensive files on Smith and I would suggest that the Bureau obtain access to these files to see what material may be included there that is not otherwise known to us.

10. In his memorandum to you dated November 9, 1942, Mr. Berge has requested that [redacted] of Smith, be interviewed and I should appreciate information as to whether [redacted] is able to give any additional information as to Smith's connections and activities. b7c

180

11. By a memorandum dated December 30, 1942, Mr. Rowe has requested certain information concerning Hubert Lucker, a former associate of Smith.

In addition, there is reason to believe that Smith has violated the Corrupt Practices Act in connection with his recent senatorial campaign. I believe the Special War Policies Unit has already requested the Bureau to conduct further investigations in this connection.

C. E. Rhetts
Special Assistant to the
Attorney General

180

JPHa:WMJ

62-43818 -180

February 8, 1943

RECORDED

PERSONAL ATTENTION

SAC, Detroit

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Set forth below are pertinent portions of two additional memoranda pertaining to this case which have been received from the Department. As you will observe, these memoranda suggest the desirability of further investigation in this case and advance specific suggestions as to certain information desired:

"In a report dated June 11, 1942, by Special Agent [redacted] of Detroit, reference is made to a memorandum in the Detroit files of the Bureau (Detroit file 62-1222) indicating that [redacted] What is this information which Austin purports to have?

b7c
b7D

"Various attempts have been made to establish Smith's membership in the Silver Shirts of America and reports of the Bureau indicate that no records of the Silver Shirts can be located which indicate Smith's membership. In the report of June 11, 1942 referred to above an interview is reported with [redacted] in which [redacted] is reported to have said that Smith's and his wife's membership cards in the Silver Shirts are in possession of [redacted] Has this statement been confirmed? If not, I would suggest that [redacted] be questioned concerning this and the cards obtained from him if he has them and is willing to release them.

b7c

"In a report dated May 23, 1942 by Special Agent [redacted] in Detroit, reference is made by [redacted] both of whom are supposed to be Nazi sympathizers.

b7c
b7D

"I would suggest that this lead be developed to ascertain whether any actual connection between Smith and German agents could be established.

Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. L.
Mr. Tracy

COMM

MAILED 9

★ FEB 1 1 1943

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 2/17/83 BY SP.8BTS/MC

6 1 FEB 1 5 1943

b7c, b7D

"In this same report of May 23, 1942, [redacted] reports a conversation with Smith in the course of which he said [redacted]. b7c b7D

"A fuller account of this conversation and any further information which this informant may have on this subject would be desirable.

"Reference to this informant was made in Mr. Berge's memorandum to you dated December 9, 1942.

"In a report dated April 27, 1942 by Agent [redacted] of Detroit, reference is made to [redacted] I would suggest that fuller details be obtained from this informant as to his knowledge of Smith's connections with [redacted] b7c b7D

"In a report dated September 2, 1942, by Agent [redacted] in Detroit, reference is made to [redacted] who is said to have left Smith in February 1941. [redacted] is said in this report to be residing possibly in Algiers, Louisiana. In a later report of August 12, 1942, [redacted] is said to reside at [redacted] Louisiana. b7c b7D

[redacted] may well have a considerable amount of information concerning Smith's movements and contacts and might be able to give information as to possible German or Axis connections. b7c

b7c

"In a report dated August 28, 1942, by Agent [redacted] in New Orleans, Louisiana, reference is made to some correspondence between Smith and a Dr. Hugo Fack, 309 Madison Street, San Antonio, Texas. It is stated that Smith's letter of July 8, 1933, to Fack inquiring how he could communicate with Hitler, together with Fack's replies, are in the files of the San Antonio Field Office of the Bureau. I have previously suggested to Mr. Mumford that these be obtained from the San Antonio Office so that Smith's signature can be verified. It would also be helpful to know more about Dr. Fack and his connections with the German Government.

"Smith's letter just referred to is said to be signed Gerald L. K. Schmidt and other suggestions have been made that Smith's real name is Schmidt. A request was made by Mr. Berge on November 9, 1942 that the birth records in Pardeeville, Wisconsin, be examined to ascertain Smith's true name. I should like to know the result of this investigation.

"On one occasion Smith instituted a libel suit against the Washington Herald and on another occasion against the magazine Time. I understand that the attorneys for the Washington Herald, Davies, Richberg, Beebe, Burick & Richardson of Washington, D. C., and the attorneys for Time, Cravath, DeGersdorff, Swaine & Wood, 15 Broad Street, New York City, have extensive

140

files on Smith and I would suggest that the Bureau obtain access to these files to see what material may be included there that is not otherwise known to us.

"In his memorandum to you dated November 9, 1942, Mr. Berge has requested that [redacted] interviewed and I would appreciate information as to whether [redacted] of Smith, be [redacted] is able to give any additional information as to Smith's connections and activities.

"By a memorandum dated December 30, 1942, Mr. Rowe has requested certain information concerning Hubert Lucker, a former associate of Smith."

b7c

- - - - - - - - -

"The Michigan General Election Act, Act 351 of 1925, Part 5, Chapter II, Section 4 requires every candidate, within ten days after any primary election to file in the office of the county clerk of the county in which such candidate resides a statement of his contributions and disbursements, the name of the person from whom received, etc. It is reported that Gerald L. K. Smith filed such a statement in connection with the Michigan Republican Primary Election held in September, 1942. Smith's last reported residence is 1753 Seyburn, Detroit, Michigan, and it is probable that his statement would be filed in the county embracing that area. It is requested that you procure and forward to this Unit a complete copy of any statement filed by Smith in this connection.

"Information at hand indicates that after his defeat in the Primary Election, Smith conducted a 'sticker' campaign in the general election. It is further requested that you furnish . . . . available information regarding this campaign, with special reference to any announcement by Smith subsequent to the Primary Election that his candidacy would continue, and to any part taken by Smith or his associates in printing and distributing stickers. This information is desired in order to ascertain whether or not Smith was a 'candidate' at the election within the meaning of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925.

". . . . . it is suggested that you institute an investigation along the lines set forth above. In this connection it is thought that stickers may have been printed by the Merchant's Press, Detroit, operated by Adalbert Jungbert, who has printed recent issues of The Cross and the Flag."

Elsewhere in its memoranda the Department evidenced considerable interest in this case and definitely expressed the opinion that it appears to have such potentialities as to merit a continued and more extensive investigation.

From the tenor of the memoranda set forth above, as well as previous correspondence, it would appear that the Department in considering Smith's

activities has in mind the possibility of establishing a violation under the Sedition Statutes or possibly under the Federal Corrupt Practices Act. In considering the significance of Smith's activities under the Sedition Statutes it further appears that the Department is desirous of thoroughly probing the possibility that Smith may be at present, or has been in the past to some extent, under the influence of Axis representatives or persons or organizations in sympathy with the Axis. Proof of this would not be legally prerequisite under the Sedition Statutes if the other requisite elements could be shown, but, of course, it would have considerable significance.

In view of the definite interest in this case lately displayed by the Department, you should make arrangements to afford its investigation continuous and preferred attention. Smith's publications and all of his public utterances, both in your district and elsewhere, should be covered and all expressions seemingly having significance under the Sedition Statutes should be reported. Details as to the information furnished your office by [redacted] should be made known to the Bureau by letter as in the past, but it is also incumbent upon your office to appropriately summarize and set forth in report form all information of pertinence secured through the services of this informant. Obviously, the reports should be worded in a careful manner and should set forth only that part of the information made available by this informant which has or appears to have pertinence to a possible violation of the Sedition Statutes or other statutes under which the investigation may, in the future, be carried out. From the viewpoint of investigation your problem is, of course, to substantiate pertinent information secured from this informant by evidence or information from other sources which is of such a nature as could be introduced in testimonial form if prosecution is undertaken against this subject at some future date. b7d

With reference to the investigation requested by the Department under the Federal Corrupt Practices Act, your attention is invited to Sections 241 through 256 of Title 2, United States Code. From the phraseology of the Department's memoranda, it appears that it is desirous first of securing a copy of the statement filed by Smith in connection with his primary campaign as required by Michigan State law. This statement should, of course, indicate the sources contributing financially to Smith in connection with his campaign. Second, it would seem that the Department is desirous of establishing sufficient information to show that Smith at the general election was in fact a "candidate" and consequently under Section 246 of Title 2, United States Code, subject to the filing of a further statement. The suggestion is, of course, that Smith's "sticker" campaign made him in effect a candidate subject to this requirement.

As I have indicated above, I expect this case to be afforded continuous and preferred attention and a report should be submitted by your office at least once each month. In setting out leads for auxiliary offices, your reports should be accompanied by letters advising of the importance of this case and the absolute necessity of giving the leads set forth prompt and careful attention.

Very truly yours,

RD

John Edgar Hoover
Director

CC-285

JPHa:WMJ
12-26-42

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SP8BTJMC

For your information and possible assistance in your consideration of this case, I wish to advise that under date of December 26, 1942, photostatic copies of the following listed material were transmitted to the Division of Records:

The October - November, 1942, issue of "The Cross and the Flag".

A booklet entitled, "War Mongers and the Threat of War", by Gerald L. K. Smith.

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-181

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 30 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
RECEIVED READING ROOM
DEC 28 10 38 AM '42

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
DEC 28 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

MILWAUKEE FILE NO. 100-4766

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN	12-30-42	11-12-42	[redacted] [redacted] by b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, a/k/a Gerald L. K. Smith, alias Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted] dislikes Subject; does not know source of his income, and believes HENRY FORD gave Subject an automobile; however, considers SMITH to be true American who has just been mislead. [redacted] worked for Subject at one time and Subject had told him not to question his source of income. [redacted] believes Subject's money comes from his radio work.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted], dated 10-21-42 at Indianapolis, Indiana. b7c

DETAILS: An RUC report was submitted on 12-3-42 by Special Agent [redacted] Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The status of this report was shown as RUC in error inasmuch as the lead in the reference report of Special Agent [redacted] Indianapolis, Ind., 10-21-42, had not been covered. This lead has now been covered and investigative results are set forth below. b7c

At [redacted] b7c, b7D

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/4/82 BY SP9 [illegible]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [illegible] (In Charge)

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43418-182

RECORDED & INDEXED

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
5 - Bureau
3 - Detroit
2 - Milwaukee

COPY

COPIES DESTROYED 83 OCT 13 1964

56 JAN 18 1943

JAN 1 1943

[redacted]

[redacted] advised that he disliked SMITH mainly because of his political ideas and because he was linked up with HUEY LONG, whom [redacted] said was a virtual dictator in New Orleans. He has no idea and SMITH never told him just what the COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION was. He also advised that SMITH made a point of never mentioning his source of income to anyone in [redacted] He believed that SMITH is very closely connected with HENRY FORD as the last time he saw the Subject, which was approximately two years ago, he was driving a Lincoln Zephur, and made statements that lead [redacted] to believe that FORD had given him the car.

[redacted] also advised that he had had literature such as copies of the "Cross and Flag" sent to him by SMITH, but that he had hardly read any of them but the first issue of the "Cross and Flag." This he had read rather thoroughly and showed to his friends, and all of them were in complete disagreement with SMITH'S political ideas. He had not kept any of the literature sent to him by SMITH.

[redacted] stated that he considers SMITH to be a true American who has just been mislead. He concluded his statements by advising that, frankly, he thinks everything that SMITH does is done for the "benefit of GERALD L. K. SMITH, alone, and if any man gets in his way, he will walk over him."

[redacted] During that summer he stated that SMITH flew to several large cities throughout the country, where he addressed large audiences. SMITH attended both the COUGHLIN and TOWNSEND conventions in Cleveland, Ohio, that year, according to [redacted]

[redacted] the Subject had made it plain to him that they were not to question the source of his income and, since that time, they have wondered where he gets his money. They think it is possible that he is living on the money that he is presently making in his radio work. [redacted]

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

ALL
b7C, b7D

Department of Justice

Office of the Assistant to the Attorney General

Washington

December 22, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Attention: Mr. Mumford

In response to your memorandum of December 15 to Mr. Rowe regarding the reports which the Federal Bureau of Investigation has transmitted to the Department on Gerald L. K. Smith, I am listing below three reports which I have been unable to locate:

1. Report of Special Agent [redacted] at Washington, D. C., June 4, 1942, transmitted to Assistant Attorney General Berge June 11, 1942.

2. Report of Special Agent [redacted] of Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 21, 1942, transmitted to the Division of Records November 3, 1942. 145 b2c

3. Report of Special Agent [redacted] at Atlanta, Georgia, October 20, 1942, transmitted to the Division of Records November 3, 1942. 144

If you would furnish me with an additional copy of each of these reports as soon as possible, I would appreciate it.

C. E. Rhetts
Special Assistant to the
Attorney General

memo to Rowe attention Rhetts 12/26/42 JEH

RECORDED 62-43218-183
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16 JAN 2 1943

JPHm:WMJ
12-26-42

RE-RECORDED 62-43818-183

DEC 28 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/92 BY SP8B/JMC

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
SEDITION

Pursuant to the request expressed in Mr. C. E. Rhetts' memorandum of December 22, 1942, an additional copy of each of the three reports listed below was transmitted to the Division of Records under date of December 26, 1942.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] submitted in connection with the above-entitled matter at Washington, D. C., on June 4, 1942.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] submitted in connection with the above-entitled case at Atlanta, Georgia, on October 20, 1942.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] submitted in connection with the above-entitled matter at Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 21, 1942.

b7c

If, on the basis of information presently available concerning this subject, you believe that his activities are such as to suggest a violation of any Federal Statute over which this Bureau has investigative jurisdiction, I shall appreciate your so advising me and further indicating the theory and statutes on which any prosecution in this matter would be based. If this Bureau is informed concerning this, any additional investigation which is necessary may be carried out with greater facility and accuracy.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr Tolson
Mr E A Tamm
Mr Clegg
Mr Glavin
Mr Ladd
Mr Nichols
Mr Rosen
Mr Tracy
Mr Carson
Mr Coffey
Mr Hendon
Mr Kramer
Mr McGuire
Mr Harbo
Mr Quinn Tamm
Mr Nease
Miss Gandy

COMM-FBI
DEC 28 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DEC 28 1942

214
50 JAN 20 1943
349

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN K.C. FILE NO. 100-3598

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	12-23-42	11-18, 12-2, 14-42	[redacted] b7c [redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, aka Gerald L. K. Smith THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted] of the Herald Publishing Company, Newton, Kansas, informed that his records reflect that GERALD B. WINROD, of Wichita, Kansas, in March, 1942, placed the order for the first printing of the booklet entitled "Hoop of Steel" and left instructions that the booklets be delivered directly to GERALD L. K. SMITH at Detroit, Michigan. GERALD B. WINROD, in statement to [redacted] indicated that the utmost collaboration existed between subject and GERALD B. WINROD. WINROD also claimed to have assisted subject in set-up of subject's magazine "The Cross and Flag". b7c b7D

- R U C -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated August 11, 1942 at Kansas City, Missouri and letter from the Detroit Field Division dated August 18, 1942. b7c

DETAILS: AT WICHITA, KANSAS

[redacted], who has previously furnished information concerning the activities of GERALD B. WINROD, was contacted to determine whether she had any information which would indicate that there was collaboration between subject and GERALD B. WINROD. She informed that she knew that GERALD WINROD had made several trips to Detroit, b7c b7D

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: Dwight Brantley SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES: 62-43818-184

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JAN 7 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/82 BY SP6 [illegible]

83 OCT 13 1964

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 7—2034

Michigan in the past several months of ostensibly for the purpose of carrying on evangelistic meetings, howeve[redacted] was unable to furnish any information specifically pertaining to GERALD L. K. SMITH.

In view of the fact that it is known that [redacted] of the Herald Publishing Company, 605 East Second Street, Newton, Kansas, had for several months prior to June 15, 1942 printed "The Defender" and other literature distributed by GERALD B. WINROD of the Defender Publishing Company, Wichita, Kansas. [redacted] was contacted in an effort to develop information showing the relationship between subject, GERALD L.K. SMITH and Reverend GERALD B. WINROD.

[redacted] informed that on March 26, 1942 the Reverend GERALD B. WINROD placed an order for the first printing in the amount of 2,000 copies of a booklet entitled "Hoop of Steel", the author of which was GERALD L. K. SMITH. [redacted] stated that his records further disclosed that on April 15, 1942 a second printing was ordered of 1,000 copies of the same booklet, but that this last order came directly from GERALD L. K. SMITH at Detroit, Michigan.

[redacted] stated that when GERALD B. WINROD first gave the order for the printing of the "Hoop of Steel" he instructed [redacted] to send the invoices and the finished booklets directly to GERALD L. K. SMITH in the Industrial Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan. [redacted] stated that he complied with the order furnished him by WINROD on March 26, 1942, and with the second order of April 15, 1942 received directly from GERALD L. K. SMITH, and that the booklets printed on both occasions had been forwarded to GERALD L. K. SMITH as directed. [redacted] further informed that neither WINROD nor GERALD L. K. SMITH had made any payment for the booklets which had been printed and delivered.

With regard to the relationship existing between GERALD L. K. SMITH and GERALD B. WINROD, [redacted] informed that on March 26, 1942 when he inquired of GERALD B. WINROD as to the financial stability of GERALD L. K. SMITH, that WINROD vouched for a reliability of SMITH and further informed [redacted] that he (Winrod) had assisted GERALD L. K. SMITH in setting up his organization; that he had gone into detail with SMITH, explaining the administration details, particularly with the manner in successfully making collection.

[redacted] stated that in addition to assisting GERALD L. K. SMITH in the mechanical and organizational set-up of "The Cross and

AW b7c, b7D

Flag", a magazine published by GERALD L. K. SMITH, WINROD also asserted that he had further collaborated with SMITH.

[redacted] stated that in his opinion there existed between GERALD L. K. SMITH and GERALD B. WINROD a state of utmost collaboration which included editorial assistance to SMITH by WINROD.

[redacted] further stated that he recalls, that in several instances, articles supposing to have been written by GERALD L. K. SMITH, were published in The Defender, WINROD's magazine.

[redacted] stated that immediately following the indictment of GERALD B. WINROD by the Grand Jury at Washington, D. C., he stopped worked on an order consisting of several thousand subscription blanks that GERALD B. WINROD had ordered. This order had been placed with the Herald Publishing Company on July 3, 1942 by WINROD and after WINROD had been informed that work was being stopped on his order he threatened suit against [redacted] unless the order was completed. [redacted] stated that thereafter, upon advice from his attorney, he completed this order sometime in August of 1942 but since that time he has had no further connection with GERALD B. WINROD nor has he published any of WINROD's booklets, pamphlets or literature.

[redacted] expressed his willingness to be of assistance in any manner possible in connection with this matter.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

ALL b7c, b7D

JPHa:MIP
1/8/43
RECORDED 62-43818-[redacted] 184

Date:

To: Mr. Wendell Berge
Assistant Attorney General

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8BTJAC

This is to advise you that under date of January 6, 1943, copies of the following reports submitted in this case were transmitted to the Division of Records:

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated December 3, 1942, at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, entitled "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, aka Gerald L. K. Smith, alias Gerald L. K. Schmidt; The Committee of One Million; Internal Security; Sedition."

b7c

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated December 23, 1942, at Kansas City, Missouri, entitled "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, aka Gerald L. K. Smith; The Committee of One Million; Internal Security; Sedition."

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

CC - Mr. James Rowe, Jr.
Assistant to the Attorney General

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
JAN 9 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED BRANCH ROOM
JAN 8 7 55 PM '43
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FEB 1 1943

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE NO. 100-8486

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
WASHINGTON, D. C.	1/18/43	10/30;12/16, 19/42	[redacted] [redacted] mjc

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, also known as Gerald L. K. Smith, alias Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject said to be strongly anti-Semitic and to have been one of the organizers of the Silver Shirt movement, but to be interested primarily in furthering his own interests and is accused of endeavoring to control organizations for that purpose. Is said to be unscrupulous regarding finances of organizations with which he is associated.

- P -

b7c

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated August 28, 1942, at New Orleans.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/82 BY SP1 [illegible]

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

b7c

memo to Rowe & Berge 2/17/43 [illegible]

This is a joint report of the writer and Special Agent [redacted] [redacted] of the law firm of DAVIES, RICHBERG, BEEBE, BUSICK & RICHARDSON, 815 Fifteenth Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C., advised that at one time his firm had represented Senator HUEY LONG in actions against newspapers, but that they had never represented any Washington newspaper in an action brought by GERALD L. K. SMITH or any of HUEY LONG's associates. He stated that they had no knowledge of any suit or action brought by GERALD L. K. SMITH in which their firm had been interested.

b7c
b7D

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
[signature]		62-143818 + 125

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2 - Washington Field
2 - New Orleans

CDF 1cc Div Rec. 2/17/43 [illegible]

2 JAN 19 1943

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83 OCT 13 1964

[redacted] and that as such he had first met GERALD L. K. SMITH about a year before Senator LONG died. He said that those closest to Senator LONG had not liked SMITH because they felt that SMITH's motives were not entirely pure, and that he was interested in using Senator LONG to build up a political organization of his own, or was interested in putting himself in a position of importance in Senator LONG's "Share-The-Wealth" organization so that he could take the "Share-The-Wealth" clubs over and promote them for his own welfare. He stated that as a matter of fact after Senator LONG's death SMITH had attempted to take over the "Share-The-Wealth" clubs and continue the organization on a profit making basis, but that [redacted] had refused to turn over the files containing the address of members of the "Share-The-Wealth" clubs to SMITH, and although there had been newspaper publicity sponsored by SMITH to the effect that he had been appointed leader of the "Share-The-Wealth" organization, he was never able to secure control over the organization and gradually interest in the organization diminished to the point where it was not in existence at all. He stated that SMITH was a rabble rousing type of speaker who was said to have been a preacher at one time, and that Senator LONG had used SMITH as an organizer in connection with the formation of "Share-The-Wealth" Clubs, but that SMITH was not content to take any subordinate position in the program and wanted to be the leader; and that during the last few months when SMITH was associated with Senator LONG, there were several controversies with SMITH regarding the plans for the organization because SMITH wanted to set the thing up on a profit sharing basis.

[redacted] said that he did not know a great deal about SMITH's background, but that he understood that SMITH had been one of the organizers of the Silver Shirt movement and had been associated with WILLIAM PELLEY in this effort. According to [redacted] most of SMITH's efforts in connection with the Silver Shirt movement had been around Birmingham, Alabama. He stated he did not believe that SMITH had any loyalty for any political ideals or that he had any patriotic convictions along political and social lines, but that he was extremely interested in what happened to GERALD L. K. SMITH, and that he attempted to use Senator LONG's "Share-The-Wealth" organization as a political stepping stone, and thatin his opinion he was trying to do the same thing in connection with his "Committee of One Million." He stated that on one occasion he had attempted to associate himself with Father COUGHLIN, but that this association had not matured. He stated that he recalled there had been some talk to the effect that SMITH had been ousted from the Silver Shirt movement under a cloud connected with a controversy over money, and added that SMITH was rather unscrupulous in handling the money of organizations to which he belonged. He stated that those who would know more about SMITH's activities while associated with Senator LONG would be [redacted]

who has already been interviewed by the New Orleans Office, and [redacted] of New Orleans or Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He stated that any one in New Orleans could put agents in touch with [redacted] He also stated that one Captain GEORGE MAINS of Washington, who could be located through Senator THOMAS' office, might be able to give some further information on SMITH. b7c

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted] b7c

[redacted] stated that he had been acquainted with the late Senator HUEY P. LONG for about twenty years, and that he had become one of LONG's closest advisers, and that many times LONG's followers would come to him and ask him to warn LONG of some dangerous situation which they were afraid to discuss with LONG because of his violent temper. The informant stated that in his opinion LONG was one of the most brilliant statesmen that the United States had had in the past twenty-five years. LONG was building up a tremendous political organization through his "Share-The-Wealth" clubs, and that unquestionably LONG, in his opinion, would have been the President of the United States had he lived. Informant pointed out that had LONG been elected President he would have changed the course of American history and the United States would not now be engaged in a war. Throughout his remarks informant demonstrated a rather strong isolationist view point. Informant advised that he had heard of GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH for several years through his association with the late Senator LONG, but that he had never met him until the latter part of 1939, when he was invited to accompany SMITH and another to dinner at a restaurant on Connecticut Avenue in Washington, D. C. Informant stated that SMITH had learned of informant's long association with Senator LONG and desired to talk with him concerning political matters and to seek his advice relative to the political campaign he was then conducting in Michigan for Senator. Informant stated that he was not favorably impressed with SMITH, but treated him cordially because he wished to develop him as a source of information and particularly because he had heard that SMITH had some excellent contacts with officials of the Ford Motor Company in Detroit. Informant stated that SMITH is strongly anti-Semitic, and that it is possible that he may be sincere in this regard, that is, he may feel that he is performing a patriotic service in his anti-Semitic campaign. However, he believed SMITH to be unscrupulous, particularly in the matter of his finances, and that he is most likely to use his anti-Semitic campaign as a means to collect contributions for his organization known as "The Committee of One Million." Informant stated that he had heard the late Senator LONG speak of SMITH indicating that he had picked up SMITH solely because he was a good stump speaker, and LONG had used him to organize the "Share-The-Wealth" clubs. LONG did not regard SMITH highly, except as a speaker, and that LONG had indicated that SMITH was not a leader and was valuable only so long as he had some one to tell him what to do. After LONG's assassination, SMITH endeavored to take over the "Share-The-Wealth" clubs, but lacking the qualities of a leader, he failed and the clubs have now disintegrated. b7D

Informant stated that he had never heard of SMITH's filing any kind of a suit against the Washington Times-Herald or the Hearst Publications, and that he had never heard of an attorney by the name of [redacted], and that he had no knowledge of any investigation conducted by representatives or employees of the Hearst newspapers into the background of SMITH. b7c

Informant stated that he had never heard of SMITH's being connected with the German-American Bund, the Silver Shirts of America, or WILLIAM W. PELLEY, or any other alleged Fascist leader in this country. He stated that he was of the opinion that SMITH was too clever to become affiliated with anything German or Fascist, and that SMITH was the type of person who could not be subservient to any one for any length of time. However, informant advised that in his opinion SMITH was unscrupulous and would probably stoop to almost anything that would better his financial position if he could do so without involving himself criminally.

- PENDING -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE NEW ORLEANS FIELD DIVISION

AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

Will locate [redacted] through inquiries of prominent people in political life in New Orleans or Baton Rouge and ascertain from [redacted] what he knows concerning the connections and background of subject. b7c

THE WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Will endeavor to locate Captain GEORGE MAINS through the office of Senator THOMAS of Oklahoma, and ascertain from Captain MAINS what he knows concerning the activities, background and associations of subject.

IDENTITY OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

b7c,b7D

JPHa:rb
2/17/43
62-43818-186

RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.

Attention: Mr. G. E. Rhetts

RE: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

For your information, I wish to advise that a copy of a further report received in connection with the investigation of this case and submitted by Special Agent [redacted] dated January 18, 1943, at Washington, D. C., was transmitted to the Division of Records under date of February 17, 1943. b7c

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8BTS/mn

cc Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
FEB 19 1943 P.M.
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEB 18 5 34 PM '43

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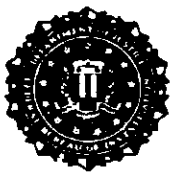
6 FEB 24 1943

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
January 18, 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/30/82 BY

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
(Bureau file 62-43818)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letters dated December 10, 1942 and December 15, 1942 setting forth memoranda received from the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice requesting certain additional investigation in the above captioned matter. Most of the leads suggested therein are being set out in a forth-coming report. However, some of the suggestions contained therein require only passing comment.

With regard to the investigation by Internal Revenue agents into the alleged fraudulent Federal Income Tax returns of SMITH, it has been ascertained from [redacted] whose identity is known to you, that the investigation is now in progress. It is believed that the Internal Revenue investigators are delving into the income and expenditures of the "Committee of One Million" and "The Federation of Americanization of Michigan Incorporated." It is not expected that the results of that investigation will be available to the Detroit Field Office. It is respectfully suggested that the Department of Justice might contact the Treasury Department at some time in the future to ascertain the results of that investigation. b7D

GERALD L. K. SMITH's birth record and true name were ascertained and set forth in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated December 3, 1942 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. b7C

The interview with [redacted] was duly reported by Special Agent [redacted] on September 2, 1942 at Detroit, Michigan. b7C

RECORDED & INDEXED
EX-42
62 43818-186

With regard to Bureau letter dated December 15, 1942, it has been ascertained from [redacted], whose identity is known to you, that HUBERT BLOCKER has been in very close contact with GERALD L. K. b7D

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83 OCT 13 1964

FEB 19 1943

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want reg sent to Internal Rev Dept Treasury Dept only

Letter to the Director
January 18, 1943

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
(Bureau file 62-43818)

K. SMITH and there is not any reason to believe that their association has been disrupted in any way. It has not been deemed adviseable up to the present time to interview LUCKER for information concerning SMITH's contacts and activities.

As previously reported [redacted] is presently commissioned as a Lt. Commander of the United States Navy and is believed to be at sea. Furthermore, it has appeared from the interview with [redacted] that [redacted] was merely a socialite whose name was used innocently because Michigan Law required three incorporators and SMITH did not want his own name used. [redacted] explained it was opinion that [redacted] knew absolutely nothing about GERALD SMITH's activities. b7c b7D

Very truly yours,

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted]evn b7c
62-1126

CC-286

JPHa:AJB

RECORDED 62-43818-187

Date: February 3, 1943

TO: SAC, Detroit

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8B00

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: Gerald L. K. Smith, Committee of One Million; Internal Security; Sedition

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

For your information and assistance in connection with the investigation of this case, there is enclosed a photostatic copy of a three-page press release purportedly issued by the subject on January 10, 1943.

The original of this press release was made available to the Bureau by the Honorable Homer T. Bone of the United States Senate and presumably it was received by him in the mails.

In your investigation of this matter you should determine whether subject's meeting of January 10, 1943, as described in the press release, was actually held and if so, what transpired at this gathering.

Enclosure

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
RECEIVED READING ROOM
FEB 3 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

61 FEB 8 1943

GLO:vj
RECORDED 62-43818 — 187

January 28, 1943

EX-23

Honorable Homer T. Bone
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

This will acknowledge your recent reference to this Bureau of a copy of a press release signed by Gerald L. K. Smith.

The content of this matter has been carefully noted by me and will be afforded appropriate consideration by this Bureau.

I want you to know that I sincerely appreciate your interest in making this material available to me.

With expressions of my highest esteem and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
JAN 28 1 53 PM '43

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 2
JAN 28 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

2-3-43 Ltr to Detroit

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

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JAN 28 11 45 AM '43

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

_____

_____

☒ For your information: Per your March 18, 1982 letter this enclosure was not xeroxed for release.

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818 - 187 Enclosure

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

JPHa:MIP
Date: 62-43818

January 18, 1943

To: SAC, Detroit

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8BTE/MC

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

Under date of December 10, 1942, the Bureau addressed a letter to the Indianapolis Office, with copies designated for your Office, advising that the Department had requested that an inquiry be made as to the circumstances [redacted] You will recall that you were told that the Department's memorandum indicated that it had received information to the effect that [redacted]

On December 15, 1942, the Indianapolis Field Division in reply to the Bureau's inquiry addressed a letter to the Bureau setting forth the results of [redacted] an interview with [redacted] and the results of an interview had with [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company at Indianapolis. In its letter the Indianapolis Office stated that all of this information was forwarded to your Office on October 19, 1942.

RECORDED 62-43818-188

In this connection you will recall that [redacted] stated that [redacted] told him he had gone to Indianapolis as a representative and employee of the Ford Motor Company for the purpose of conducting an investigation of [redacted] and since June, 1941, a part of the Navy personnel at the time [redacted] met [redacted] the former was in possession of a letter of introduction from [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company at Detroit, Michigan.

In order that complete information may be developed as to [redacted] activities during the period [redacted] it is desired that [redacted] or one of your Office's established contacts at the Ford Motor Company be interviewed for the purpose of securing details leading up to and surrounding [redacted] trip to Indianapolis, as well as the purpose of the investigation being conducted by [redacted] at Indianapolis. It

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Cl[redacted]
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hend[redacted]
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JAN 21 1943 P.M.
53
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JAN 29 1943

ALL b7c, b7D

should, of course, be made clear to the official interviewed that this inquiry is being carried out at the request of the Department which is desirous of securing complete information as to [redacted]

It is further desired that your Office make general inquiry of [redacted]

b2
b7D

You are instructed to handle this matter promptly and to submit your findings in letter form.

J. EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit - Michigan
January 22, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Framan
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

[redacted]

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;
CUSTODIAL DETENTION, SEDITIO

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY [illegible]

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that the following additional information has been received from [redacted] whose identity is known to you: b7D

SMITH has been concerned recently over the fact that his son, GERALD SMITH, JR., has left home. Young SMITH has been working at various stores and war plants for short periods of time and living in cheap hotels. His Local Draft Board ordered him to report for a physical examination, and when GERALD SMITH, SR., heard of this, he thought it might be beneficial for his son to be inducted into the Army. He made an inquiry at the Local Draft Board and ascertained that his son might be inducted into the Army some time after February 1, 1943.

Informant stated definitely that GERALD L. K. SMITH was responsible for the picketing of the Detroit Athletic Club on January 13, 1943, when CLARENCE STREIT, author of "Union Now," and advocate of Internationalism, addressed the members of the Detroit Athletic Club. Informant stated that Mr. SMITH himself inquired about the contemplated address and was advised that the President of the Speakers' Committee of the Detroit Athletic Club was Mr. HUGHES. Mrs. SMITH informed the City Editor of the Detroit News immediately before the picketing started that STREIT'S lecture at the Detroit Athletic Club was about to be picketed. She stated that she had been informed that the picketers would be the same group of people that had picketed Lord HALIFAX on his visit to Detroit last year.

RECORDED INDEXED 0150 62-43518-189

SMITH'S followers at the time of the picketing distributed numerous circulars criticizing CLARENCE STREIT'S plan as set forth in "Union Now." These pamphlets were written by and distributed through the Women's Committee Against Communism of New York City, New York. Informant stated that Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH herself

COPY IN FILE

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83 OCT 13 1964

led the picket line and that the other women were recruited from the ranks of the Mothers of America by Mrs. MURRAY KNOWLES. Mrs. KNOWLES explained to Mrs. SMITH that the Mothers of America were picketing individually and not as an organization.

GERALD L. K. SMITH has continued his contacts with Mr. COFFMAN, who is aiding SMITH in his organization of his America First Party. Mr. COFFMAN reported that he had contacted a [redacted] with whom he talked about automobile tires and as a result [redacted] sent a wire direct to HENRY FORD. Mr. COFFMAN requested SMITH to see HENRY FORD and advise him that [redacted] was sincere and that the telegram was sent as a result of [redacted] conversations with COFFMAN. SMITH promised to contact HENRY FORD. b7c

SMITH has again maintained his contact with Captain EARL SOUTHARD of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Chicago, Illinois. Captain SOUTHARD complimented SMITH for causing a sensation by picketing CLARENCE STREIT at the Detroit Athletic Club. Captain SOUTHARD stated that he assisted in the writing of the pamphlet which was put out by the Womens' Committee Against Communism of New York City, New York. Captain SOUTHARD confided in SMITH that he wrote a letter denouncing any attempt at World Government and that the letter was written on the stationery of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Captain SOUTHARD told SMITH that he was going to be court-martialed again by the Veterans of Foreign Wars for having written such a criticism on the official stationery of the organization.

Informant further advised that SMITH has registered as a tradename "The America First Party" with the Clerk of Wayne County Court in Detroit, Michigan. He has established as his headquarters for the America First Party his own offices at 2006 Industrial Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan.

Informant reported that the investigation by Internal Revenue Agents of SMITH'S allegedly fraudulent income tax returns for the years 1936 to 1941 inclusive is still in progress and continues to be a source of annoyance to SMITH and his manager, BERNARD DOMAN.

Informant stated that SMITH is maintaining contact with HUBERT LUCKER and has also been attempting to get in touch with [redacted] b7c

Informant advised that SMITH started on his tour, which Informant had previously advised of, on January 15, 1943. After making speeches in Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, SMITH expected to return to Detroit and hold an open meeting on January 24, 1943, at the Maccabees Building at 2:30 in the afternoon. This meeting would be a public meeting in the name of the America First Party.

Letter to the Director: January 22, 1943

Informant advised that SMITH'S meeting in Chicago, Illinois, was successful since over 1,000 people attended. Subscriptions to SMITH'S magazine to the extent of more than $100 were received at the Chicago meeting by SMITH.

During SMITH'S absence from the City, BERNARD DOMAN, SMITH'S manager, succeeded in obtaining a "B" Gasoline Ration Book for SMITH.

SMITH is continuing to maintain contact with Reverend E. J. ROLLINGS of Detroit, Michigan, and on January 8, 1943, ROLLINGS advised SMITH'S manager, DOMAN, that he had an important message from Wichita, Kansas, undoubtedly referring to GERALD B. WINROD of Wichita, Kansas.

Very truly yours,

[redacted] b7c

62-1126

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
January 18, 1943

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
(Bureau file 62-43818)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated December 10, 1942 to the Special Agent in Charge at Indianapolis, Indiana, of which a copy was sent to the Detroit Office with a request that the Detroit Office should check records available in Detroit, Michigan to ascertain [redacted]

[redacted] She said she had no additional information.

b7c
b7D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/21/82 BY S-18DJM

Very truly yours,

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted]evn
62-1126 b7c

FOR DEFENSE
BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

RECORDED
62-43818-190
F B
15 JAN 1943

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83 OCT 13 1964

FEB 3 1943

Federal Bureau of Investigati

United States Department of Justice

900 Standard Building
Cleveland, Ohio
January 19 1943

AWP:mmr
100-7463

Director, FBI

RE: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, Was;
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000;
Internal Security - G;
Custodial Detention;
Sedition

Dear Sir:

b7c

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 23, 1942 at Detroit, Michigan wherein was set forth a lead for the Cleveland Field Division to investigate the character and background of Mrs. DAVID STANLEY and the organization known as "The United Mothers of America".

Mrs. DAVID STANLEY was one of the founders of "The United Mothers of America" and has been its only president, which position she has continued to hold up to the present time.

This organization has been the subject of an independent investigation conducted by the Cleveland Office and reported under the caption "United Mothers of America; SEDITION". Background information on both the organization and Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, as its president, appeared in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated July 23, 1942 at Cleveland, Ohio. A review of this indicates that the Detroit Office received copies thereof and is therefore in possession of the information requested in their lead set forth in the above-captioned matter. b7c

This matter is therefore being considered by this office as referred upon completion to the office of origin.

Very truly yours,

L. V. Boardman

LELAND V. BOARDMAN
Special Agent in Charge

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SP. [illegible]

CC: 2-Detroit

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83 OCT 13 1964

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-42217-191

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FEB 2 1943

EX-11

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
January 26, 1943

[redacted]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gordon
Mr. Egan
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/8/82 BY SP6B3 al/ams
204,433

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
(Bureau file 62-43818)

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that the following additional information has been received from [redacted] whose identity is known to you: b7D

SMITH is continuing to engage principally in the organization of a new nation-wide political party which he has decided to call the America First Party. This political party is designed to be active in the 1944 Presidential election. SMITH has frequently stated that the purpose of the party is to assure that the people of the United States will have a real choice for the President in 1944 and not a situation such as existed in 1940 when they had to choose between ROOSEVELT and WILLKIE. SMITH has expressed his regret that the America First Committee was disbanded shortly after December 7, 1941. He has decided to reorganize the America First Committee all over the United States as a working nucleus of the America First Party. His purpose is to assure the people of the United States that they will have a true isolationist as a candidate for President in 1944 and not merely two internationalists to choose from. SMITH has said that it will not be necessary for a member of the new party to withdraw from either the Republican or Democratic party.

EX-46 RECORDED N-177 & INDEXED 62-43818-192

SMITH indicated slogans that were to appear on posters which were displayed at their meetings at Eagles Hall, Detroit, Michigan when SMITH held a meeting on January 10, 1943. The slogans that were indicated by SMITH were "Billions for defense; not a penny for international propoganda;" "Butter for Americans first;" Order of loyalties - armed forces first, civilians second, Allies third, rest of world last;" "Bring the boys home when the war is won;" "No fourth term;" "We must have a peace in 1944;" "America first means feed, clothe and defend Americans first;" "The four freedoms for America first;" "Drive the internationalists out of Washington;"

JAN 30 1943

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83 OCT 13 1964

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53 FEB 25 1943

Letter to the Director
January 26, 1943

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
(Bureau file 62-43818)

"We fight all attempts at world Government;" "GEORGE WASHINGTON and not HENRY WALLACE will decide the destiny of America;" "America first in war and peace."

SMITH, at his meeting on January 10, 1943, announced the formation of the America First Party and gave a press release to that effect. He also announced that he would tour the nation making speeches at Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Cleveland, Fort Wayne and Erie. SMITH said that he would appoint a Committee of One Thousand as an executive committee for the America First Party. He explained to Mr. KNOWLES that his purpose in forming a National Committee of One Thousand was to require his opponents to "scatter their shots" instead of singling out a few people to harrass.

SMITH explained to Mr. MURRAY KNOWLES, former member of the America First Party, it had become necessary because of the activities of HENRY WALLACE and WENDEL WILLKIE and their attempts to put the United States into a world Government. SMITH explained that if the Democrats should nominate BURTON K. WHEELER for President or if the Republicans should nominate TAFT or LINDBERGH, it would be unnecessary for the America First Party to nominate its own candidate. SMITH said that the Third Party is being set up as an aggresive force in case the Democrats and Republicans merge as they did in 1940 when the people had to choose between ROOSEVELT and WILLKIE. SMITH said that if the people didn't set up a new party they wouldn't have a way to express their choice in 1944. He stated that if the Democrats nominate a good man and rescue their party from the New Deal Communists and bureaucratic Fascists and if the Republicans nominate a good man devoted to industrial destiny for America then this new party could dissolve.

SMITH said that the units of the party could take upon themselves to have names such as the George Washington Unit, the Taft Unit and the Lindbergh Unit. He suggested that the platform of the America First Party would be to urge an investigation of Lend-Lease activities, to support compensations, bonuses and reemployment for service men, to fight all attempts at bureaucratic Fascism, to support all patriotic labor movements in the hands of patriotic Americans, to support a high tariff, to support a farm bloc in Congress, to set an example of a high living standard for the World instead of lowering the American standard of living in order to raise the standard of living in the rest of the world.

SMITH has planned to picket the Detroit Athletic Club at noon on

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Letter to the Director
January 26, 1943

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
(Bureau file 62-43816)

January 13, 1943 at which time Mr. CLARENCE K. STREIT, author of "Union Now" and noted internationalist, is going to speak. SMITH suggested to Mrs. MARY KNOWLES that the Detroit Athletic Club should be picketed and if Mrs. KNOWLES would volunteer to picket, he would recruit other volunteers. The picket signs are being prepared by the wife of SMITH's manager, Mrs. BERNARD DOMAN, to read as follows: "STREIT is a propogandist;" "We are mothers of soldiers;" "STREIT is a traitor - we support the War, we fight international propoganda;" "Let STREIT go straight to _____;" "America first;" "Keep America independent;" "STREIT should be in the Army;" "Detroit is no place for STREIT."

SMITH has ordered 600 flags of the United Nations some of which he expects to have displayed by the ones picketing the Detroit Athletic Club at the time of STREIT's speech.

SMITH has announced that the headquarters of the America First Party will be at 2006 Industrial Bank Building, which is also the headquarters of SMITH's Committee of One Million. However, SMITH has denied that there is any organic connection between the Committee of One Million and the America First Party. As previously reported, SMITH's purpose in making this denial is that the Committee of One Million is not permitted under its articles of corporation to collect money for any political purpose. SMITH instructed his manager, BERNARD DOMAN, to sign a receipt for certain pictures as "America First Party, BERNARD DOMAN, Agent."

Informant advised that IRA HARRELSON, who has been in Detroit for the past several months acting as SMITH's advisor and attorney, is returning to Atlanta, Georgia, where he will become a law partner with the retiring Governor EUGENE TALMADGE.

SMITH has continued his attempts to obtain a deferment for [redacted], son of [redacted] of Cleveland, Ohio, who is making trips to the East for SMITH in connection with the organization of the America First Party. SMITH succeeded through CHARLES SORENSON, Vice-President of the Ford Motor Company, to get HENRY FORD to write personally requesting a deferment to the Cleveland Draft Board, but nevertheless young [redacted] was classified in 1A. SMITH then suggested that young [redacted] apply for a Naval commission through [redacted] of the Naval Aviation Candidate Selection Board in the Book Building, Detroit, Michigan. SMITH explained to [redacted] that [redacted] was a close friend of

b7c

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Letter to the Director
January 26, 1943

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
(Bureau file 62-43818)

HARRY BENNETT of the Ford Motor Company in that BENNETT had placed [redacted] on the Board of Regents of the University of Michigan. SMITH himself called [redacted] and explained young [redacted]'s case. He said that [redacted] was a "good friend of all of us in Ohio and that [redacted] was the one who refused to bow when a group of Communists threatened to seize Youngstown while DAVEY was governor." SMITH was careful to explain that he did not expect any favors but he wanted young [redacted] to receive appropriate consideration. [redacted] said that young [redacted] should come to his office and just mention SMITH's name.

SMITH has embarked on an active campaign to drive State Senator STANLEY NOWAK out of his seat in the Michigan State Senate. NOWAK was indicted on December 12, 1942 by a Federal Grand Jury at Detroit, Michigan for having perjured himself when he obtained his naturalization in 1938 by swearing that he was not affiliated with the Communist Party or a disbeliever in organized Government. SMITH has advised several State Senators in Michigan that he had information of his own that would prove that NOWAK is a Communist and therefore unfit to represent the people of Michigan. SMITH has reportedly contacted the Ford Motor Company and the office of HARRY BENNETT to obtain information to the effect that NOWAK is a Communist.

[redacted] advised SMITH that he had received HARRY BENNETT's permission to turn over to SMITH any information which he himself had concerning NOWAK or any information in the files of the Ford Motor Company. SMITH has also advised informant and many other of his friends that he has indisputable proof that NOWAK's wife, MARGARET NOWAK, has been head of the Education Committee for the Communist Party of Michigan for several years. SMITH is attempting to be heard by the Michigan State Senate so that he can prove that NOWAK is a Communist. SMITH has also attained information about NOWAK from [redacted] another employee of the Ford Motor Company, Service Department.

Informant said that [redacted] recommended to SMITH [redacted] of Detroit, Michigan as a possible informant concerning NOWAK's Communist activities. SMITH has contacted [redacted] in an effort to get information about Communist activities of NOWAK.

[redacted] informed SMITH that STANLEY NOWAK's name had appeared on releases of the Proletarian Party. SMITH advised ANTONIO de LORENZO, correspondent for the United Press, that Judge O'BRIEN was instrumental

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192

in getting NOWAK seated in the Michigan State Senate even after his indictment. SMITH explained that O'BRIEN was the Attorney General who quashed the indictment about 1919 when EARL BROWDER and other Communists were raided at Bridgeman, Michigan.

Informant has advised that Internal Revenue agents are continuing their investigation of SMITH's alleged evasion of the Federal Income Tax Laws. This investigation has disturbed SMITH to a certain extent. Informant stated that agents had been inspecting the records at SMITH's office and have also interviewed HUBERT LUCKER. Before their interview with LUCKER, SMITH contacted LUCKER to warn him that the Internal Revenue agents contemplated interviewing him and SMITH got together with LUCKER because he wanted "to refresh LUCKER's recollection." SMITH said that the Revenue agents asked SMITH himself how much he got for going to Louisiana in 1940 and campaigning for EARL LONG and SMITH told LUCKER he answered that he wished he had what he spent. SMITH also said that they were questioning him about money he received in New York and he explained that his records had been stolen by a set of Jews in New York who were using them to incite LUCKER against SMITH. SMITH also said that they were interested in finding out how much money had been spent for the radio.

SMITH informed [redacted] Secretary to HARRY BENNETT, that an employee of the Ford Motor Company named [redacted] was giving information to [redacted] concerning persons who visited the Ford Motor Company. SMITH explained that [redacted] was working for the Jews in New York and also for the Du Pont outfit. [redacted] reassured SMITH that [redacted] was reliable but SMITH said that [redacted] and [redacted] were formerly associated and that [redacted] was a double crosser. SMITH said that he learned about this association from an informant who was entirely reliable and who has appeared before the F.B.I. quite a bit.

SMITH has contacted [redacted] HENRY FORD's personal secretary, in order to arrange for an exhibition of HENRY FORD's valuable violin collection to GERALD SMITH's niece who is visiting him. Arrangements were also made in this same way for violin lessons for his niece.

SMITH has been contacting JOE McWILLIAMS of Barrington and Chicago, Illinois but informant did not know what business was transacted between them. Informant also stated that SMITH had been attempting to contact CHARLES LINDBERGH who had been out of the city. SMITH was interested in obtaining and was finally successful in obtain a quotation made by BERNARD BARUSCH before a Congressional Committee about 1936 in which BARUSCH revealed that there was a scheme being forced upon the people of regimentation com-

ALL
DTC
192

Letter to the Director
January 26, 1943

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
(Bureau file 62-43818)

pelling them to work and fight and that by this scheme people could be deprived of food, fuel and other necessities of life if they did not obey orders. After SMITH obtained this quotation, he commented on it to a friend in the person of informant saying that BERNARD BARUSCH, in 1936, said that the only way to keep the American people in line would be by rationing them and punishing those who do not cooperate by withdrawing their ration books.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted]evn b7c
62-1126

JPHa:WMJ

Date: January 23, 1943

To: SAC, Detroit

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your information, there are transmitted herewith photostatic copies of an article captioned, "See Plot to Force Runaway Prices; America Firsters Drum Up Anti-FDR Drive", which appeared in the January 14, 1943, issue of the Daily Worker.

As you will note, this article in part pertains to the alleged political activities of subject.

Enclosure

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DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8BTS/MC

Mr Tolson
Mr E. A. Tamm
Mr Clegg
Mr Glavin
Mr Ladd
Mr Nichols
Mr Rosen
Mr Tracy
Mr Carson
Mr Coffey
Mr Hendon
Mr Kramer
Mr McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr Quinn Tamm
Mr Nease
Miss Gandy

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/18/59

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
JAN 23 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-43818

FEB 25 1943

See Plot to Force Runaway Prices

America Firsters Drum Up Anti-FDR Drive

By LOUISE MITCHELL

Behind the current plan to wreck the government's effort to keep prices down lies a pro-fascist political plot to revive the America First Committee and steer the nation to economic chaos and military disaster.

This is seen in the newly-revealed link between the notorious pro-fascist Gerald K. Smith, who is the driving spirit of the America First revival campaign, and the defeatist activities of Burton K. Wheeler, who yesterday joined the reactionary "farm bloc" to oppose the latest OPA order putting a halt to the steady rise in corn prices.

On Sunday, Smith told 3,000 America Firsters that the "best way for the Democrats to kill" the President's anti-inflation program is *"to put a man like Burton K. Wheeler in leadership."*

"And the best way to kill" Willkie's influence in the Republican Party "is to respect the editorial policy of such journals as the Chicago Tribune." Quit stalling, said the editor of the fascist publication "The Cross and the Flag," and *"follow the course marked out by men like Taft, Brooks and Lindbergh."*

Smith chose America's most outspoken defeatists in Congress to lead the conspiracy against the United Nations.

Working in close harmony with the Smith gang, Wheeler as their appointed spokesman, yesterday tried to wreck the government's order to control corn prices by saying that "they can't do it under the law."

Wheeler and Smith don't want corn prices controlled because the action is said to be a

(Continued on Page 4)

This is a clipping from page 1 of the Daily Worker for 1-14-43

Clipped at the Seat of Government.

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Det to Detroit 1/23/43

62-43818-193

ENCLOSURE

(Continued from Page 1)

forerunner of ceilings on all major crops. It will encourage meat, dairy and egg production which has been suffering due to high corn prices. He's against every move to keep the cost of living down in order to create economic as well as political chaos. Raise the price of eggs, bread and meat and workers will cut down on production. This will help Hitler. Smith and Wheeler know that.

The open revolt against the government's fight to stabilize living costs was also seen in the "farm bloc's" *mounting opposition* to the Office of Price Administration.

The bloc is now campaigning for the relaxation of all existing price ceilings directly affecting the food budget of every American. Senator Prentiss M. Brown, scheduled to take Leon Henderson's place, is said to be facing an organized farm bloc drive to kill all ceilings. **Wheeler is demanding a statement of policy from Brown "or else," it is said, the Senate may not approve his appointment.**

LABOR SLOW TO ACT

The farm bloc is out to wreck the entire rationing program also. While not all farm bloc Senators may be of a defeatist stamp, their willingness to go along with Wheeler for the sake of profits-as-usual makes them the worst enemies of the nation's welfare. Even though the bloc is just a minority in Congress it has managed to bulldoze the entire body and set policy because labor has been slow in supporting the government's economic program and fighting its enemies.

The farm bloc intends to carry on the destructive work begun in the 77th Congress which helped to make the President's seven point economic program an instrument for defeatists against the war effort.

The appeasers and the America First gang are also pointing their guns against the Government's lend-lease ~~program~~. Don't send food supplies to the Allies, they say, that will make it easier for Hitler—~~Smith~~'s rantings include such pro-fascist slogans as: Butter for Americans first; meat for Americans first; America First means—feed, clothe, defend Americans first. *He says:*

"We shall support a thorough investigation of lend-lease activities, as being inaugurated by Senator Burton K. Wheeler. . . .

"We shall support the American Farm Bloc in Congress now attempting to save the American farmer from being reduced to regimented peonage on a par with the peasantry of foreign nations."

It all fits into a pattern. Pro-fascist Wheeler is carrying the ball in Congress for all the pro-fascists still at large.

Government statistics show that 87 per cent of all pork produced in the United States is being used for army and civilian needs. And 99 per cent of four other voluntary rationed meats are still at home. Only one per cent is going to the Allies! *Only 8 per cent of our egg* production is shipped to the United Nations.

These figures show the inadequacy of our lend-lease to date. They prove that more lend-lease is needed not less for the United Nations, especially those countries which are doing the bulk of the fighting.

Labor cannot dare to miss this opportunity to fight back at the appeasers who are organizing for a Hitler victory right under their very noses.

Each success on the part of Smith and Wheeler means more Americans and Allied soldiers died on the battlefield!

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 11

PAGES REVIEWED: 34

PAGES RELEASED: 34

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

97710

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This case originated at DETROIT, MICHIGAN — Detroit File No. 62-1126

Report made at	Date when made	Period for which made	Report made by
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	1/25/43	1/12/43	[redacted] evm

Title	Character
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY - G CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

SYNOPSIS:

SMITH's principal activity is organizing political party for 1944 Presidential election under name of America First Party. SMITH receiving assistance of Ford Motor Company officials, Mother's of America, former members of America First Committee and present members of Committee of One Million although he disclaims any organic connection between Committee of One Million and America First Party. Platform of America First Party will be to assure that voters will have a real choice in 1944 and in case Republicans and Democrats don't provide an isolationist candidate, America First Party will. SMITH also active in petitioning members of Michigan State Senate to unseat State Senator STANLEY NOWAK, recently indicted for perjury in denying that he was a Communist when naturalized. SMITH still collaborating with [redacted] associate of Rev. GERALD B. WINROD. SMITH also plans to sue WALTER WINCHELL for one million dollars libel arising from published statement that SMITH had been indicted. SMITH presently being investigated for alleged fraudulent income tax returns 1936 through 1941 by Internal Revenue Agents. SMITH arranged to picket Detroit Athletic Club January 13, 1943 during luncheon address of CLARENCE K. STREIT, well known internationalist and author

ENCLS. 19

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/18/62 BY SP4 AJB/ONJ 204,483

John S Byas 62-42818-194

RECORDED

INDEXED

(5)-Bureau
2-New York
2-Charlotte
2-Indianapolis
2-Washington Field
2-New Orleans
1-Chicago (info)
1-USA, Detroit
3-Detroit

19 JAN 30 1943

74 FEB 19 1943

EXPIRES RESTRICTED OCT 13 1964

(Detroit file 62-1126)

of the book "Union Now." SMITH planning political speeches throughout Midwest. SMITH in contact with [redacted] of Chicago, Illinois. SMITH continues to contact CHARLES A. LINDBERGH. b7c

-P-

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated December 11, 1942, at Detroit, Michigan. b7c

Bureau letters dated December 10 and December 15, 1942. (Bureau file 62-43818).

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, has advised the writer that GERALD L. K. SMITH's principal activity since his defeat in the political race for the office of United States Senator from the State of Michigan, has been the organizing of an independent political party to participate in the 1944 Presidential election. SMITH has expressed that the reason for this activity at such an early date is that in some states it takes twelve to sixteen months to have a new political party included on the ballot. First SMITH intended to call the party the American Party with a program of intense American nationalism. He later favored the name Safety First Party when he hit upon the idea that the new political party would not necessarily be independent but that it was just a precautionary device to guarantee that a suitable Presidential candidate would be offered to the people of the United States in 1944. He openly condemned both the Democrat and Republican parties for the 1940 candidates because he contended that WILLKIE was a "New Deal fifth columnist" in the reins of the Republican party and to choose between ROOSEVELT and WILLKIE was no choice at all. SMITH has made public announcements and also has informed [redacted] privately that if the Republican party would put up a good isolationist candidate such as LINDBERGH or BURTON K. WHEELER, then there would be no necessity for the Independent party to put up its own candidate. SMITH has finally chosen the name America First Party with the idea in mind that he would re-erect the America First Committee all over the country and use them to promote the cause of American nationalism and opposition to any international commitments after the present war was concluded. SMITH has been in frequent contact, according to informant, with [redacted] of Ford Motor Company, concerning this prospective political party. b7D b7c

97712

(Detroit file 62-1126)

[redacted] of Cleveland, Ohio, has been making trips to the East to contact prominent individuals who are opposed to the present administration in an attempt to get them organized into the America First Party. The informant suspected that [redacted] was attempting to contact former Postmaster JAMES FARLEY and THOMAS CORCORAN.

SMITH has also frequently expressed praise for the editorial policy of the Chicago Tribune which has sometimes expressed the desirability of a third party. SMITH expects that his political party will attract the dissentient members of the Democratic party who are opposed to ROOSEVELT's New Deal policies and to the Republican party who are opposed to the WILLKIE policy of cooperation with the New Deal. Informant stated that [redacted] former members of the America First Party, have been very active in organizing this third par[redacted]s made a trip to Washington, D. C. where she contacted various Senators and Congressman as previously reported in reference report.

On December 15, 1942, [redacted] stated to SMITH that she had a Christmas tree delivered to her home by a man that went to school with Hitler, slept in the same bed with him and who knew GOERING. She said that this man was a painter and that he had also painted some of the murals in the [redacted] in Rome. When SMITH was discussing the political situation with [redacted] the informant observed that SMITH was violently opposed to the nomination of WILLKIE in 1944 but SMITH commented that "ALF LANDON would not be bad. He testified against Lend-Lease and he is anti-war." Informant stated that [redacted] periodically reported to SMITH the progress he was making with his contacts for the new political party and on one occasion SMITH made it clear to [redacted] that "there is no thought of a conference that does not include Mr. FORD." The general plan was to bring the leaders of the new political party to Detroit where a conference could be had with Mr. FORD. SMITH, in turn, reported his progress to [redacted]

SMITH has also been contacting other officials of the Ford Motor Company on other matters. He requested [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company, to prevail upon HENRY FORD to request a deferment for [redacted] and HENRY FORD did so but the Cleveland Draft Board nevertheless classified [redacted] in 1A. SMITH also has contacted [redacted] HENRY FORD's personal secretary, in order to get permission for SMITH's niece to inspect the collection of rare violins owned by HENRY FORD.

Informant stated that SMITH is now being investigated by Internal Revenue agents for alleged Income Tax evasion in his 1936 to 1941 Income Tax

ALL b7c

(Detroit file 62-1126)

returns. SMITH has been seriously concerned about this investigation but he has told informant and other friends of his that he is not too worried because he has reported every cent that he ever earned.

SMITH is contemplating contacting [redacted] of Detroit, Michigan, who informant believed to be an associate of Rev. GERALD B. WINROD of Wichita, Kansas.[1] SMITH has provided secretarial service to [redacted] and has furnished him with some material for his radio addresses.

SMITH is also preparing to institute a one million dollar libel suit against WALTER WINCHELL and Liberty Magazine for a libel appearing in the article "Americans We Can Do Without" stating that GERALD L. K. SMITH had been indicted for sedition. The only problem now confronting SMITH and his attorney, [redacted], is whether to bring the suit in Detroit or New York. SMITH would prefer that the suit be brought in Detroit because he has expressed some concern that if the suit is brought in New York there might be a Jew on the jury that would ruin the case. SMITH has been in contact with [redacted] Barrington and Chicago, Illinois, but informant did not know the nature of any business that they had transacted. b7c

SMITH has been trying to capitalize on the recent indictment of Michigan State Senator STANLEY NOWAK, on the ground that NOWAK perjured himself when he was naturalized and swore that he was not a member of the Communist Party. Informant explained that SMITH has long been an outspoken enemy of the Communists and SMITH has under-taken to contact every State Senator in Michigan in an attempt to have NOWAK unseated. SMITH was obviously elated over NOWAK's prosecution and has frequently announced that it is a clear declaration of policy that the United States Government was not going to permit Communists to run rampant in the United States merely because the United States has found it expedient to form a military alliance with Russia. SMITH has privately expressed that he is somewhat pleased over the indictment of NOWAK at this time because "The Government is so pro-Communist that they would not prosecute NOWAK unless they had to because he was causing someone a lot of trouble."

Informant advised that SMITH publicly announced that he discontinued his radio broadcasts so that he could devote his full time to editing his magazine, "The Cross and the Flag" and "to other vital" activities. However, he has admitted privately to others in the presence of informant that he was not permitted to discuss controversial subjects on the radio and he refused to reform his radio broadcasts if he was not permitted to use controversial subjects.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

Informant stated that SMITH, working in conjuction with [redacted] attempted to purchase small religious portraits for distribution to men in the Armed Forces but he was unsuccessful because of priorities. They were unable to obtain any photographs or souvenirs suitable for his purpose.

Informant stated that when SMITH was first attempting to form the America party, he had heard that name had been used by [redacted] Detroit, Michigan. SMITH, however, found out that the organization which [redacted] had started was largely dead and was not entitled to be listed on the official ballot of any state. SMITH referred to ROBERT VIETIG, Local leader of the Americans First Committee, and commented that VIETIG made it a point to nominate delegates before the America First Committee disbanded. SMITH reiterated to [redacted] that the America First organization should never have been discontinued and while discussing his plans for a new political party with [redacted] he hit upon the idea of re-organizing the America First Committee into the nucleus of the new political party. SMITH was very anxious to disclaim any organic connection between the Committee of One Million and the New America First party because he said the Committee of One Million was not permitted to solicit funds for any political purposes.

The earliest slogans chosen by SMITH for the new party were "The America First Party, the Americans first and safety first;" "This is not a third party. It is a guarantee of the preservation of the party system;" "No international Government but a national Government with an independent destiny." Informant believed that SMITH is planning to use as a symbol of the America First Committee the bust of GEROGE WASHINGTON who stood for isolationism and spiritual symbol would be the cross and flag "the same as for the Committee of One Million;" patriotic symbol the American eagle. SMITH has also suggested to his friends the following additional slogans: "Isolationism is not dead;" "America must remain independent;" "GEORGE WASHINGTON not HENRY WALLACE shall determine the destiny of America;" "Clothe America first, feed America first, defend America first and defend the four freedoms of America first." All of these slogans were placed on placards and were paraded up and down the aisles at the meeting SMITH held in Eagles Hall in Detroit, Michigan on January 10, 1943 when he publicly announced the organization of the America First Party.

SMITH is attempting to interest Mrs. PAUL FITZSIMMONS of Newport, Rhode Island, woman vice-president of the Republican National Committee, in the newly formed America First Party. SMITH has also contacted [redacted]

ALL b7c

(Detroit file 62-1126)

for the same purpose. SMITH explained to [redacted] that the purpose of the new party would be "to chastise" the other parties. SMITH stated that the Republican and Democratic parties were afraid of what SMITH himself, HENRY FORD and Rev. CHARLES E. COUGHLIN were going to do but SMITH made it clear that all they wanted to do was just be good Americans and be interested in America first.

SMITH, according to informant, has also been receiving assistance from [redacted] whom SMITH requested to contact the retiring Governor of Georgia, EUGENE TALMADGE. Informant also stated that IRA HARRELSON, who had been SMITH's attorney in Detroit, Michigan for the past several months, was returning to Georgia in January, 1943 to become a law partner of the retiring governor of Georgia, EUGENE TALMADGE in Atlanta, Georgia.

Informant stated that SMITH has also contacted [redacted] of Chicago, Illinois in connection with the formation of the third party. [redacted] related that his brother was in Hong Kong and was grossly mistreated by the Japanese. SMITH, in repeating his conversation with [redacted] said that [redacted] informed him that [redacted]s brother had been captured by the Japanese and they cut off his toes and inflicted 23 cuts on his body. SMITH commented that if we don't stop sending this stuff to Russia and get down to fighting this war we will be defeated by the Japanese for they are the strongest nation in the world. SMITH described [redacted] as being "with the Chicago Tribune." SMITH repeated this story to various individuals according to informant, and when he repeated it to [redacted] stated "These internationalists and Jews don't care what happens to our people in the Pacific. They are only concerned with Hitler." SMITH also criticized his successful political opponent, Senator HOMER FERGUSON of Michigan for having "consorted with Jews." SMITH has frequently expressed his belief that now is the appropriate time to come out with an anti-League of Nations campaign. SMITH has suggested that the proper line of propoganda would be to agree to if we enter into any form of world Government the distribution resulting therefrom will take from us our food, our rubber and everything and give it to all the other people of the world. SMITH was emphatic in pointing out to [redacted] that all propoganda should point out that constant effort should be made to improve the conditions of the United States soldiers because "nothing is too good for our soldiers." [redacted] and SMITH agreed that they should campaign for free transportation forsoldiers on furlough at least once every year.

SMITH commented favorably on the replacement of LEON HENDERSON by PRENTISS M. BROWN as the head of the Office of Price Administration because even though SMITH disliked his former opponent, PRENTISS M. BROWN, he said he would rather have a white man from Michigan than a Jew from New York. SMITH

ALL b2

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also commented that it was difficult to accomplish any Christmas shopping in Detroit because the negroes and foreigners made it uncomfortable for the "regular people."

SMITH confided in informant that he had received information that the Senate would form a committee to investigate the Assistant United States Attorney General and others for a conspiracy to smear opponents of the New Deal by indicting them.

Informant said that he heard SMITH tell HUBERT LUCKER that HENRY FORD had personally given a job at the Ford Motor Company to SMITH's son but young SMITH, without gratitude, quit the job and then left home.

SMITH criticized ROOSEVELT's appointment of LEON HENDERSON to the position of Food Administrator in England. He told [redacted] of Chicago, Illinois that ROOSEVELT had appointed HENDERSON to London to give our food away. SMITH attempted to quote the scripture "He that provideth not for his own is worse than an infidel." b7c

SMITH sent out one thousand tickets for his meeting at Eagle's Hall in Detroit, Michigan and had an audience of three hundred people. He claimed that there were five hundred that wanted to come but that accommodations could not be made for all. At this meeting, SMITH publicly announced the formation of the America First Party. SMITH had prepared in advance placards which were exhibited from the audience bearing various inscriptions: "Billions for defense - not a penny for internationalist propoganda;" "Butter for Americans first;" "Order of loyalty - Armed forces first, civilians second, Allies third and rest of world last;" "Bring the boys home when the war is won;" "No fourth term;" "We must have a choice in 1944;" "America first means clothe and defend Americans first;" "Four freedoms for America first;" "Drive the internationalists out of Washington." SMITH argued at the meeting that the alarming activities of Vice-President WALLACE and WENDELL WILLKIE and others who are attempting to put the United States into a World Government has caused the formation of the America First Party. SMITH suggested that it would be unnecessary for the new party to propose candidates in 1944 if the Democrats should nominate someone like Senator BURTON K. WHEELER or if the Republicans should nominate somebody like TAFT or LINDBERGH.

Informant said that SMITH has contemplated that various units of the America First Party should be set up bearing names such as GEORGE WASHINGTON unit, TAFT unit and LINDBERGH unit. He suggested that the people

(Detroit file 62-1126)

should support an investigation of Lend-Lease activities, support bonuses and reemployment of service men, should fight all attempts at bureaucratic fascism, should support all patriotic labor movements in hands of patriotic Americans, should support a high tariff, should support a farm bloc in Congress and should lift the living standard of the world by setting a good example and not be lowering our own standard.

SMITH, according to [redacted], has been attempting to gather evidence to prove that State Senator STANLEY NOWAK is a Communist and that his wife, MARGARET NOWAK, is the director of the Educational Committee for the Communist party of Michigan. SMITH has demanded that he be heard by the Michigan State Senate so that he could prove that State Senator STANLEY NOWAK was a Communist and unworthy to represent the people of Michigan. SMITH argued that Judge O'BRIEN was instrumental in getting State Senator NOWAK seated in the Senate, was the same man who, as attorney general about 1919, quashed the indictment when EARL BROWDER and other Communists were raided at Bridgeman, Michigan. b7D

According to informant, since SMITH received indications that the Internal Revenue agents, investigating his alleged fraudulent Income Tax returns, were going to interview [redacted], SMITH reminded [redacted] of transactions that he thought the agents would question [redacted] about. SMITH told [redacted] that the Internal Revenue agents were anxious to know what SMITH got for his trip to Louisiana in 1940 when he campaigned for EARL LONG and SMITH said that he answered them by saying he wished he had what he spent. SMITH told [redacted] that some of the records of his receipts had been stolen by a set of Jews in New York and they were being used to incite [redacted] against SMITH. SMITH and [redacted] then attempted to reach some agreement as to the amount SMITH spent on his radio broadcasting. b7c

SMITH has continued to attempt to contact CHARLES LINDBERGH but has not yet been successful. SMITH was very anxious to get a copy of a quotation supposedly made by BERNARD BARAUSCH about 1936 before a Congressional Committee that there was a scheme being foisted upon the people of regimentation to compel them to work or fight and that it was being enforced by regulation of distribution of food, fuel and necessities of life.

SMITH has requested the assistance of [redacted] for recruiting volunteers for the America First party. He said he contemplated a national committee of one thousand so that the opponents would have to "scatter their shots" instead of sending out a few people to be harrassed. SMITH has informed local Detroit newspapers that he contemplates making a tour

of the United States to organize the America First Party. He said he had assurance from the America First Committees that they would support him. SMITH said that the headquarters of the America First Party would be on the twentieth floor of the Industrial Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan. This is SMITH's present office for the Committee of One Million. However, SMITH again insisted that there was no connection between the America's First party Committee of One Thousand and the original Committee of One Million. SMITH set forth his itinerary as follows:Chicago - January 15; St. Paul and Minneapolis, January 17 and then later Cleveland, Fort Wayne, Erie and Milwaukee. SMITH has repeatedly emphasized that his new party will be against all interferences with the war effort but he believes that an isolationist can be more patriotic in a war than can be an interventionist. He said as an example that the people of the State of Michigan were primarily isolationist prior to December 7, 1943 but that since that time the people of Michigan lead in every branch of the war effort.

Informant stated that when SMITH heard that CLARENCE K. STREIT was going to speak at the Detroit Athletic Club at noon of January 13, 1943, he immediately planned to have his supporters picket the Detroit Athletic Club. SMITH himself had his staff prepare the picket signs which were to read as follows: "STREIT is a propogandist;" "We are mothers of soldiers;" "STREIT is a traitor;" "We support the war, we fight international propogande;" "Let STREIT go straight to _____;" "America first. Keep America independent;" "STREIT should be in the army;" "Detroit is the wrong place for STREIT." For the occasion, SMITH ordered six hundred United Nations flags from New York City which were to be shipped by other women who were to be participants in the demonstration.

Enclosure: To the Bureau: Two copies of SMITH's magazine, "The Cross and the Flag" for December, 1942.

- PENDING -

(Detroit file 62-1126)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

The following leads are based upon two memoranda submitted by the Criminal Division of the Department to the Bureau, copies of which have been sent in Bureau letters dated December 10 and 15, 1942 to Detroit Field Office. Relevant portion of the memoranda are quoted with each lead:

CHARLOTTE FIELD DIVISION

Will attempt to locate and interview H. E. MARTIN, Executive Director of the SILVER SHIRTS of AMERICA, concerning telegrams and letters on the stationery of the SILVER SHIRTS of AMERICA signed by SMITH whose SILVER SHIRT registration number was 3223.

The Departmental memo sets forth the following: "The following excerpt from the February 21, 1942, issue of 'The Hour' likewise indicates the existence of correspondence between SMITH and PELLEY: 'On August 5, 1938', H. E. MARTIN, Executive Director of the SILVER SHIRTS of AMERICA sent to Dr. L. M. BIRKHEAD, Director of the FRIENDS OF DEMOCRACY, a letter which states:

'"Answering your letter of the third regarding Mr. GERALD L. K. SMITH's connection with the SILVER SHIRTS which you say he denies, we have on file certain letters and telegrams received from him. The letters are all written on SILVER SHIRTS of AMERICA letterheads and signed by him. His registration number as a member of the SILVER SHIRTS was 3223 and his wife's number was 3220."'

It is requested that an effort be made to locate correspondence between SMITH and PELLEY and if such should prove unsuccessful, to locate H. E. MARTIN and interview him on the nature and location of the correspondence which he referred to in his above mentioned letter.

At ASHVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, will cover lead requested by Departmental memo as follows: "Special Agent [redacted] (in his report dated August 25, 1942 at Indianapolis, Indiana) suggests that PELLEY's printing establishment was located in Ashville, North Carolina from about 1932 to 1940 and that correspondence between PELLEY and SMITH may be among some seized by some local official at Ashville. b7c

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA FIELD DIVISION

Will attempt to locate and interview Mr. H. E. MARTIN, Executive

(Detroit file 62-1126)

Director of the SILVER SHIRTS of AMERICA. The Department desires information from MARTIN about the correspondence between SMITH and PELLEY. For relevant portions of the Departmental memo, see lead above to Charlotte Field Division.

NEW ORLEANS FIELD DIVISION

At NEW ORLEANS OR ALGIERS, LA., will attempt to locate and interview [redacted] who was friendly with SMITH during HUEY LONG's regime and [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan until [redacted] If he is located, [redacted] should be interviewed concerning SMITH's contacts, finances, supporters and activities. It is noted that report of Special Agent [redacted] dated August 29, 1942 at Atlanta, Georgia gives [redacted]'s address as [redacted] New Orleans, Louisiana.

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

Will, if favorable, contact Dr. L. M. BURKHEAD, Director of FRIENDS of DEMOCRACY for information in his possession about GERALD L. K. SMITH and his activities and also in an effort to locate H. E. MARTIN, Executive Director of SILVER SHIRTS of AMERICA. For relevant portion of Departmental memo, see lead to Charlotte Field Division above.

Will cover lead requested by Department as follows: "Referring to page 2 of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 23, 1942 at Detroit, Michigan in which mention is made of an article carried by the United Press from noon on October 20, 1936, concerning the announcement by SMITH of the formation of a Fascist organization to seize the Government of the United States. It is requested that a effort be made to secure a copy of SMITH's announcement if it was in writing and in any case that you attempt to locate and interview concerning the context thereof, persons present when SMITH made such announcement."

Will cover leads as requested in Departmental memo quoting: "Information has been received from the attorneys for Time and Life magazine with offices in New York City. Have compiled a large file of information on SMITH in which may be reflected facts which will interest this (Criminal) Division. It is requested that this file be secured or duplicated if it does exist and that any leads which may be indicated thereby be developed by investigation as soon as possible.

Additional information has been received in this office that the law firm HOUSE, GROSSMAN, VORHAUS and HELMEY of New York City handled a law suit against SMITH and some individual identified to the Criminal Division

ALV
b7c

(Detroit file 62-1126)

as the 'Banana King, and that one [redacted] or some other functionary in this law firm has some information about SMITH which developed as a result of this law suit that may not be available elsewhere. It is requested that this lead be developed and a report be supplied to the Criminal Division as soon as possible." b7c

Will cover the lead requested in Departmental memo as follows: "Other information reaching this office is that during the time SMITH was established in New York, one [redacted] was intimately associated with him. It is desired that you endeavor to ascertain the identity of this individual and the nature of her connection with the subject." b7c

WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

Will cover lead requested in Departmental memo as follows: "There is set forth on page 6 of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated August 28, 1942 at New Orleans, Louisiana, information allegedly supplied to the Bureau's [redacted] in 1935 by [redacted] b7c b7D [redacted] concerning a file said to have been compiled by the HEARST organization on SMITH's past." It is requested that this file be secured or duplicated if it is still in existence or that its former existence and the information alleged to have been contained therein be verified by interviews of the parties mentioned by [redacted] b7D It is further requested that any leads based upon an examination of this material be developed by investigation."

Will cover lead requested in Departmental memo as follows: "The Criminal Division likewise has learned that certain of PELLEY's files were seized in 1934 or 1935 by the McCORMACK - DICKSTEIN Congressional Committee and are presumed now in the custody of the Clerk of the House." It is requested that an effort be made to locate such and if such effort prove unsuccessful, to locate H. E. MARTIN, Executive Director of SILVER SHIRTS of AMERICA and interview him on the nature and location of the correspondence to which he referred in his above mentioned letter to Dr. L. M. BURKHEAD, Director of FRIENDS of DEMOCRACY, New York City, New York, the context of which letter is set out in lead to Charlotte Field Division above.

Will attempt to locate and interview [redacted] whose address has been given as [redacted] Washington, D. C. [redacted] is said to have been a principal contact of the b7c

(Detroit file 62-1126)

Ford Motor Company with GERALD SMITH, ELIZABETH DILLING and Rev. CHARLES E. COUGHLIN.

DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At Detroit, Michigan, will continue to contact informants concerning the activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH.

- PENDING -

[redacted] b2

Date: February 2, 1943

To: SAC, Detroit

97708

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

For your information there is enclosed a copy of a leaflet advertising several speeches made by subject at St. Paul, Minnesota on January 17, 1943. This leaflet was received at the Bureau from an anonymous source and is forwarded to you for your information and consideration in connection with the investigation of this case.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-2 SJC

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ENCLO. 18 N-104

RECORDED 62-43818-19
F B I 195
15 FEB 2 1943

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
FEB 2 - 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

60 FEB 9 1943

BRING YOUR FRIENDS — HEAR . . .

GERALD L. K. SMITH

America's Great Crusader for Christian Americanism

Sunday, Jan. 17, 1943

97209

WDGY - 9:30 a. m.

also in person at

Junior Pioneer Hall, St. Paul,

192 W. 9th St. — 10:30 a. m. the Same Day

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

also in person at

Gustavus Adolphus Hall, Mpls.,

17th Ave. & East Lake St.—3 and 7:30 p. m. Same Day

No Admission Charge

The loyal, moral and financial support given to the untiring efforts of Rev. C. O. Stdsklev has enabled him and his organization to bring to the Twin Cities many speakers of national and international prominence.

While this splendid support has come from many quarters, mostly from individuals for which we are very grateful, we think it fitting to express our profound appreciation for such outstanding support as has come from the Mothers of Minnesota, Royal Oak Clubs, Scrutineers, Northwest Monetary Conference, numerous Townsend members and many others. This, and the unswerving loyalty and financial aid provided by the membership of Rev. Stadsklev's Church and Radio Audience has given him a good start toward the great work which lies ahead.

BUT PLEASE REMEMBER, IT IS ONLY A START. WE MUST DOUBLE AND REDOUBLE OUR EFFORTS TO ENLIST MORE WORKERS FOR THE IMPENDING STRUGGLE TO INSURE ULTIMATE SUCCESS!

. . . . .

The Royal Oak Clubs Scored a big success in bringing Father Curran of Brooklyn, N. Y. to St. Paul twice. Thus enabling thousands of thinking people in the northwest to hear his splendid message of truth and Christianity. The Mothers of Minnesota brought former United States Senator Rush D. Holt of West Virginia to Minneapolis so that the people of the northwest might hear and see this dynamic and fearless exponent of truth and social justice.

Such outstanding speakers as W. B. Record of Los Angeles, Ralph Keeling of Chicago, Andrae B. Nordskog of Los Angeles, former Congressman Charles G. Binderup of Nebraska, Prof. Wm. C. Gehrke of Hastings Business College, Nebraska, Elizabeth Dilling of Chicago and many others have given inspirational messages of untold value.

. . . . .

CHRISTIAN AMERICA IS AT THE CROSS ROADS

There is a small but highly organized, financially powerful minority who own and control the MONEY, the PRESS, the RADIO, the MOVIES, etc., that are determined that we should sacrifice, suffer and give and Give AND GIVE TO SAVE GODLESS RUSSIA and *IMPERIALISTIC INTERNATIONAL CAPITALISM FOR* GREAT BRITAIN.

If they succeed, American independence will be destroyed. Christianity will SUFFER and the toiling masses will be reduced to the status of SERFS and sold into bondage to the International Plunder Bund for untold generations to come.

IS CHRISTIAN AMERICA WORTH SAVING?

If so, it is up to you and You and YOU (be sure to spell it Y-O-U) and a hundred and twenty million other true Americans to whom America really belongs. Remember it is YOUR America YOU are fighting for. The kind of a FREE America you would want your children and your children's children to inherit. Not just a piece of paper called a share in (BANKRUPT) America. You MUST NOT FAIL THEM. YOU MUST DO YOUR PART TO THE LIMIT OF YOUR ABILITY AND URGE ALL YOUR FRIENDS TO DO LIKEWISE.

WE MUST DO THIS. EACH AND EVERYONE OF US MUST ASSUME OUR FULL RESPONSIBILITY AND DO ALL WE CAN.

Now, for some information about Gerald K. Smith who comes to the Twin Cities Sunday, January 17th.

Compiled and prepared by S. O. Sanderson, Rochester, Minn., Chairman of the Northwest Monetary Conference.

Hear "Truth and Liberty" WDGY every Fri., 6:45 p. m. — every Sun., 9:30 a. m.

Sub Detroit 2/21/43 [illegible] copy file Sub Detroit 2/21/43 [illegible]

(See Other Side)

Who is Gerald L. K. Smith

Gerald L. K. Smith is one of the most colorful men of this generation. Recently, after he had addressed the Press Club in Washington, D. C., which was attended by more than 500 leading newspaper men from all over the world, Mark Sullivan of the New York Tribune and the dean of Washington newspaper men, said: "All the spellbinders in America put together will not make one Gerald L. K. Smith. He combines the best qualities of William Jennings Bryan, Billy Sunday and LaFollette, the senior.

Smith has been persecuted by the most vicious elements in America, but, even so, has developed perhaps the largest independent following of any crusading patriot. As National Chairman of the Committee of 1,000,000, he has recruited more than 3,000,000 followers. It is not uncommon for him to employ from 20 to 50 people just to handle his mail. In a recent meeting held by the Committee of 1,000,000 in Detroit the attendance broke all records of public meetings in Detroit. Nineteen thousand people were seated; 4,000 people stood and thousands were turned away from the Olympia.

In Detroit he has been on the radio where his voice reaches about seventeen states clearly longer than any controversial commentator. He is taking a leave of absence from regular radio broadcasting now in order that he may tour the country and visit some of his best friends.

Recently, as a candidate for the United States Senate in Michigan, it required a coalition of New Dealers and Willkie Republicans to defeat him, although every large daily newspaper in the state was opposed to him. In his campaign he was greeted by the largest audiences in the history of Michigan politics since William Jennings Bryan toured the state.

In Detroit, Cleveland and the great cities of the Central states, the name of Gerald L. K. Smith is a household word. He is hated by his enemies almost to the point of murder. In fact, his life has been threatened many times because of his fearless attacks on subversive activities and the enemies of America.

Smith is a close personal friend of Chas. A. Lindbergh, Senator Burton K. Wheeler, Congressman Clare Hoffman, Congressman Hamilton Fish, Senator Robert Reynolds, Senator Gerald P. Nye, Henry Ford and other outstanding Amerisans of this type.

The Cleveland Plain Dealer, one of the largest daily newspapers in Amerisa, which has an International policy, recently said in an editorial: "Gerald L. K. Smith is the most dangerous man in America." Yes, to those who aim to sell out Christian America to the atheistic forces of Russia and other foreign countries, Gerald L. K. Smith is "dangerous."

Recently the mayor of the city of Cleveland forbade Smith to speak in Cleveland. Overriding the mayor's ruling, Smith appealed to the city council. The city council of Cleveland sided with Smith and Cleveland is on the list for a visit from Smith this winter.

Gerald L. K. Smith is the founder and editor of the only magazine of its type in America, devoting itself consistently to the exaltation of Christ in the affairs of America and opposing all forms of internationalism. He favors an independent destiny for America. The magazine, the name of which is THE CROSS AND THE FLAG, goes into every state in the Union to thousands of paid-up subscribers.

Gerald L. K. Smith graduated from high school at Viroqua, Wisconsin. He graduted from Valparaiso University and took special work at Butler University.

Early in life, he and his young wife went to Shreveport, Louisiana. Here he formed a close friendship with the late assassinated Huey P. Long. He was with Senator Long when Long was assassinated. In fact, it is believed the gun which killed Senator Long was supposed to [illegible] L. K. Smith. Mr. Smith was the last person to touch of Mr. Long before he died. He delivered the funeral over his grave to 200,000 people.

He believes that the assassination of Huey Long, was an enemy of internationalism, an enemy of corrupt money practices and an enemy of the New Deal politic machine — he believes that the mysterious plot behind the assassination of this young and fearless senator to be one of the great mysteries of this century.

In his addresses in the Twin Cities he will tell some very sensational facts concerning those who plotted the death of this man who was the first to expose bureaucratic internationalism in Washington.

In his campaign for the United States Senate Smith opened every meeting with prayer and used as a slogan for his campaign, "Christ first in America." It is his conviction that the teachings of Christ gave us America and only Christ can save America.

He frequently says that if Christ had been first in Germany, there would have been no Hitler; if Christ had been first in Russia there would have been no Communism; if Christ had been first in the world, there would have been no war.

The last time Smith spoke in the Twin Cities he addressed the State Legislature of Minnesota at the invitation of Speaker Johnson of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Smith has been married twenty-one years to a wife who is just as much interested in his crusading activities as he is. She will accompany Mr. Smith on his visit to the Twin Cities.

A STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

The following summarizes the principles of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG:

The voice of the Committee of 1,000,000, a patriotic and dynamic crusade which began with nine constituents and now has more than 3,000,000.

The work of this committee and the policy of this journal are built around three expressions of sentiment:

First—Foundation principles.

Second—Vital issues.

Third—Battle cry.

The foundation principles of this committee, which have been unchanged since its beginning in 1937, are as follows:

1. To rebuild the spirit of America.

2. To wipe out to the last vestige, Communism, Nazism, Facism in all forms. (In view of the attempt now being made to join us in a political union with foreign countries, we express our bitter objection to any such schemes to compromise the sovereignty of America, such as "Union Now with Britain," "Federal Union, Inc." etc.)

3. To redefine the American national character.

4. To instill a new spirit in American youth, dedicated intellectually and physically to the maintenance of American institutions.

5. To issue a call to farmers and laborers to resist what is now known to be an international plot to make them part of a world revolution.

6. To rededicate the citizenry of America to the family altar and to the spirit of the Church.

7. To secure the maintenance of a well defined standard of American living.

The battle cry of this crusade is, "CHRIST FIRST IN AMERICA."

BERNARD A. DOMAN,
Director, Committee of One Million.

Hear "Truth and Liberty" WDGY every Fri., 6:45 p. m. — every Sun., 9:30 a. m.

(Reverse Side)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE NO. 100-4156

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SAINT PAUL	2-1-43	1-17-43	[redacted] KLH

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was. THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION.	INTERNAL SECURITY - G CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Meetings held by SMITH in St. Paul and Minneapolis 1-1, 3, sponsored by Reverend CARL O. STADSKLEV, evangelist, Minneapolis, Minnesota. SMITH'S speeches were very critical of the administration, particularly of Vice President WALLACE, and he bitterly denounced the Communist Party and all those favoring internationalism and world politics. SMITH presently director of move to launch a new party known as the America First Party, to be ready to present a candidate in the 1944 elections in case the old-line parties again betray the people like he states they did in 1940. Names mentioned by SMITH as to be considered real Americans indicate he receives the support of isolationists. SMITH advocates pushing the war effort by a tie-up with Russia and others on a military and business basis only, to be severed after the war.

-- RUC --

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-DATCHUC

DETAILS: AT MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

On instructions of Special Agent in Charge CLINTON W. STEIN, Agent attended the talks given by GERALD L. K. SMITH at the Gustavus Adolphus Hall, Seventeenth and Lake Street, Minneapolis, from 3:00 to 5:15 and 8:00 to 10:30 p.m. on January 17, 1943. Newspaper announcements and otherwise indicated that SMITH was receiving the support of Reverend CARL O. STADSKLEV, evangelist,

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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Minneapolis, Minnesota, who introduced SMITH on both occasions. There was another minister on the platform with SMITH whose name was not secured, and in the evening Reverend HENRY J. SOLTAU, crusading preacher in Minneapolis, Minnesota, was also present, SOLTAU having been recently convicted and served a short sentence for perjury. It is noted that Reverend STADSKLEV conducts a radio hour at 9:30 Sunday morning from Minneapolis, Minnesota, known as "Truth and Liberty."

SMITH in his talk was very critical of the administration, being particularly bitter against HENRY WALLACE, Vice President, and against WENDELL WILLKIE, and the Communist Party. He attacked those who would accuse him of being unpatriotic. At the outset of both of these speeches SMITH made this challenge, "I give you the name of the Governor of Michigan (named), the mayor of the City of Detroit (named), the senior Senator from Michigan, ARTHUR VANDENBERG, my opponent at the last election, and the leading citizen of Detroit, Michigan, HENRY FORD, and if you can get any of these men to make one statement questioning my patriotism or loyalty, I will never speak from any platform again." This was directed at newspaper men and any enemies of his who, he stated, might be in the audience. He went on further to state that there was an F.B.I. in Detroit, and that there was an F.B.I. in Chicago, and he asked the question whether or not the people in Minneapolis thought the F.B.I. would have let him out of Detroit or out of Chicago if they considered he was subversive, seditious, or unpatriotic. SMITH referred to Mayor KLINE of the City of Minneapolis as narrow minded and one whose political career would soon end. This reference was evidently brought about by criticism of SMITH'S appearance which was published in a local paper, emanating from Mayor KLINE, who advised that he would have some police inquiry made.

The only statements which SMITH made that appeared to be on the questionable side were these: "The seditious efforts to pack the United States Supreme Court," this having been said in the afternoon speech; and at night he made the following statement, "I am not speaking of the Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy, I am speaking of FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, the politician who has played politics right down to the present day," and he made a reference to the ED FLYNN Australian appointment.

SMITH discussed the rubber situation at length, claiming that he had been close to HENRY FORD and to Doctor HALE, a prominent chemist in this matter. He claims the word of Doctor HALE that this chemist went to Germany a few years ago for the purpose of learning their secret of synthetic rubber, and that this chemist was advised that it could not be revealed as it belonged to the Standard Oil Company of the United States. Doctor HALE then, he said,

returned to the United States and it was years before the formula was finally squeezed out of the Standard Oil Company. He also gave the word of Mr. SORENSON, production manager for the Ford Motor Company, to the effect that they could produce in three months sufficient tires for their 200,000 employees, this statement having been made last fall, and for all workers in the United States in six months, and by Easter of 1943 tires for all civilian use in the United States, without using one pound of raw rubber. He referred to the great rubber plant built by HENRY FORD, which was seized by the Government and disappeared, and was then sent to Russia, with, he stated, the understanding by the Japanese Government that it would receive safe transportation. He had an article written by CEDRIC ADAMS of the Minneapolis Star Journal which he stated he could not explain being in that paper, whose editor he severely criticized for his trip to Moscow with WENDELL WILLKIE. This article was along the same lines as other information he claimed to have, and was to the effect that possibly under the Lend-Lease Program we could get our rubber through Russia, who could get it from Japan, who control the source of rubber and who was not at war with Russia. He referred to the appointment of Mr. BERNARD BARUCH to investigate the rubber situation as similar to appointing the devil to investigate hell, stating that BARUCH had been associated with the Wall Street rubber monopoly interests for several years.

Referring to WENDELL WILLKIE, he stated that the best service he could have rendered to his country at the time would have been to have stayed in Moscow with JOE STALIN when he got there. He referred to Governor STASSEN of the state of Minnesota as a stooge for WILLKIE and as one of the most dangerous internationalists in the country. He mentioned the fact that he had spoken before the Minnesota Legislature several years ago and also before the Press Club in Washington, D. C.

Referring to the Communist Party, SMITH gave several paragraphs of vicious language in describing them, and it would appear that he is fanatically opposed to Communism. He referred to the Russian situation in which we were allies, and he said this was strictly a business deal and that it should not be carried any farther. During this discussion he mentioned the fact that the Communist Party had been termed by our own Attorney General, FRANCIS BIDDLE, as a conspiracy against the United States in the BRIDGES case, and yet the Party was allowed to continue to exist, while, when a crusader of SMITH'S type began to speak against it, efforts were made to squelch him at every turn. In referring further to Communism and to the mayor of the city of Minneapolis, he had a card in his hand which announced a meeting of the

Friends of the Soviet Union at the Nicollet Hotel in Minneapolis January 15, 1943, to which he said there had been apparently no objection, but the group had apparently been received with open arms and was addressed by ROGER MINOR, whom, he charged, was well-known as being the head of the Communist Party during the incarceration of EARL BROWDER. He also brought forth reference to certain Communist Party speakers who had appeared with full sanction of leading political figures in the state before the student body at the University of Minnesota. Further referring to EARL BROWDER, he stated that BROWDER'S brother, when conducting a meeting in Madison Square Garden in New York for the purpose of raising funds to be used in efforts to get EARL BROWDER released, had made the statement that he hoped to put GERALD L. K. SMITH and Father COUGHLIN in the cell which EARL BROWDER would vacate in the Federal Penitentiary.

Concerning HENRY WALLACE and the Communist Party, he said, "I will not say HENRY WALLACE is a Communist, but I will say he is a carrier of Communism." Referring to Mrs. ROOSEVELT, he remarked, "I will not say ELEANOR is a Communist, but I will say she has some mighty funny quirks to her political ideas."

SMITH made many references to WALTER WINCHELL, whom he terms the popgun patriot and a disgrace to the Naval service to which he claims to be attached. He stated that some day he hoped WINCHELL could be thrown into the ocean bay, and he hoped to be there to help do it.

The speech which was made in the evening of January 17, 1943, was announced by SMITH in the afternoon to be one referring a great deal to the late HUEY P. LONG of Louisiana. He gave considerable time in his evening speech to LONG'S career, and it appeared that he was very close to him, and, in fact, was at his side at the time of his assassination. He stated that there never was a more maligned man by the newspapers than LONG. He stated that LONG had been branded as crackpot, seditionist, grafter, and everything else by the power of the press, and by the power of the administration in the matter of cutting off grants of Federal money to the state of Louisiana. He stated that it was on the Congressional Record in a speech by HUEY LONG made some six weeks before he was assassinated that a plot was on foot to cause his death, and therein the names of several persons prominent therein are supposed to be mentioned, which information SMITH claimed was secured by himself and LONG by the use of microphones installed at the meeting place of these particular men. He stated that it will appear on the Congressional Record that Doctor WEISS is mentioned therein as the person who was willing to carry out the assassination. SMITH made this challenge, that the day he

was brought in for Federal prosecution for any of his utterances, he would mention the name of the man who ordered the assassination of HUEY P. LONG, and he stated that it would be so high up that the news would drive HITLER, MUSSOLINI, and HIROHITO and all war news off the front pages of the newspapers for several days.

During his speech he several times said that there was no question about the program of the war; that we were in it to win and any question as to why we got in or any similar question was not appropriate at this time, and he favored the push. of the war effort to the limit; and he mentioned the fact that after the war he wanted the boys to be brought home to the United States, and that a ring of steel and ships should be placed around this country in both oceans so that there would never be another Pearl Harbor. He mentioned that he had a son nineteen years of age who would in the next few days be called before the draft board for his examination; that he would ask no special favors for him, because if he did that and was successful, it might mean someone else's son would be called before his own son.

SMITH referred to efforts to stop his speeches as tampering with or sitting on the safety valve, stating that if the safety valve of an engine is closed off or stopped up, the whole engine may blow up some time. SMITH had in his possession a three page press release which he intended to pass out to the press. A copy of this has been secured, and it is noted that much of it was referred to by SMITH in his speech. There are the following statements in this release: "The conduct of the war is not an issue. We all assume that every patriotic American will do all in his power to effect an early military victory. The alarming activities of such internationalists as HENRY WALLACE and WENDELL WILLKIE in their attempt to promote us into a world government after the war have inspired the formation of this emergency party," this referring to the America First Party. Persons mentioned by SMITH in his speeches as being real Americans were CHARLES LINDBERGH, Senator BURTON K. WHEELER, Senator GERALD NYE, HAMILTON FISH, Senator VANDENBERG of Michigan, Senator TAFT, and others. This press release contains what is known as the text of his campaign. In brief, he states the plan is to form a new party called the America First Party as a safety measure in case the two old parties merge as they voluntarily did in 1940, betraying the people, as he called it, in which election there was no choice between candidates. He stated that efforts are being made to set up this new party eighteen months in advance of the national conventions of the two main parties, because if this is not done, they will not be able to get on the ballot in some states, as they require that a party be on the ballot a certain time ahead of the scheduled conventions or elections. This is for the purpose, he stated, of

expressing the independence of the party in 1944 "should both old parties nominate internationalists and give us no choice, as they did in 1940." He mentioned in his speeches, and it also appears in his press release, that if either party nominates a good substantial, real American devoted to the independent destiny of America, then the new party can dissolve, because if the old parties remain true to the traditions of the people, there is no need for the America First Party; with this proviso, as mentioned by him, "But, if the bureaucratic Fascists and the New Deal Communists keep control of the Democratic Party and the Republican Party goes Willkie or takes a do-nothing attitude, then we shall strike."

Further, in his press release he makes this statement, which is also one of the subjects of his speech, "We wish that all Americans could concentrate on just one thing at this time--winning the war as soon as possible. But, inasmuch as our Vice President and the titular head of the Republican Party, Wendell Willkie, and thousands of others in positions of great political power and prominence are working day and night to get us into some sort of world state, those of us who are still foolish enough to believe in the Declaration of Independence and the philosophy of George Washington concerning foreign entanglements feel that the time has come for us to devise an instrument to be used in the expression of our will concerning these matters." The following additional issues are to be emphasized in the near future, according to SMITH, in addition to his slogan of "America First in War and Peace:" "Support of a thorough investigation of Lend-Lease activities, putting the interests of the service men ahead of money squandering schemes now being hatched by those who would scatter our wealth all over the world after the war. Opposition to all tendencies toward bureaucratic Fascism. Support for all patriotic labor movements which are kept in the hands of patriotic American leadership. Opposition to any relaxation of the immigration laws after the war. Support of a protective tariff so that the American worker can be guaranteed protection against slave labor competition. Support of the American farm bloc in Congress now attempting to save the American farmer."

SMITH'S audience was enthusiastic but orderly, and there appeared to be no opposition present, the only opposition appearing in the form of newspaper articles to the effect that the Labor Coordinating Committee of the Minneapolis Defense Council had requested that this meeting held by SMITH be banned. There was no admission charge made. A donation was taken up and subscriptions were taken to the magazine published by SMITH known as "The Cross and the Flag."

The St. Paul meeting, which was held on the morning of January 17, 1943, at the Junior Pioneer Hall, was covered by members of the Internal Security Squad of the St. Paul Police Department. It appears that a committee was appointed and partially attended the meeting, at which, from the report. SMITH made similar statements to those in the Minneapolis meeting, and the general opinion of those who so attended was that there were no subversive or un-American statements made by SMITH.

- - REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN - -

The St. Paul meeting, which was held on the morning of January 17, 1943, at the Junior Prioneer Hall, was covered by members of the Internal Security Squad of the St. Paul Police Department. From the report submitted by the Saint Paul Police Department, Smith apparently made similar statements to those he made at the Minneapolis meeting.

- - REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN - -

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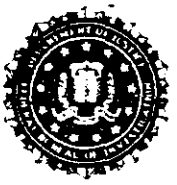
JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

EAT:DS

January 15, 1943

Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

On January 14th I talked to Mr. James Rowe at length about the memorandum addressed to the Bureau under date of December 23, 1942, by Mr. L. M. C. Smith, requesting additional investigation of the Gerald L. K. Smith case. I pointed out to Mr. Rowe that we have over a period of several years received a great variety of requests for investigation of Gerald L. K. Smith from both the Criminal Division and Mr. L. M. C. Smith's Unit. Mr. Rowe was informed that there has been no studied pattern of requests and that consequently we have conducted an unending variety of miscellaneous inquiries, none of which seemed to have any direct or predetermined course of action or policy behind them. I pointed out to Mr. Rowe that Mr. Rhett of his staff was presently reviewing this case and I suggested to him that pending Rhett's review of all the material, evaluation concerning Smith and his recommendation as to what further action is necessary, the Bureau disregard the current request from Mr. L. M. C. Smith. Mr. Rowe concurred and stated that we should hold further investigation of Gerald L. K. Smith in abeyance pending a definite recommendation from Mr. Rhett as to what further action should be taken.

Very truly yours,

Edw. A. Tamm

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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit - Michigan
February 8, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Gandy

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

[redacted]

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH with aliases
et al
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that the following additional information has been received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau: b7D

SMITH has been contacting Reverend GERALD B. WINROD of Wichita, Kansas, principally through [redacted] of Pontiac, Michigan, as an intermediary. While SMITH was on his recent tour, [redacted] received a letter from WINROD which [redacted] forwarded to SMITH'S office and [redacted] expressed his opinion that the content of the letter was so important that it would require SMITH to go immediately from Minneapolis, Minnesota direct to Washington, D. C. b7C

BERNARD DOMAN, SMITH'S manager, in discussing SMITH'S meeting of January 24, 1943, said that when SMITH mentioned LINDBERGH'S name the audience stood up and cheered. Informant stated that SMITH was considerably disturbed over the adverse publicity he received to the effect that the F.B.I. was going to stop his rally in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

SMITH has been contacting a Mr. STADSKLEV (phonetic) who has been assisting SMITH in organizing AMERICA FIRST PARTY Rallies in Minneapolis and Saint Paul, Minnesota. SMITH also plans to tour Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and Iowa in his organization of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY.

Informant indicated that GERALD SMITH is being assisted by [redacted] in his work in Chicago, Illinois. Of course, [redacted] of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Chicago, Illinois, is working very closely with GERALD SMITH in the organization of the b7C

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Letter to the Director
February 8, 1943

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH
with aliases et al
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION

AMERICA FIRST PARTY and [redacted] is scheduled to speak at the next AMERICA FIRST PARTY Rally in Detroit, Michigan on February 7, 1943.

SMITH was anxious to obtain a statement which he believed Senator HUEY LONG had inserted in the Congressional Record between July 10 and July 30, 1935, predicting his own assassination, but SMITH has been unable to locate any such statement in the Congressional Record despite searches made by many of his friends.

Informant advised that SMITH is actively corresponding with [redacted] of Cleveland, Ohio, leader of the Mothers of America, and also with the Committee of American Women Against Communism of New York City, New York. [redacted] is assisting SMITH in making preparations for rallies to be held at Cleveland, Ohio and vicinity.

Informant has also suggested that possible intermediaries between GERALD SMITH and GERALD WINROD are [redacted]verend E. J. ROLLINGS of Detroit, Michigan and [redacted]

Informant stated that GERALD SMITH is still being contacted by [redacted] employee, Ford Motor Company Service Department, and that [redacted] has recently advised SMITH that [redacted] is trying to sell a story to P.M. Magazine relative to the interference with war production at the Ford Motor Company. SMITH agreed with [redacted] that [redacted] was a dangerous individual because he was so unscrupulous. SMITH commented that he had a letter from the Anti-Defamation League to the effect that that league did not follow the policies of the Anti-Nazi League of New York City, New York.

[redacted] advised SMITH that there would be a large Lenin Forum meeting in Detroit, Michigan on January 28, 1943 with JAMES W. FORD and ROY HUDSON, leading Communists, speaking. [redacted] then advised SMITH that he had not heard a word "about the Solomon business." Informant pointed out that [redacted] was no doubt referring to the investigation of GERALD SMITH'S activities by Special Agent [redacted] of the Detroit Field Office. SMITH then informed [redacted] that he was presently being investigated for his income tax returns of the past six years. [redacted] returned to the original subject of their conversation and said that [redacted] and [redacted] were both Jewish and they worked together closely. [redacted] frequently goes to New York to see [redacted] a Jew in New York City.

[redacted] stated he had no idea who was [redacted] contact with P.M. Magazine since [redacted] had been inducted into the United States Army. SMITH then asked [redacted] certain questions about the prosecution of Michigan State Senator STANLEY NOWAK for fraudulently denying that he was a Communist when he was naturalized. SMITH asked [redacted] to find out where

ALL
b7c

"that preacher" (informant believed that SMITH was referring to [redacted] of Almont, Michigan) went in New York City when he met [redacted] asked SMITH to save his anti-Semitic literature as [redacted] is making a collection of it. SMITH said he usually throws his anti-Semitic literature away and that he has never printed or said anything anti-Semitic. SMITH told [redacted] that he wrote to the Anti-Defamation League and told them to get some realistic leaders and that they might get some place if they would be concerned about other people besides only Jews.

SMITH commented that the statement made by Jews that they will exterminate the entire German race was bad because it only served to strengthen the German morale. SMITH asked [redacted] if [redacted] of the Detroit Police Department was still friendly with [redacted] and [redacted] answered that he had not seen either of them for a long time because he does not trust either of them.

While Reverend [redacted] was in Detroit, SMITH contacted him frequently and [redacted] advised that he had spoken to WINROD and WINROD was sending things through to him. [redacted] advised that he spoke to WINROD about SMITH'S sacrifices and troubles and WINROD had commented that he did not know how to thank SMITH. [redacted] said that WINROD acknowledged that he would not have "gotten to first base" if it had not been for SMITH. SMITH said that any good Christian man would have done the same thing for anyone who was being libeled. Everyone was supporting the United States Government but SMITH did not want to see his friends persecuted by criminals.

[redacted] told SMITH that he found out that WINROD had failed to cover [redacted] meeting at Sioux City and [redacted] had to call in and tell WINROD it would cost him more for such conduct. [redacted] intimated that he was being paid by WINROD. [redacted] has also assisted SMITH in making contacts relative to the organization of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY. SMITH told [redacted] that he had given [redacted] a message for WINROD but apparently [redacted] had not delivered it to him. [redacted] assured SMITH that WINROD would be getting in touch with SMITH shortly.

Informant said that another individual from Iowa had come to Detroit and was anxious to contact SMITH but informant was unable to ascertain the identity of the man from Iowa.

On January 26, 1943 [redacted] communicated with his friend from the West, who informant believed to be GERALD WINROD, and immediately made an appointment to meet SMITH. [redacted] assured SMITH that he had gotten over the point that SMITH wanted to make. SMITH made sure that there would be no penny-pinching and that anything that SMITH did would not cost him anything. [redacted] told SMITH that there had been a serious labor dispute in Wichita, Kansas and that the man whom informant believed to be WINROD was appointed

ALV
DLV

head of the arbitration board to straighten things out. SMITH suggested that he could furnish a lawyer that would be suitable for the purpose, a lawyer who has taken unpopular causes and can be trusted perfectly. (Informant believed SMITH was referring to Attorney [redacted] SMITH inquired of [redacted] how WINROD felt about his case and [redacted] indicated WINROD was optimistic because the Government was afraid to go ahead on the indictment and had asked for a postponement but that the defendant's attorney was aggressive and would not consent too readily to a postponement. [redacted] stated that WINROD was going to bring "the real issue" to the front and that they know it.

[redacted] was in Detroit, Michigan and SMITH advised him to see the editor of the "Dearborn Independent" before he left the city. Informant expressed his belief that the "Dearborn Independent" was controlled by the Ford Motor Company.

[redacted] and his manager, in discussing the magazine "The Cross and the Flag," stated that seven thousand issues of each magazine are distributed in practically every one of the forty-eight states and about one thousand magazines are distributed in the vicinity of Detroit, Michigan.

Informant stated that SMITH'S principal contacts in Milwaukee, Wisconsin were [redacted] and [redacted] has assumed the responsibility of making the arrangements for SMITH'S next rally in Milwaukee in the name of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY. She complained that her organization had been treated very badly by the press and the Communists had made so much trouble for them that many of the members were reluctant to attend. She told SMITH that she did not have the mailing list of the old AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE. She regretted that the peace groups in which she was active had become very unpopular and were commonly termed copperheads.

She said that [redacted] was a teacher at the [redacted] and had to watch his step very carefully; in fact he was smeared in a local newspaper on January 29, 1943 and was accused as being unfit to teach high school children. [redacted] also said that she had to watch her step as her husband was employed by the Government. She said that she had been accused by the "Milwaukee Journal" as having been responsible for bringing [redacted] to Milwaukee. SMITH asked her to contact [redacted] and arrange the rally under the name of the "Forum or the AMERICA FIRST PARTY" whichever she prefers.

SMITH informed her that [redacted] of the Veterans of Foreign Wars was taking care of arrangements for the State of Illinois for the AMERICA FIRST PARTY. SMITH said that people don't dare question [redacted] patriotism since he has the recommendation of the Governor of Illinois and the Senators. [redacted] promised to contact [redacted] and notify SMITH of what

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plans she had made.

SMITH then contacted [redacted] in Chicago, Illinois and asked him who were the leaders of the old AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE in Milwaukee and [redacted] said that the principal leaders were [redacted] and [redacted] also commented on the troubles that the old AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE had in Milwaukee with the Communists who picketed their meetings and persecuted them. SMITH suggested that he and [redacted] go up and speak in Milwaukee and that "if they throw a good riot it would be good publicity." SMITH agreed to divide the collection with [redacted] fifty-fifty.

Informant advised that SMITH was having stationery printed for the AMERICA FIRST PARTY with the following inscription: "America First Party, GERALD L. K. SMITH, Director and Organizer; BERNARD A. DOMAN, Secretary-Treasurer" and at the bottom "For God and Country."

SMITH is now using the following slogans, according to informant: "America must remain independent. America first must feed, clothe, defend America first and four freedoms for America first. America first in war and peace. Run the Internationalists out of Washington. Americans must have a choice in 1944. No fourth term. Meat and butter for Americans first. Billions for victory - not one penny for internationalist propaganda. Bring the boys home when the war is won. Order of loyalty - armed forces first, civilians second, Allies third and the rest of the world last."

Informant stated that internal revenue agents are continuing to investigate SMITH'S income tax returns for 1936 to 1941 inclusive. The principal controversies over SMITH'S income have arisen out of the difficulty in determining how much income was received at his various meetings inasmuch as SMITH kept no record of the total amount. The agents have been using a method of counting the number of contribution envelopes received at the meetings and computing an average contribution. In the course of the investigation [redacted] has often been questioned from time to time concerning SMITH'S income but [redacted] has always pleaded ignorance concerning specific receipts. b7c

SMITH is arranging to hold a rally in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and is being aided in the planning by [redacted] Pennsylvania. The meeting is to be held on Washington's Birthday, according to the present plans.

SMITH finally located the speech of HUEY LONG in the Congressional Record under date of August 9, 1935, but SMITH commented to a friend, [redacted] whose last name informant thought was [redacted] that there was a lot of stuff in HUEY LONG'S speech that SMITH would not dare print at the present time.

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SMITH appraised HUEY LONG as the "greatest thing in the world" and he said that there is hardly a day goes away that he does not weep about his passing. SMITH also commented to [redacted] that the fundamental reason for the rationing of food and other essential commodities was to enable the administration to whip the people into line or else starve them to death.

[redacted] an internal revenue agent, advised SMITH that his deposits in 1941 exceeded his day book balance by about thirteen thousand dollars. SMITH insisted that his only source of revenue in 1941 was through the mail and by contributions collected at meetings. He insisted there was no special subsidy of any kind. [redacted] asked SMITH for the gross receipts on SMITH'S Olympia meeting in 1939 and SMITH gave him the total of $2621.68. SMITH explained that he did not keep public records because he was afraid of the opposition and the newspapers since he indulged in so many controversial issues. [redacted] indicated that the excesses which were found for 1941 would be charged to SMITH and that there was also a slight excess in 1940. SMITH explained that the excess in 1941 could be covered by his traveling expenses and this excess was entirely consumed by the salary of a secretary and a bodyguard at all meetings.

SMITH had an extended conversation with [redacted] and was advised by [redacted] of the result of [redacted] interview by internal revenue agents. [redacted] said that he advised the internal revenue agents that the only thing he knew was that SMITH was always in want of money. There were no contributions that were in any way secret but [redacted] said he was not going to put himself in a position of guessing at names in order to follow some political prosecution of good people. [redacted] said he told the agents that if someone were to go to a radio station and pay for a month's radio time for SMITH he might know who did it but he was not going to embarrass anybody by making any inquiry. [redacted] said he was asked if he had ever met [redacted] and [redacted] admitted that he had and that as far as he knew those men had arranged to furnish radio time. Other people usually paid for radio time given to SMITH in other cities.

The internal revenue agents then asked about [redacted] and [redacted] said he replied that [redacted] but he did not know what his commissions had been. [redacted] said that these questions made it clear to him that [redacted] had been giving information to the internal revenue agents against SMITH so [redacted] advised the internal revenue agents to investigate the career of blackmail and bribery that was [redacted] before they should take too seriously any information given by [redacted]. [redacted] said he told the agents that [redacted] takes money from both sides and would do anything for money.

[redacted] said that the agents then asked him about income to SMITH from [redacted] of Ford Motor Company, and [redacted]

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answered that [redacted] did not confide in him although he expected that [redacted] had been active in organizing certain groups. SMITH commented at this point that [redacted] thought he had a good secret because he was once in SMITH'S room when SMITH talked by telephone to [redacted] said that the revenue agents then asked him about SMITH'S income in New York and [redacted] replied that he did not know anything about it. They also asked him about Toledo and [redacted] made a similar reply.

[redacted] commented that he suspected that the revenue agents had obtained statements from several people in New York from the way they talked. [redacted] said that [redacted] had made a statement. SMITH said he told the revenue agents that [redacted] had been associated in New York with him and apparently [redacted] had given them the names of all those fellows who had worked for SMITH. [redacted] next related that the revenue agents asked him if he knew about the corporation in New York or Delaware and [redacted] answered that he did not know anything about them and did not have the minutes but that he had called the attorney for the corporation who had gone into the army and the attorney's stenographer said that the records were not there. [redacted] said that he thought the records were sold in New York City by [redacted]

SMITH commented that they should ask [redacted] about the records. SMITH said that he was asked by the revenue agents how [redacted] and [redacted] got along and SMITH told [redacted] he said [redacted] is a man of good character and does not go around with grudges on his sleeve. [redacted] stated that [redacted] had the opinion that SMITH had received a vast amount of money and [redacted] said that he had never seen it. SMITH agreed that [redacted] had seen more than anyone had and [redacted] agreed with this. [redacted] said that he told revenue agents that he did not think SMITH had much money because he was always being sued by his printers and was always in financial straits.

SMITH advised confidential informant that Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN of Michigan was attempting to have WALTER WINCHELL court-martialed and dishonorably discharged from the United States for saying that he did not blame certain members of Congress but he did blame "the damn fools who elected them." HOFFMAN had been previously named by WINCHELL in this radio broadcast of Sunday, January 31, 1943. SMITH asked [redacted] former leader of AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE in Detroit, Michigan, if she wanted to be openly identified with the AMERICA FIRST PARTY and she said that she would rather not be until her second boy gets his problem solved. Informant believed [redacted] was referring to [redacted] second oldest son getting his draft status fixed satisfactorily.

The internal revenue agents have been examining BERNARD DOMAN, SMITH'S manager, asking him specific questions about income and deductions, about Social Security, but DOMAN has been following SMITH'S orders by refusing

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to answer any questions unless SMITH was present.

SMITH explained to [redacted] that he had been operating on a hand-to-mouth basis except for a few months when isolationist feeling was running high. SMITH said he was anxious to have the revenue agents' report indicate that SMITH'S income was from the rank and file of American people rather than from any mysterious source such as his enemies allege. SMITH also explained to the revenue agents that he never wanted his deposits to run above a certain amount for fear that if the balance got too large his various creditors would attach his bank accounts. DOMAN revealed to SMITH that the internal revenue agents had said that they had received many accusations against SMITH. SMITH commented that there were many people who might accuse him such as [redacted] Jews, anyone that read he was making five thousand dollars a week, or anyone else that hated him.

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SMITH is planning to hold a meeting in Detroit, Michigan on February 7, 1943 and he plans to publicly endorse the conduct and public statements of Colonel EDDIE RICKENBACKER. The signs that will be displayed at this meeting will read: "RICKENBACKER okay with AMERICA FIRST PARTY. God bless RICKENBACKER. America needs more RICKENBACKERS." SMITH has announced that the meeting will be dedicated to the spirit of EDDIE RICKENBACKER although RICKENBACKER himself has nothing to do with the meeting. In commenting on a release in P.M. Magazine that SMITH was going to boost RICKENBACKER for President in 1944, SMITH denied the truth of this press release but explained that he resented the criticism that had been brought against RICKENBACKER and he thought that RICKENBACKER was a high type of American who would make a good President if he would run. SMITH has repeatedly answered inquiries by saying that the rally is not intended to be a rally for RICKENBACKER for President but SMITH has admitted in each instance that his private opinion is that RICKENBACKER would make a good President.

Informant revealed that Time Magazine will be covering SMITH'S meeting of February 7, 1943 as the basis of an article concerning the AMERICA FIRST PARTY.

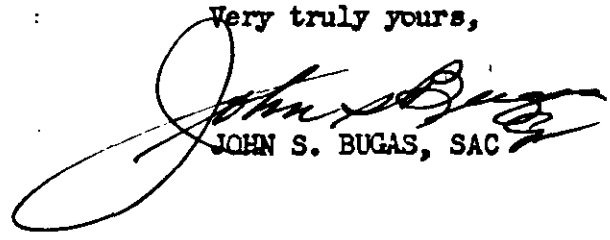
On February 5, 1943 GERALD SMITH was contacted by an individual from Wichita, Kansas, whom informant thought he recognized as GERALD WINROD. WINROD acknowledged a report that SMITH had sent to him and SMITH was interested in getting WINROD to encourage their mutual friends to spread the AMERICA FIRST PARTY in Kansas. WINROD then advised SMITH that he had heard that the attorney (probably referring to JOHN POWER MALONEY) had proposed to drop the case (no doubt referring to the indictment of WINROD and thirty-two others as conspirators in violating the Sedition Act). WINROD commented that since the people in Washington had gotten cold feet this would seem to be the opportune moment for aggressive action. SMITH answered that he had

been working on an unspecified project for the last ten days. WINROD said that the Congressman from this district had promised to support SMITH if SMITH would go to Washington and supply information to BURTON K. WHEELER and Senator TAFT for the investigation of JOHN POWER MALONEY and the indictment of thirty-three persons. WINROD said that the congressman insisted that SMITH and no one else should come to Washington immediately.

SMITH answered that nothing more effective could be done than was already being done and that it was moving just as rapidly as possible. WINROD said that he feels very good about the case at the present time and only this one last operation was necessary to break their necks. WINROD requested SMITH to write to him in care of General Delivery. WINROD and SMITH then discussed their friends in Saint Paul and Minneapolis, Minnesota and SMITH said that they were giving him fine cooperation. SMITH informed WINROD that the AMERICA FIRST PARTY was making rapid progress and that he was scheduled to speak in Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Toledo, Fort Wayne and Milwaukee. He indicated that he would like WINROD'S support in setting up a meeting in Kansas City.

SMITH made it clear that if anyone wanted to help, SMITH would bear the entire cost. SMITH added that he had good news which he would not communicate to WINROD except at some other time and place.

Very truly yours,



JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted] b7c

62-1126

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 12

PAGES REVIEWED: 97

PAGES RELEASED: 82

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN. FILE NO. 100-7744

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.	2/12/43	1/29/43	[redacted] [redacted] MAH

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY - G CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject SMITH addressed meeting of Citizens U.S.A. Committee at 205 Wacker Drive, Chicago, on January 15, 1943. Substance of speech and description of audience set out.

R.U.C.

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REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, dated December 11, 1942. Teletype from Detroit dated January 20, 1943.

DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:

The following investigation is predicated upon reference teletype from Detroit Field Division advising that subject made a speech at Chicago, Illinois, on January 15, 1943. This investigation is further predicated upon the reports of [redacted] who attended instant meeting, and reported same to the Chicago Office.

[redacted] advised that instant meeting was held at 8:00 P.M. on the evening of January 15, 1943, at the Engineers Auditorium, 205 Wacker Drive, and that approximately five hundred people were in attendance. [redacted] stated that women and elderly couples predominated in the audience, and that the wearing apparel of the guests ranged from rags to mink coats. [redacted] stated that on the platform with subject there were also Captain WILLIAM GRACE and EARL SOUTHERN of the Citizens U.S.A. Committee, who sponsored instant meeting, and Reverend BRODT, who delivered the invocation and benediction, subject's wife, MRS. SMITH.

b7

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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3 - Detroit (1-U.S.A., Detroit) (Enc.)
2 - Chicago

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 7—2034

Chicago File No. 100-7744

For the information of the Detroit Field Division, the files of the Chicago Field Office reflect that the Citizens U.S.A. Committee was a pre-war isolationist organization, advocating that the United States stay out of the war, that the United States have nothing to do with the British Empire, and since the war has represented itself to be a purely political organization, campaigning for the election of Republican isolationist Senators and Congressmen from Illinois. The files of the Chicago Field Office further reflect that Captain WILLIAM GRACE and EARL SOUTHERN are strongly anti-British and were both called before the Federal Grand Jury investigating seditious activities in the Chicago area. The files of the Chicago Field Office also reflect that Reverend BRODT is the head of the North Side, or Lincoln Park Chapter of the America First Committee, an independent organization, which broke off from the America First Committee at the time the United States declared war on Japan and Germany, and which has continued its meetings, advocating a negotiated peace, the election of isolationist Senators and Congressmen, and strongly opposes any cooperation between the United States and the British Government, or any Jewish activities in the United States.

[redacted] stated that instant meeting of the Citizens U.S.A. Committee was called to order at 8:30 P.M. by Captain GRACE. Reverend BRODT opened with a prayer, after which the audience sang the Star Spangled Banner without musical accompaniment. According to [redacted] Captain GRACE stated that there were many strange faces in the audience and that "there are men and women here tonight who are not in sympathy with our movement. Anything that I say or the speakers say will be misconstrued by them. That will explain to you ladies and gentlemen why I went up and down the isles scanning the faces that are here. We are all Americans here and there is no room here tonight or any other time for anyone whose sympathies lie other than in America. Anyone present tonight who professes those sympathies -- get out now!

According to [redacted] EARL SOUTHERN then introduced subject as, "the most damaging and damned speaker alive today." Subject then introduced himself and traced his early life and career, his marriage, and introduced his wife, who was on the platform. He further advised that he had become a crusader when he saw the gross injustice being done to many of the people in the United States. He stated that people have accused him of being a crackpot and a lunatic. He stated that we are living in a decadent bureaucratic democratic world, and that if President ROOSEVELT would have allowed us to send missionaries to Japan instead of boat-loads of scrap which are now being shot into the bowels of our beloved boys in the Pacific, there would not have been any war today. According to this informant subject stated, "I, for one, am just as anxious to see a successful conclusion of this war, but I hereby accuse, not my Commander in Chief FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, but MR. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT the politician, of playing politics before Pearl Harbor and after Pearl Harbor, and at this very moment is still playing politics."

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~~88 OCT 13 1964~~

Chicago File No. 100-7744

Subject further stated that "Journalism has sunk to a new low of prostitution when we have to get our news from Washington through two men, one DREW PEARSON, who in the middle of an important announcement is interrupted by a commercial extolling the virtues of Ex-Lax. The other one, Lieutenant Commander WALTER WINCHELL, who is a skunk, a loudmouth, degenerate, louse, character assassin, and a disgrace to his uniform, and who incidently gets paid $5,000 a week for this five minute broadcast."

[redacted] stated that subject requested the audience not to applaud him after each sentence, but only to applaud when directed, and that subject further stated that he has no fear of any heckling as he can handle that himself. Subject stated that at a meeting held in the Press Club in Washington, D. C., presided over by Vice-President WALLACE, WALLACE stated, "If Russia keeps up the gains that she has made in the past twenty years for the next twenty years she will surpass the United States." [redacted] stated that following this statement subject said, "I move that we impeach Vice-President WALLACE." Subject further stated that if it is feasible his organization will make it possible for a great American like CHARLES A. LINDBERG or BURTON K. WHEELER to run for President of the United States in the next ellection.

According to [redacted] mention was made of the Constitution, the Preamble to the Constitution, and to the Judicial and Legislative departments of the Government; and that subject quoted the British Lend-Lease Administrator in Washington, D.C. who allegedly said, "No records are being kept of the number of pounds that we owe the United States." Subject stated that President ROOSEVELT is now making plans for a fourth term and that even if he, subject, is put in a concentration camp and tortured, he will still shout out to the world what he knows about the Communists.

Subject said that as far as the Republican Party is concerned men of the caliber of LAMONT, MORGAN, and WILLKIE are not wanted. Subject said "they committed political treason once in Philadelphia, and we are not going to give them another chance." Subject said he once promised to tell the audience the real reason for HUEY LONG'S assassination but that he didn't have the time that night but would continue to write a series of articles about it in his magazine. Subject said that he is continuing his travels, lecturing as he goes, trying to formulate a new third party consisting of thorough Americans, among whom will be no "yellow belly Republican", no WILLKIES, or no New Deal Democrats, and that if the audience there that night saw fit to choose him as the head of the party, he would consider it an honor.

Subject further stated that the resources and supplies of the United States should be distributed as follows:

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1. The fighting forces.
2. The American people.
3. Our allies.
4. The rest of the world.

Following subject's speech the audience sang a song entitled "Win the War and Save the Constitution" to the tune of "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition" and Captain GRACE concluded the meeting at approximately 11:10 P.M. with a discussion of the Chicago Mayoralty campaign, advocating the election of the Republicen candidate FAHERTY, and suggesting that the audience might start a "write-in campaign" with GRACE as a "dark horse" candidate.

[redacted] advised that the audience was spellbound by subject's talk and that subject appears to be a reincarnation of HUEY LONG, having the unprecedented ability of speaking to a mass of people, yet making each one feel he is speaking to him individually. According to [redacted] subject even instructs the audience when and how long to applaud.

[redacted] advised that the audience was made up mostly of women, that there were approximately two women to one man there. [redacted] said that the officers and most of the members of "We the Mothers Mobilize for America,, Inc." attended the meeting and that at least a dozen or so of the members of this organization were present. For the information of the Detroit Office [redacted]

[redacted] stated that [redacted], formerly associated with RALPH TOWNSEND, convicted of being a Japanese Agent, was present at the meeting, as was the Reverend H. L. BRODT, who has spoken frequently before various "defeatist" organizations in Chicago. [redacted]

[redacted] obtained copies of literature distributed at instant meeting which consisted of the following:

1. A pamphlet entitled "What's Cookin'. What is the Truth About Rationing Sugar, Rubber and Gas."
2. A pamphlet entitled "The Fifth Column in Washington! Un-Americans on the Government Payroll."

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3. A pamphlet advertising subscription to "The Cross and the Flag."
4. A three page mimeographed document which purports to be a press release written by subject SMITH covering instant meeting.

These four documents are being forwarded to the Detroit Field Division for appropriate attention.

ENCLOSURE: To Detroit - Four pamphlets listed in the above report which were distributed at the instant meeting, reported herein.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

Chicago File No. 100-7744

SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

JPHa:rb
2/26/43
62-43818-199

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

As a matter of information, I wish to advise you that a copy of a further report received in connection with the investigation of this case and submitted by Special Agent [redacted] dated February 12, 1943, at Chicago, Illinois, was transmitted to the Division of Records under date of February 26, 1943.

b7c

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

cc Mr. Wendell Berge
Assistant Attorney General

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DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8BII/mk

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b1 with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-201, 201X

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FBI/DOJ

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

1308 Masonic Temple Building
New Orleans, Louisiana
February 18, 1943

Director, FBI

RE: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was.,
Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K.
Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G, CUSTODIAL
DETENTION, SEDITION.

Dear Sir: Attention: Technical Laboratory

There is being forwarded under separate cover one roll of exposed film in the above-entitled case, consisting of photographs taken of a report of one [redacted], which report consists of forty-seven typewritten pages. b7c

It is requested that said film be developed and that two positive prints of said report, together with the developed negatives, be forwarded to the Detroit Field Division.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN
Special Agent in Charge

CC - Detroit
CC - Package

[redacted] b7c
62-1194

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202

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Cole [redacted] 1, 1943
[redacted] b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 1943
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[redacted] b2c

202

RECORDED

Date: March 1, 1943

To: SAC, New Orleans

From: J. Edgar Hoover-Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was. Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION; INTERNAL SECURITY-C, CONTROL BULLETIN, SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8BTJ

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Reference is made to your letter to the Bureau dated February 18, 1943, transmitting one roll of film containing exposures of the above-named case.

In accordance with your request, two enlarged photographic prints of each exposure and the negatives are being returned to your office under separate registered cover.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAR 1 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAR 15 1943

JPHa:elc:wmj
2/16/43
~~100-34409~~

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROSE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

In connection with your further consideration of the activities of this subject, I wish to invite your attention to the report of Special Agent [redacted] submitted at Denver, Colorado, on January 19, 1943, captioned, [redacted] Internal Security - G; Custodial Detention", a copy of which was transmitted to the Division of Records under date of February 16, 1943, with appropriate reference to the case entitled, [redacted] Internal Security - G; Sedition".

You will note that throughout Special Agent [redacted] report various references are made to subject Smith and his contacts with Harvey Springer and Gerald Winrod of Wichita, Kansas.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

cc - Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge

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DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
FEB 17 1943

RECORDED
100-34409-203
183
FEB 17 1943

JPHa:WMJ

62-43818

Date: February 18, 1943

To: SAC, Detroit

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8015 [illegible]

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - G; CUSTODIAL DETENTION;
SEDITION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Gordon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Reference is made to the report submitted in connection with the above-entitled matter by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on January 25, 1943. b7c

62-43818-204

The Bureau is particularly interested ~~in the investigation of~~ this case and, accordingly, the leads set forth in Special Agent [redacted] report for the various auxiliary offices should be handled as expeditiously as possible.

FEB 20 1943 P.M.

RECORDED

cc - Charlotte
Indianapolis
New Orleans
New York
Washington Field

JPHa:WMJ

62-43818 - ~~196~~

Date: February 18, 1943

To: SAC, Detroit

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Reference is made to the Bureau's letter of January 18, 1943, wherein you were requested to contact appropriate officials of the Ford Motor Company at Detroit for the purpose of securing information as to the details surrounding the [redacted] trip to Indianapolis where he apparently, [redacted] was conducting some type of investigation in behalf of the Ford Motor Company. You were further requested to make general inquiry of [redacted] and among his friends and associates in order to determine whether [redacted] You will recall that the Department has specifically requested that an inquiry be made as to the circumstances surrounding [redacted]

b1c
b7D

If these inquiries have not already received attention, they should be made at once in order that the results thereof may be made known to the Bureau as soon as possible.

62-43818-205

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 20 1943
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-9810/mc

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Fenderson
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ FEB 19 1943 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEB 26 1943

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DATE 10/4/92 BY SR8BTJ/MLW

JPHa:WMJ
2-17-43
62-43818

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY

For your information and consideration in connection with this case, I wish to advise that under date of February 17, 1943, copies of the following additional reports pertaining to the investigation of Smith were transmitted to the Division of Records:

Report of Special Agent [redacted] submitted at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on December 30, 1942, in the case entitled, "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, a/k/a Gerald L. K. Smith, alias Gerald L. K. Schmidt; The Committee of One Million; Internal Security; Sedition".

Report of Special Agent [redacted] submitted at Detroit, Michigan, on January 25, 1943, in the case entitled, "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, with aliases Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; The Committee of One Million; Internal Security - G; Custodial Detention; Sedition". (A copy of the December, 1942, issue of "The Cross and the Flag", mentioned as an enclosure on page nine of Special Agent [redacted] report, was attached to the copy of his report forwarded to the Division of Records.)

Report of Special Agent [redacted] submitted at Saint Paul, Minnesota, on February 1, 1943, in the case entitled, "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, was; The Committee of One Million; Internal Security - G; Custodial Detention; Sedition".

I further wish to call your attention to portions of a radio speech made by Smith at Detroit on October 24, 1942, in which Smith stated that he had violated the national thirty-five miles per hour speed regulation. In this connection Smith observed that several days before he had driven from Detroit to Kalamazoo, Michigan, and during portions of the trip had attained speeds of from forty to sixty miles per hour. He stated that he did

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E.A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

RECORDED 62-43818-206

FEB 23 1943

b7c

this in order to dramatize to his friends and other people of America the unsoundness of "many of our bureaucratic rules". A description of Smith's remarks in this regard is set forth on page twenty-eight of the report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on December 11, 1942, a copy of which was made available to the Division of Records under date of December 14, 1942. b7c

I shall appreciate your advising me whether Smith's admitted violation of the national speed regulation pertaining to vehicular travel and his public comments in connection therewith, particularly during his radio address of October 24, 1942, may be considered as violative of any Federal statute within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc - Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

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1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b1 with no segregable material available for release to you.

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☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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62-43818-207

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) DEPT OF THE ARMY, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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☐ For your information: _____

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62-43818-208

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
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XXXXXX
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FBI/DOJ

JPHa/sb

~~100-95416-15~~

62-43817-208

RECORDED

Date: February 9, 1943

To: SAC, Detroit

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

CITIZENS' U.S.A. COMMITTEE
CITIZENS' COMMITTEE TO KEEP
AMERICA OUT OF WAR
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

For the information of your office and the Chicago Office, there are enclosed copies of a report pertaining to the above named subject which was received under date of January 19, 1943, from the Military Intelligence Service at Washington, D. C.

Enclosure

cc Chicago

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8OTJ/mc

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

MAILED
2/9/43

5B

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-4754

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Indianapolis, Indiana	2/18/43	2/1,2/43	[redacted] [redacted]:RJC,

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases: Gerald L. K. Smith; Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY - G CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

b7c

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject not known to have held meeting in Fort Wayne, Indiana, about 1/18/42 and not believed to now be active in rallying support for an independent party in this vicinity. Review of Silver Shirt files in Indianapolis Office does not indicate present whereabouts of H. E. MARTIN, who, some years ago, was executive director of that Organization. Teletype message sent Charlotte FD to contact Confidential Informant.

- RUC -

50432

Reference:

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated December 25, 1943, at Detroit, Michigan.

b7c

Details:

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted] at Fort Wayne, Indiana:

At Fort Wayne, Indiana

A review of the daily newspapers in Fort Wayne, Indiana, for the pertinent period reflected that the subject held no public meeting around January 18, 1943.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 12/1/82 BY SP2 [illegible]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	RECORDED & INDEXED
J M Lopez		209	

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3 Detroit (1 USA, Detroit)
2 Charlotte
2 Indianapolis

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FEB 20 1943

Through [redacted] contact was had with [redacted]

b7c
b7D

[redacted] advised that the subject has not recently been in Fort Wayne, and [redacted] was certain that he had made no attempt to solicit support from any group in Fort Wayne.

At Indianapolis, Indiana

A cursory examination of the voluminous file in the Indianapolis Field Division of the Silver Shirt Legion of America, Inc. by the writer failed to disclose the present whereabouts of Mr. H. E. MARTIN, who, several years ago, was executive director and otherwise connected with that Organization.

The reporting agent believes that, at one time, he was informed by [redacted] or some other individual, that MARTIN is deceased. Reporting agent is not absolutely certain of this. The Informant is presently believed residing in the Charlotte Field Division; accordingly, a teletype message was forwarded to the Charlotte Field Division to contact the Informant in this matter.

b7D

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE CHARLOTTE FIELD DIVISION

At Charlotte, North Carolina

Will contact [redacted] to determine whether H. E. MARTIN is living or deceased, and, if living, will determine his present whereabouts. b2D

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

INDEX TO INFORMANTS

The following is the index to Informants mentioned in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated February 18, 1943, at Indianapolis, Indiana, Indianapolis file 100-4754, in the matter entitled, "GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION INTERNAL SECURITY - G, CUSTODIAL DETENTION, SEDITION": b7c

[redacted]

b7c
b7D

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

JPHa:mr
62-43818-209
3/9/43

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

ATTENTION: MR. C. E. RHETTS

RE: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your information and further consideration in connection with this case, I wish to advise that a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated February 18, 1943, at Indianapolis, submitted in this case, was transmitted to the Division of Records under date of March 9, 1943.

b2c

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

CC: Mr. Wendell Berge
Assistant Attorney General

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
MAR 9 1943
P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED READING ROOM
F.B.I.
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
MAR 9 9 33 AM '43

b7c

[redacted]

Dear Sir:

I am a defense worker
war industry.

In our plant they const
drill us to be on the alert for sabot
not to talk of what we do, etc. w
absolutely correct. All because of th
these things have on the security of t
the war effort, etc.

You Mr. Attorney General
we war workers to think, as well as
country as a whole, when a rabid pro
pro-fascist comes in our midst that
every bit as dangerous to our mor
national unity, national security and

RECEIVED
MAR 5 5 16 PM '43
INTERNAL SEC. DIV.
F B I
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED
MAR 15 3 30 PM '43
INTERNAL SEC. DIV.
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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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FEB 27 1943

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DATE 10/10/82 BY SP1 [illegible]

210

war effort, as these saboteurs are warned against? And yet there is no action taken against this wrecker.

I am speaking of Gerald L. K. Smith. This man is dangerous and something must be done -

Yours Sincerely,

[redacted] b7c

P. S. I've enclosed article from Fgh. Times 2/23/43.

America First Party Branch Organized Here

Gerald L. K. Smith Argues For 'Unadulterated Isolationism'

Gerald L. K. Smith, exponent of what he terms "unadulterated isolationism," formed a branch of his new America First party here last night during a meeting at Carnegie Hall, North Side.

He spoke for an hour and a half, took up a collection and then shouted:

"I'll be glad to come back here and speak again."

He asked all those wanting him to return for another meeting to raise their hands and say "Aye." Most of the 350 present shouted "Aye," but there was a lone dissenter.

Dissenter Shut Up

He spoke up and said "No" and then tried to speak but was quickly shut off by Mr. Smith who said he had paid the rental on the hall, adding "if you want to make a speech you'll have to rent the hall yourself."

A disciple of the late Huey Long, Mr. Smith has been a stormy figure on the American political scene and last night declared:

"I am against a fourth term for anybody."

He spoke here under the auspices of an organization known as the Defender of George Washington's Principles."

Sees Hungry America

Among his chief points were claims that America would go hungry next summer; that Vice President Wallace should be impeached, and that the American people are about to lose their liberty.

He said that Congressman Martin Dies is a "great man," and lauded Father Charles Coughlin, Charles A. Lindberg and Senators Wheeler and Nye.

He described himself as being "tough enough to take it," adding:

"Somebody has to be tough or we are doomed."

50435

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ENCLOSURE

62-43818-210

[redacted]

RECORDED 62-43818-210

March 10, 1943

[redacted]

b7c

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of February 24, 1943, with enclosure, directed to the Attorney General, has been referred to this Bureau.

You may be assured that the content of your communication and enclosure has been carefully noted and is being afforded appropriate consideration by this Bureau.

In the event you secure any additional information which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, I trust you will feel free to communicate directly with the Special Agent in Charge of our Pittsburgh Field Division which is located at 620 New Federal Building, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
MAR 10 1943
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAR 16 1943

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-4156

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
ST. PAUL	2-23-43	2/18 & 19/43	[redacted] b7c LB

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY - G CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Speeches made by SMITH in St. Paul, Minnesota, February 18, 1943, and Minneapolis, Minnesota, February 19, 1943, covered much the same general matter as his speeches in Minneapolis, Minnesota on January 7, 1943, previously reported. He attacked SAM SCHRINER and RUBIN LATZ of Minneapolis, for trying to stop his speech in that city and accused SCHRINER of being an imposter in his claim to represent the Jews of Minnesota. The Minneapolis, Minnesota meeting was picketed and SMITH claims by Communists. At the St. Paul meeting, SMITH appointed REVEREND C. O. STADSKLEV, his sponsor, as Minnesota Director of the America First Party. SMITH again emphasized the necessity of winning the war and following out our military alliances to the letter but opposed any present or after-war acceptance of any foreign beliefs or doctrines. No subversive statements noted.

-RUC-

b7c

REFERENCES: Report of Special Agent [redacted] St. Paul, Minnesota, dated February 1, 1943. Letter from Detroit Office, February 8, 1943, requesting that this case be covered.

DETAILS: AT ST. PAUL and MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

The speeches of GERALD L. K. SMITH at St. Paul, February 18, 1943, and Minneapolis, February 19, 1943, were well publicized both by hand bills and in the various local newspapers. Considerable publicity was gained because the speeches were announced in communications mailed in envelopes bearing the name of the State of Minnesota Sanitary Board, which had been lined out and the return address of the local sponsors placed thereon, however, the

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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211

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53 OCT 13 1964

54

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

State office was still very plainly set out on the envelopes. It developed that these envelopes were published by S. O. SANDERSON of Rochester, Minnesota, one of SMITH'S promoters. This had been an overrun of some envelopes printed for the State of Minnesota several years back.

The speech by SMITH on February 18th was made in the Junior Pioneer Hall, 182 West 9th Street, St. Paul, Minnesota, and the speech in Minneapolis was made at the Ark Masonic Lodge Hall, 3044 1st Avenue South.

In the St. Paul speech SMITH spoke about the organization of the America First Party. He appointed REVEREND C. O. STADSKLEV, his sponsor, as the first officer and Director of this Party in Minnesota and he delivered a sealed and endorsed paper to STADSKLEV to this effect in view of all those present. His remarks were much the same as in reference report about this Party in its aims and purposes. He criticized those who questioned his patriotism and, in addition to the persons that he previously mentioned who might be contacted in regard to his loyalty, he added the name of the State Legion Commander for the State of Michigan, as well as one of the local Commanders of the particular group with which he was associated in Detroit, Michigan.

It is noted that on some of the cards put out, advertising this meeting, there were the following notations made from prominent persons.

LOWELL THOMAS is quoted as making this remark:

"GERALD L. K. SMITH is America's most fearless and dynamic orator."

The New York Daily Tribune is quoted as saying:

"He combines the best qualities of Billy Sunday, William Jennings Bryan and LaFollette, the Senior."

MARK SULLIVAN is quoted as saying:

"All the spellbinders in America put together will not make one GERALD L. K. SMITH."

SMITH referred to efforts being made to try to stop his Minneapolis meeting and said that he had learned from reports of the Masonic Lodge that RUBIN LATZ OF Minneapolis had approached the Committee in an endeavor to have this speech stopped. He stated that he therefore made some check on LATZ and found that LATZ was born in Russia and was a delegate from the State of Minnesota to the National Convention of the Communist Party in Boston, Massachusetts in 1935.

He also referred to SAM SCHRINER, who is known in this office as being head of the Jewish anti-Defamation League. SMITH stated that SCHRINER claimed to represent the Jews in Minnesota and that he, SMITH, claimed that SCHRINER was an imposter if he objected to SMITH'S speech because he stated, "If any race of people should

uphold free speech and be opposed to any prosecution of any individual for his statements, it should be the Jews who have been persecuted all over the world". For this reason, he stated emphatically that he did not believe SCHRINER represented the responsible Jewish people but was a self-appointed delegate.

The following night in Minneapolis he indicated that he had learned that SCHRINER was the real one behind efforts to prevent his speech and he challenged SCHRINER to prove that he really did represent the Jews. He made the remark at both places that no Party group, Nazi, Fascist or otherwise, nor any white-whiskered Communist could ever stop him from preaching Christ first in America and America first in the world.

On the rubber situation SMITH repeated much of what he had said in his speech January 17, 1943 and he referred to and read articles appearing in the Cedric Adams column in the Minneapolis Star Journal, January 17, 1943, about the manner in which we might get rubber under lend lease where Russia would trade its iron to Japan for rubber and that we would get our rubber eventually from Russia. He stated that CHARLES SORENSON, Production Manager for Henry Ford, and Henry Ford, had both assured him that they were only waiting for the go ahead signal when they could make all the synthetic tires that were necessary and they stated they were waiting for a note from LEON HENDERSON. SMITH asked them, so he says, if they really expected a call and they said they did and he told them that he didn't think they would receive a call, and he stated, they didn't. It was Ford's plant, he stated, which the Government seized and sent to Russia or are now sending to Russia with the guarantee of safe passage by the Japanese.

SMITH said that all real Americans were hoping for the day they could fight the war with both hands and full effort and not have to fight with one hand and use the other one to push back the (British representative of the Lend Lease Program in Washington), the HENDERSONS and the New Dealers. SMITH received great applause at this statement. He re-emphasized the necessity to win the war at all costs in his speech February 19th.

In referring to the Communist Party and affiliated groups, SMITH stated that accordi to the Dies report there are some 800 such organizations in the United States and that they have wormed their way into labor unions claiming to call themselves responsible labor leaders; that they have gotten themselves into various other places and into the Democratic Party and are now New Dealers, that they had gotten themselves into the Republican Party and were Wendell Willkies, and that they had gotten into the State of Minnesota and were Harold Stassens. It appeared during his speeches that SMITH'S references to STASSEN were very critical only because of STASSEN'S opposed international program.

SMITH repeated his opposition to Vice President WALLACE in much the same manner as previously reported. On February 19th at Minneapolis he repeated his demand for impeachment of Vice President WALLACE. He read from WALLACE'S speech made in the Madison Square Garden at the celebration of the Russian revolution, which SMITH called the Celebration of 20 Million Christians in which WALLACE made the statement that "Some of us believe we have over-emphasized the bill of Rights". He criticized

this very vigorously, stating that the Bill of Rights was part of the Constitution and that the Vice President of the United States was battling the Constitution which he swore to uphold. He read further from WALLACE'S remarks at this Celebration which was in November, 1942 in which he said "The Russians have advanced so rapidly in the past 20 years that if they continue to advance at a similar rate for another 20 years they will surpass the United States". SMITH stated that this was an indication to him that the Vice President of the United States thought the Russians system was superior to our own because if continued it would surpass us.

SMITH repeated several times that we have a military alliance with Russia and that we must live up to it, and even more so but he said he would oppose to his last breath, Communist rule, or being taken back into the British empire. He mentioned the fact that in the first World War we were allied with Italy and Japan, that was no reason why we ever had to conform to any of their political ideals.

In referring to President Roosevelt, SMITH stated that he was not referring to the Commander and Chief of the Army and Navy but to Roosevelt the politician, and stated that he, as well as others critical of Mr. Roosevelt, had to walk a tight wire of distinction. He stated that newspaper men upon his arrival in Minneapolis, had tried to get him to comment on whether or not he thought President Roosevelt had made mistakes in his military direction. SMITH stated that he replied to them that he had no right to criticize as he did not have any possession of military information and had no basis for criticism; that all military information is secret and that if he had it probably others would. He gave the indication that this military information being secret met with his whole hearted approval and he stated that he therefore had no grounds or right on which to criticize military activity. He confirmed this again on February 19th in much the same manner. SMITH definitely opposes any fourth term and made the remark on February 18th that the best thing the President could do for the moral of our soldiers and of the country in general would be for him to come outright and state that he would not run for a fourth term. He claimed that the framers of the Constitution wanted to avoid long terms for the President and he gave his interpretation of the reason for this as being apparent in the present time whereby if President Roosevelt was to go in for another term due to the fact that appointees to the Supreme Court are usually quite old and do not live many years, that we would have a situation where the entire Supreme Court would be Roosevelt appointees. It would do away with the check and balance system originally planned by the Constitution. He mentioned that the Roosevelts, including the entire family, are playing politics at every opportunity and he said "Even including Eleanor"; saying that if its not one thing its another and practically every day in the newspapers there is a new Roosevelt born to contend with.

On February 19th the meeting held in Minneapolis was picketed by groups carrying banners stating that they were for the four freedoms. At the opening of his speech SMITH stated that these men outside, under the American Constitution had the right to be there as pickets and that he would not object to them being there, even though he termed them Communists. He said he had received information that there were to be men planted in the hall to break up the meeting and he asked how many red blooded men there were who would take care of any situation and at least 100 stood up. He therefore served warning on all present that if any of them were there for

the purpose of disturbing the meeting or anyone there that they would be ejected horizontally, that they were not dealing with an amateur as he was an old warrior who had had much trouble with persons of similar calibre. It is noted that there were no disturbances of any kind at either meeting, there being approximately five to six hundred attending both places and in Minneapolis at least half of the persons were standing the entire two hours of his speech.

For the first time in four speeches Agent has heard made by SMITH, he mentioned the name of FRANCES PERKINS but made no particular disparaging reference to her. He did mention Representative GALE of Minnesota and being reminded by a woman in the crowd of DR. WALTER JUDD, recently elected representative, he stated that both of them had made their first vote in Washington, against the continuance of the Dies Committee. He made one reference, the only one in four speeches, to REVEREND CHARLES E. COUGHLIN, "That eminent statesman, patriot and orator".

Some of the same people, it was noted, were in attendance at both of the meetings in Minneapolis and St. Paul and it also appeared that a lot of persons were present out of curiosity. It was definitely and strongly stated by SMITH at the outset of both of his speeches that the sponsor thereof was not an association, church or group but was REVEREND C. O. STADSKLEV and a few other patriotic minded citizens. He lamented the fact that a crusading preacher like STADSKLEV was the only one who had courage enough to promote such a meeting and go through with it regardless of the intimidation he was subjected to.

During this meeting SMITH mentioned the fact that his 19 year old son had entered the army under the Selective Service on February 16 or 17, 1943. He stated that he would have no complaint, should his son come back with an arm or leg missing, in a wheel chair, blinded or should he be buried on a desert, if he died for Old Glory.

No statements were made by SMITH which could be determined subversive.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

JPHa:WMJ
3-10-43
62-43818-211

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your information, I wish to advise that a copy of a further report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Saint Paul, Minnesota, on February 23, 1943, was transmitted to the Division of Records under date of March 11, 1943. b7c

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

cc - Assistant Attorney General
Wendell Berge

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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP8B75/[illegible]

RECEIVED READING ROOM
DEPT. OF JUSTICE
12 5 07 PM '43

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
March 5, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was, etal;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

It is regretted that the letters and the reports in this case have not been transmitted according to schedule as established by you.

Special Agent [redacted], to whom this case has been assigned, has been presently occupied for approximately one month in the trial of a criminal case of some importance and also in the absence of Assistant Special Agent in Charge ROBERT T. ROSS from the headquarter city Agent [redacted] has been taking care of Mr. ROSS' administrative and supervisory duties.

This case has been reassigned to Special Agent [redacted] and it is hoped that it will receive, in the future, such continuous attention as you have suggested.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted]
62-1126

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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8BTJ/MC

RECORDED 62-45115-212

ALL
b7c

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

1308 Masonic Temple Building
New Orleans, Louisiana
March 6, 1943

Director, FBI

RE: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was.,
Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K.
Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G, CUSTODIAL
DETENTION, SEDITION.
(Bureau File #62-43818).

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to my letter dated February 18, 1943, with which there was transmitted under separate cover one roll of film containing exposures pertinent to the above-captioned case. This letter requested that this film be developed and that two positive prints, together with the developed negatives, be forwarded to the Detroit Field Division.

By letter dated March 1, 1943, the Bureau advised that two enlarged photographic prints of each exposure were being returned to the New Orleans Office under separate cover.

These photographic prints and the negatives have been received by this office, and are being forwarded under separate registered cover to the Detroit Field Division.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8 BJS/MC

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN
SAC

[redacted] b7c
62-1194

213

CC - Detroit
CC - Package

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83 OCT 13 1964

MAR 9 1943

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
February 27, 1943

Director, FBI

Attention Mechanical Division

Re: [redacted]

GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY - C, Custodial Detention;
SEDITION

COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE USA
WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
PITTSBURGH FIELD DIVISION
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

There is being forwarded under separate cover one roll of mini-pan film exposed in connection with the investigation of the above-mentioned cases.

It is requested that two copies of the prints taken on the first three cases be made and retained at the Bureau in the respective files according to present policy. It is noted that these three cases use approximately the first 100 frames of the film.

It is requested that three copies of the prints on the GERALD L. K. SMITH case be made and returned to the Pittsburgh Field Office. These pictures use approximately Frames 100 to 140.

It is requested that one copy of the prints on the last case be made and returned to the Pittsburgh Field Division. These pictures use the last frames from about 140 on, and can be identified by the fact that they are pictures of envelopes with addresses on them.

Very truly yours,

RECORDED

J. E. THORNTON
SAC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8013 [redacted]

100-5778
cc: 25-4392
25-4393
25-4467
100-577

62-43815 214
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

AVC
bjc

100-[illegible]-214

RECORDED

Date: March 10, 1943

To: SAC, Pittsburgh

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: [redacted] b7c

GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY - C, Custodial Detention
SEDITION

COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE U. S. A.
WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
PITTSBURGH FIELD DIVISION
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Reference is made to your letter dated February 27, 1943, with which you transmitted one roll of film containing exposures pertaining to the above listed subjects.

You are advised that the film was developed and prints made in accordance with your request.

Two enlarged photographic prints of each exposure pertaining to the SELECTIVE SERVICE cases were made and are being retained in the Bureau.

Three copies of all exposures pertaining to the GERALD L. K. SMITH case were made and are being forwarded to your office under separate cover.

One print of all exposures pertaining to the subject entitled COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE U. S. A. were also made and are being forwarded to your office under separate registered cover together with all of the developed negatives.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lado
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Gandon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Piper
Miss Gandy

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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP8BTJ/MC

ORIGINAL FILED IN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-4766

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN	3-9-43	1-22,23,27-43	[redacted] [redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was, THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY - G CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Investigation at Milwaukee reflected negative information concerning meetings held in city by subject or related organizations.

- R U C -

Reference: Teletype dated January 20, 1943 received by the Milwaukee Field Division from the Detroit Field Division.

Details: AT MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

The following investigation was conducted for the purpose of ascertaining whether the subject had held meetings in Milwaukee on or about January 18, 1943, and to obtain any pertinent information concerning the subject and the organizations with which he is connected. During the course of the investigation the following individuals were contacted with negative results:

[redacted], Milwaukee Police Department, Safety Building, (through [redacted] direct contact was had with all of the captains on the Milwaukee Police Department);

[redacted] of the Milwaukee Auditorium, Sixth Kilbourn;

[redacted], office of the Mayor of Milwaukee County, City Hall;

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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62-4818-215

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2-Milwaukee

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1 MAR

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U S GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE - O - 7

100-4766

[redacted] of the Milwaukee Hall, 800 - 812 West State Street; [redacted] Eagles Club, 2401 West Wisconsin Avenue; [redacted] South side Armory, 1620 South Sixth Street; [redacted] of Milwaukee Turners, 1034 North 4th Street; [redacted] of the Women's Club of Wisconsin, 813 East Kilbourn Avenue; [redacted] of Jefferson Hall, 2167 North Fond du Lac Avenue. [redacted] reporter, the Milwaukee Journal, Fourth and State Streets, who has done exclusive newspaper work in connection with Bund activities and other subversive groups in the City, advised the writer that nothing had come to his attention in the past several months concerning the subject or organization with which the subject is connected.

b7c
b7D

[redacted] at the Milwaukee Journal, Fourth and State Streets, after reviewing her files at the request of the writer furnished the following Associated Press Release dated Minneapolis, Minnesota, January 16, 1943:

"The Labor Coordinating Committee of the Minneapolis Defense Council, Friday protested strongly to Mayor Marvin Klein against the scheduled appearance here Sunday of GERALD L. K. SMITH, one time aid to the late Senator Huey Long of Louisiana. Mayor Klein requested police to investigate."

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION
TO THE
OFFICE OF ORIGIN

RECORDED

JPHa:rb
62-43818 - 215
3/19/43

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

As a matter of information, I wish to advise that a copy of a further report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted], dated March 9, 1943, at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was transmitted to the Division of Records under the date of March 20, 1943. b7c

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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DATE 10/9/82 BY SP8BJ/mc

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

cc Assistant Attorney
General Wendell Berge

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 9
MAR 27 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAR 27 1943

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-5778

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
PITTSBURGH, PA.	3-20-43	2-18,20,22;3-1,2,3,5,6-43	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY - G CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: GERALD L. K. SMITH appeared in Pittsburgh on 2-22-43 on invitation of Defenders of George Washington's Principles organization, making addresses strongly advocating isolationism and nationalism and denouncing internationalism and interventionism. 250 people attended his appearance at the Hungary Club where his arguments were opposed by E. C. TABOR, local attorney. 500 people attended Carnegie Hall speech in evening. SMITH initiated organization of America First Party in Pittsburgh, issuing honorary charter memberships to Mrs. E. H. LOHLE and Mr. CHARLES A. MADDEN, Officers of the Defenders of George Washington's Principles; expressed intention of holding mass political rally at Pittsburgh in near future. No seditious statements made.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Letter from Detroit Field Division dated February 8, 1943.

DETAILS: The reference letter from Detroit stated that GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH was scheduled to hold an America First Party rally on Washington's birthday, February 22, 1943, and requested that agents of the Pittsburgh Office cover the meeting. The referenced letter also stated that a Mrs. MARIE LOHLE was giving considerable assistance to SMITH in arranging for this meeting.

An article appearing in the Pittsburgh Sun Telegraph newspaper for February 14, 1943 stated that SMITH, National Director of the newly formed "America First Party" and advocate of isolationism was to speak twice in Pittsburgh on February 22, 1943, the first speech to be at 12:30 p.m. at the Hungary Club weekly luncheon in the Hotel Henry. The topic was to be "An Isolationist's Definition of Victory." This article further stated that he was scheduled to speak at the

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: J. E. Thornton SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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b7c

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

North Side Carnegie Library where he was to discuss "Red Hot Issues in the Light of George Washington's Principles." The article added that SMITH's appearance at Pittsburgh was sponsored by the Defenders of George Washington's Principles, headed locally by CHARLES A. MADDEN, East End plumbing contractor, president, and Mrs. MARIE L. LOHLE, Secretary.

It is noted that the Hungary Club is a lunch club composed of local business men who meet every Monday to hear lectures on various questions in open forum manner.

Following the above announcement relative to SMITH's appearance in Pittsburgh, the Pittsburgh Press newspaper published a "Letter to the Editor" written by ARTHUR H. SCHWERIN in which SCHWERIN denounced SMITH as being a Fascist-minded rabble-rouser and a former henchman of PELLEY and COUGHLIN. SCHWERIN criticizes Mayor SCULLY for permitting SMITH to appear in Pittsburgh and further criticizes the club for inviting him there to speak.

In the issue of February 12, 1943 of the Jewish Criterion, published in Pittsburgh by DAVID ALTER, publisher, appeared an article entitled "An Open Letter to the Hungary Club" written by the above mentioned Mr. SCHWERIN, who again went to considerable length to deride SMITH, relating SMITH's past activities and reputation and strongly criticizing the Hungary Club for permitting SMITH to appear before the members to speak.

In answer to SCHWERIN, Mr. EDWARD O. TABOR, member of the Hungary Club Committee who approved SMITH's appearance before the club, and JOHN C. WEAVER, Secretary of the Club, defended their position in the letters they wrote which were published in the February 19, 1943 issue of the Jewish Criterion which letters stated that the Hungary Club is an impartial group, and inasmuch as proponents of internationalism had been heard several times, they thought it only fair to hear the other side. In his letter, WEAVER stated that TABOR, a local attorney would debate the question with SMITH at the coming Hungary Club meeting.

Contact was made with [redacted] of the Carnegie Free Library on Federal and Ohio Streets, North Side, Pittsburgh. He advised that arrangements for the use of the auditorium in that building on the evening of February 22, 1943 had been made on behalf of Mr. GERALD L. K. SMITH the speaker by Mrs. MARIE LOHLE, who lives at 6332 Morrowfield Street, Pittsburgh telephone JA 0601. Mrs. LOHLE represented the Defenders of George Washington's Principles who were sponsoring Mr. SMITH's appearance in Pittsburgh. [redacted] advised that a Mr. ARTHUR SCHWERIN had called to him by telephone and opposed SMITH's being permitted to speak in the Carnegie Library auditorium. In addition, according to [redacted] SCHWERIN wrote some articles in a recent issue of the Jewish Criterion and also wrote some letters or articles which appeared in local newspapers attacking SMITH and criticizing officials in Pittsburgh for permitting him to appear and give speaches here.

b7c

SMITH's appearance at the Hungary Club at noon, February 22, 1943 was covered by Special Agents [redacted] and the writer. SMITH delivered at that time a 30 minute speech to an audience of about 250 persons in which he gave arguments in favor of isolationism and against interventionism. He was answered by the aforementioned attorney, EDWARD O. TABOR, after which questions were answered by both speakers. SMITH had given TABOR a copy of his prepared talk. This was obtained from TABOR by the writer. It was photographed and enlarged copies are being sent to the Bureau and to the Detroit Field Division; one copy is being retained in the Pittsburgh file.

That evening, February 22, 1943 SMITH gave his scheduled talk at the Carnegie Free Library Hall, North Side, Pittsburgh to a crowd of about 500 persons. This meeting was covered by Special Agent [redacted] and the writer. Mrs. MARIE LOHLE, member of the Defenders of George Washington's Principles presided at the meeting. CHARLES A. MADDEN, President of the above mentioned organization introduced the speaker.

SMITH gave substantially the same arguments for isolationism that he gave previously at the club. He predicted a food shortage in the United States due to the Government's past food production-controlled program and "Because there are people in Washington who think it is more important to feed foreigners than Americans." He criticized Vice President WALLACE's recent appearance at a celebration given at New York City in honor of the anniversary of the Russian Revolution saying that WALLACE was embracing the Communist principles publicly. He declared that WALLACE should be impeached.

SMITH denounced any form of World Government. He displayed a flag which he claimed was the emblemof the "Union Now," World Government group. The flag had 13 red and white stripes just as the American flag, but in place of a fi of stars a British flag had been substituted in the center of which was an 8 pointed star. SMITH claimed that this flag represented a British-American coalition for World Government. After holding up the flag he threw it on the platform floor and stamped on it with his feet, cheered by the crowd.

SMITH stated that he is the National Director of the newly formed America First Party and that the new Party was a "spare tire" Party in case neither the Republicans nor Democrats nominated sombody like LINDBERG, NYE, WHEELER, etc. for President in 1944. He claimed that he was making plans to star a branch of his Party at Pittsburgh and expected to return in the near future to a big rally. He presented Mrs. LOHLE and CHARLES A. MADDEN with honorary gold seal membership certificates in the Party. He passed out envelopes on which members of the audience were requested to note and enclose the amount of the contribution they expected to give per month toward the founding of the Party. In return, they were to receive a gold seal membership certificate, tickets for the future rallyand a pamphlet describing the Union Now flag mentioned above.

SMITH's publication "The Cross and the Flag" was on sale both before and after the speech. SMITH urged the audience to subscribe to it.

At no time in either of the above speeches was a statement of a seditious character made. The members of the audience in the evening were largely sympathizers of the isolationists program and they frequently applauded the speaker. A number of persons formerly active in the America First Committee at Pittsburgh were present, one of whom was KENNETH B. MACGRUDER.

In addition to the publication "The Cross and the Flag" SMITH was passing out calendars upon which both his and his wife's photographs appeared, and was also distributing copies of a speech made by CHARLES A. MADDEN before the Hungary Club in Pittsburgh during December, 1942. The latter mentioned speech has been photographed and enlarged copies of it are being sent to Detroit and to the Bureau in case it may contain information of value.

The said copy which was obtained at the meeting is being retained in the Pittsburgh files. Likewise, a copy of the calendar and copies of the December, 1942 and January, 1943 issues of the "Cross and the Flag" are being retained in the Pittsburgh files.

Through [redacted] it was learned that GERALD L. K. SMITH and wife, 1753 Seyburn Avenue, Detroit, Michigan had registered at the William Penn Hotel at 8 a.m. February 22, 1943 and were staying in Room 257 of that hotel. [redacted] that during the time he stayed at that hotel, SMITH made the following telephone calls: b7D

9:35 a.m. COurt 7200, the Pittsburgh Press.
10:20 a.m. JAckson, 0601, Mrs. LOHLE
11:25 a.m. Bell Captain, to page Mr. MADDEN (Mr. MADDEN answered the page)
4:15 p.m. Called porter
4:41 p.m. Called news stand
5: 30 p.m. Called [redacted] William Penn Hotel. b7c

He received the following calls: It is noted that both the calls ma and the calls received were all on February 22, 1943.

10 a.m. Mrs. LOHLE regarding challenging Mr. TABOR to a debate.
2: 30 p.m. No answer
2:45 p.m. No answer
4:45 p.m. Porter regarding baggage on hand
8: a.m. from [redacted] no answer b7c

It is noted that Room 1053 at William Penn Hotel was occupied by Senator JAMES J. DAVIS at the time [redacted] called from there. The above mentioned source of information reported parts of the conversation as follows:

[redacted] of National Casket Company."

"Dies Committee -- Walter Winchell"

"Meeting tonight (Monday) North Side Carnegie Hall."

"They call themselves Isolationists."

It is further noted that Senator JAMES J. DAVIS signed out of the Hotel 7:30 p.m. on February 22, 1943.

[redacted] Mr. SMITH and his wife checked out of the hotel at 11:30 a.m. February 23, 1943, the time of his departure to be effective at 12 noon. He had called a porter who purchased tickets on train 117, parlor car 60 on the Pennsylvania Railroad, which train was scheduled to leave Pittsburgh at 12:15 for Detroit, and it was later determined that it would probably arrive in Detroit at about 8 o'clock. [redacted] that SMITH had expressed a package to 2006 Industrial Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan.

The above information relative to SMITH's departure for Detroit was made available by teletype to Detroit dated February 23, 1943. This information furnished in case it would be of any value to the Detroit Office.

Prior to SMITH's arrival at Pittsburgh, the writer contacted Mr. ARTHUR H. SCHMERIN at his home 6533 Dalzell Place, Pittsburgh. SCHMERIN informed that he has always been opposed to the America First Committee. He has a bitter hatred of SMITH and his former associates, such as PELLEY and COUGHLIN, not only because he feels that they are un-American but that they have definitely shown they are anti-Semitic. ~~Since SCHMERIN himself is of Jewish origin, his dislike for him is increased.~~

He is, at the present time, gathering material to write a book on the subject of SMITH and his associates. He gave the writer copies of his articles and letters referred to previously in this report, and the answer written by TABOR and WEAVER, also referred to previously in this report. These are being retained in the files of the Pittsburgh Office, copies of which are not being sent to other offices, inasmuch as it is not believed they contain additional information of value.

It is noted that the Pittsburgh Office received several letters and some telephone calls protesting the appearance of SMITH in Pittsburgh, and requesting that representatives of the Federal Bureau of Investigation be present at his talks. Such requests came from [redacted] of the American Legion, GEORGE E. A. FAIRLEY, Director of the Department of Public Safety, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; [redacted] Pittsburgh, [redacted] of Carnegie Free Library, North Side, Pittsburgh.

In addition, the Communist Party sponsored a lecture at their regular Saturday evening forum at Carnegie Free Library, February 20, 1943. The lecture was given by JEROME REMTON, labor organizer, the topic of the speech being "The Fifth Column Exposed--GERALD L. K. SMITH, Traitor."

EMMETT PATRICK CUSH, Chairman of the Communist Party of North Side issued a handbill relative to this meeting in which he described SMITH as an "admirer of Hitler and the Nazi System. He is a notorious Jew-baitor and a Red-bait He is a Negro-hater and a supporter of the Ku Klux Klan terrorism against Negro and Catholic citizens. He is a tool of some of the worst union-hating employers. In short, he is an American fascist tool of Hitler." ....."The exposure of such fascist agents as Gerald L. K. Smith is the patriotic duty of all Americans and anti-fascists. It is our common obligation to drive such ratsout of public life as deadly enemies to all that America embodies. Protests against the Gerald L. K. Smith meeting should be sent to Mayor Scully, City Hall, Pittsburgh, as the Library building is under city control."

Copies of a card advertising the above mentioned speechto be given by JEROME BENTON and of the handbill mentioned above written by CUSH, together with an unidentified handbill advertising the lecture by BENTON are being retained in the Pittsburgh file.

Under pretext the writer was present at the above mentioned meeting. The meeting was definitely a Communist meeting, although no direct reference was made to that effect. BENTON, however, was introduced as "Comrade Benton." Also on display were many Communist and Union publications, and known Communist leaders of Pittsburgh were present. BENTON stated that SMITH is pro-German and a fascist. He referred to SMITH's association with HUEY LONG, WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY, Father COUGHLIN and the America First Committee. BENTON stated that SMITH is anti-Russian, anti-Union and anti-Communist and is prejudice against the Negroes and the Jews. He urged the union members and Communists not to attend SMITH's speeches and to have nothing to do with him. BENTON asserted that this country ought to give all possible aid to the allies to defeat Germany and German allies. He was opposed to isolationism.

In response to an inquiry as to what should be done to combat SMITH, BENTON urged all members to be good union members, to be good church-goers, to work hard if they are working, and to be good soldiers if they go into the Army. According to BENTON, the best way to combat SMITH and his isolationists is to be everything that a good American would be.

b7c, b7D

[redacted] known in this office as a reliable source of information, telephonically called the attention of the Pittsburgh Office to the fact that SMITH was to speak in Pittsburgh. [redacted]. He advised he has been active in movements to aid the allies and to work for defeating isolationists. He is interested in the international aspect of world cooperation after the war, and does all he can toward the education of the people toward this end. He is one of the leaders in the Free World Association, which he claims is a non-political organization. He advised that through being active in the above movements he has come in contact with isolationists of this community. He knows CHARLES A. MADDEN, who is the head of the Defenders of George Washington's Principles. That organization appears to be connected with a group of people whom he termed as "Coughlin Mothers," a radical group of isolationists, who he stated were connected with the America First Committee when it was active in Pittsburgh. He said that MADDEN was a radical isolationist who appeared to be strongly anti-British.

According to him, MADDEN gave a speech at the Hungary Club, attacking the Rhodes Scholarship students, claiming that RHODES, the Englishman, had established his fund for the purpose of bringing the most intelligent youth of America to England in order that they could be taught the British ideas and return to America and work for British domination of the world.

[redacted] advised that [redacted] of the Hungary Club at the present time. [redacted] is employed in settlement work at the Kingsley Settlement House, East End, Pittsburgh. He has always been a Pacifist in the past. He alleges that his feelings are based on religious principles. According to [redacted] prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor, [redacted] was mixed up with schools for Conscientious Objectors; This was after the Selective Service law was passed, but prior to Pearl Harbor. Since then, he has given no indication that he was against the war effort in that respect.

b7c
b7D

The referenced letter requested the Pittsburgh Office to submit information regarding [redacted] to the Detroit Office. In this connection, the following inquiries were made:

[redacted]

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818 -216 pgs 8-10

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FBI/DOJ

Relative to SMITH, he had in his possession a 28 page report, dealing with the history and background of GERALD L. K. SMITH and his activities and associates. [redacted] This report was obtained from [redacted] and photographed copies of it were made. One copy is being sent to the Bureau and one to Detroit; one copy is being retained in the Pittsburgh file.

[redacted]

b7c
b7

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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62-43818-216 pgs 12 + 13

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FBI/DOJ

b7C

[redacted]

Inasmuch as the logical leads of this case have been covered, this case is being referred upon completion to the office of origin.

ENCLOSURES

FOR THE BUREAU

One photostatic copy of a report on the life and background of GERALD L. K. SMITH obtained from [redacted] of Pittsburgh. b7C

One photographic copy of the speech given by GERALD L. K. SMITH at the Hungary Club in Hotel Henry, Pittsburgh on February 22, 1943.

One photographic copy of a speech given by CHARLES A. MADDEN before the Hungary Club in Hotel Henry, Pittsburgh December 14, 1942.

FOR THE DETROIT OFFICE

One copy of each of the above listed items is being sent to the Detroit Office.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE
OFFICE OF ORIGIN

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

JPHa:WMJ
4-12-43
62-43818-216

RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

There is enclosed a copy of an additional report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on March 20, 1943, together with a photostatic copy of subject Smith's speech of February 22, 1943, mentioned on page twelve of Special Agent [redacted] report as an enclosure.

b2c

Copies of the other enclosures mentioned were not made available inasmuch as they only set forth information which has appeared in other reports previously submitted in this case.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

cc - Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
APR 13 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/62 BY SP6BDJMC

JPHa:WMJ
3-23-43
62-43818

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mlh

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY

Under date of February 19, 1943, I addressed a memorandum to you in connection with this case pointing out the fact that in a radio address made by Smith at Detroit, Michigan, on October 24, 1942, the latter stated that he had violated the national thirty-five miles per hour speed regulation. In this regard I further mentioned the fact that Smith had commented that he had done this in order to dramatize to his friends and other people of America the unsoundness of "many of our bureaucratic rules." You will recall that I requested your advice as to whether Smith's admitted violation of the national speed regulation and his public comments in connection therewith may be considered as violative of any Federal statute within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau.

I shall appreciate the benefit of your opinion in this regard as soon as convenient.

Very truly yours,

RECORDED 62-43818-217

John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAR 26 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson
E.A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
McGuire
Mumford
Piper
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
MAR 24 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAR 24 1 33 PM '43

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This Case Originated at DETROIT, MICHIGAN			File No. 100-3636 ehs
Report Made at	Date Made	Period for Which Made	Report Made by
CHARLOTTE, N. C.	3-13-43	2-12,15,19-43	[redacted] b7c
Title			Character of Case
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION			INTERNAL SECURITY - G CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

SYNOPSIS: [redacted] advised that H. E. MARTIN died in 1937 or 1938 at Ninety Six, S. C. Search of materials seized by Sheriff's Office, Asheville, N. C., for state's case against WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY fails to disclose any correspondence between SMITH and PELLEY. Evidence impounded by Court in this case contains no such correspondence. Material not used in evidence in state's case and which had been in possession of R. R. WILLIAMS, prosecuting attorney for the state, has been destroyed. b7D

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated September 2, 1942, at Detroit, Michigan; teletype from Indianapolis dated February 1, 1943. b7c

DETAILS: AT ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

On February 12, 1943, [redacted] advised the reporting agent that H. E. MARTIN died in 1937 or 1938 at Ninety Six, South Carolina. The informant could recall no instance where GERALD L. K. SMITH corresponded with PELLEY using b7D

Approved and Forwarded: Edward Scheidt SAC

INDEXED & RECORDED

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5 - Bureau
3 - Detroit (1 USA)
2 - Indianapolis
1 - New York (Info.)
1 - Washington Field (Info.)
4 - Charlotte

16 MAR 15 1943

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83 OCT 13 1964

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/1/82 BY [illegible]

Silver Shirts of America letterheads. The informant could give no information concerning any correspondence between these two men.

On February 15, 1943, [redacted], of Buncombe County, Asheville, North Carolina, made available to the writer the material which had been seized by his Department from the PELLEY organization for the state's case against PELLEY. A search of this material failed to reveal any correspondence between SMITH and PELLEY. [redacted] advised that some of the material seized had been retained by Mr. R. R. WILLIAMS, the prosecuting attorney for the state. He further advised that Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation had gone through all the material and they had selected and photostated the material which they desired. He stated that the material which was not retained by the Sheriff's Office or Mr. WILLIAMS or impounded by the Court had been returned to the PELLEY organization. b7c

Mr. R. R. WILLIAMS, Jackson Building, Asheville, North Carolina, advised reporting Agent on February 19, 1943, that the material which he had retained for use as evidence in the PELLEY case in Asheville has been destroyed, with the exception of that evidence actually used in the case and impounded by the Superior Court of Buncombe County. Mr. WILLIAMS stated that he kept the material for sometime, but that after PELLEY was tried by the Federal Government he presumed that the material was no longer of any importance, and inasmuch as it was cluttering up his office he had it destroyed.

[redacted], Clerk of the Superior Court of Buncombe County, made available to the writer the evidence that had been impounded by the Court in the state's case against PELLEY. A search of this evidence has been made by the writer with negative results. b7c

The Charlotte Office previously reported in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated September 17, 1943, that a review of the files of the Charlotte Office in regard to WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY failed to disclose any information concerning correspondence between PELLEY and SMITH. b7c

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JPHa:WMJ
3-23-43
RECORDED 62-43818 — 218

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8BTJ

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROLE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your information, I wish to advise that a copy of a further report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Charlotte, North Carolina, on March 13, 1943, was transmitted to the Division of Records under date of March 23, 1943. b7c

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E.A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

cc - Assistant Attorney General
Wendell Berge

241

Mar. 12, 1943.

Mr. E.A.Tamm,
3353 Runnymede Place, N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Tamm:

The attached are copies that I have typed up of the originals.

After handling same in this manner, the thought comes to me that possibly you would prefer to photostat material such as this instead of copies being typed. If so, would be glad to have you advise.

Very truly yours,

FIVE

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- [ ] Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.
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FBI/DOJ

CONFIDENTIAL

100-4211-219

JPHa:WMJ

March 22, 1943

SAC, Detroit

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

[redacted] b1

I want to again call your attention to the importance of this investigation and to impress on you the absolute necessity of thoroughly and adequately following this subject's activities and public speeches. The status of this investigation has again become delinquent in your office and a further report will be expected within the next two weeks.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E.A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Enclosure

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

CLASS. BY SP-8BTJ

DATE OF REVIEW MADE 10/1/82

MAR 23 1943

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES

SEE (S) OF Class

DATE 12/2/82

CONFIDENTIAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN FILE NO. 62-1194

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW ORLEANS, LA.	3/16/43	1-28, 29, 30; 2-1, 3, 20-43.	[redacted] (VM) b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases, Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION.	INTERNAL SECURITY - G CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Investigation at Shreveport, La., reflects subject resigned as pastor of the Kings Highway Christian Church about Feb. 15, 1934, because of political activities and dereliction of duties. Washington, D. C., law firm conducted investigation at Shreveport on subject's activities prior to 1934. All persons interviewed could furnish only general information on subject and could not furnish anything specific in his connection with the Silver Shirt Legion. [redacted] b7c for SMITH during the 1940 presidential campaign, was unable to furnish any information of value concerning SMITH'S associates, contributors, supporters, and contacts.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/82 BY SP2 [illegible]

FEATURED RECORDING
- RUC -

REFERENCES: Report of Special Agent [redacted] New Orleans, La., dated August 28, 1942.
Report of [redacted], Washington, D. C., dated January 18, 1943. b7c

DETAILS: AT SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

[redacted] b7c b7D
[redacted], on January 28, 1943, stated his first contact with SMITH was in 1930 or 1931 when he, [redacted] of the Community Chest Fund. One of the members of his committee suggested that SMITH speak before a luncheon composed of the various clubs and groups in

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: R. C. Suerin SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES: 62-4[illegible]-220 19 MAR 19 1943

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2 - Indianapolis
2 - Washington Field
2 - New Orleans

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88 OCT 13 1964

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Shreveport. SMITH spoke before about five hundred people and gave a marvelous performance. [redacted] said he was so enthusiastic about SMITH'S ability he had him speak at a smaller group the following day, at which time SMITH gave the very same speech, gestures and all. [redacted] said he then realized SMITH was a fake and would have nothing more to do with the man. Later on, so said [redacted] he learned SMITH was allegedly connected with the Silver Shirt Legion for the purpose of prosecuting the Jews and, being Jewish, refused to speak to SMITH from that time on. SMITH came to [redacted] office one day to ascertain the reason for [redacted] attitude and when [redacted] told him what he thought of him and the Silver Shirts, SMITH said he had received an offer to organize a local chapter but that after a week of thought he refused the offer. [redacted] said he did not believe the man because he later confirmed to his satisfaction the fact of SMITH'S connection with the organization, although SMITH did not allow his name to be used and his activities were carried on secretly. [redacted] was not able, however, to furnish any specific or definite information concerning the fact of SMITH'S connection with this group.

After obtaining and losing his pastorate of the Kings Highway Christian Church and gaining a bad reputation because of his immoral deeds and practices, SMITH joined up with HUEY LONG'S "Share the Wealth" society as an organizer, so said [redacted] said he warned HUEY about SMITH, but HUEY said he realized the man was no good and could not be trusted but that he would serve a useful purpose. It was during SMITH'S affiliation with LONG that he sued the Hearst interests for libel but withdrew his suit after an investigation into his background, which proved to be somewhat detrimental. [redacted] said the results of this investigation could be obtained from the Shreveport law firm of TUCKER and BRONSON.

[redacted] attorney at law located in the Slattery Building, on January 28, 1943, said he first ran into SMITH when SMITH was called as a witness in a case in which a police officer was being prosecuted for using third-degree methods on a Negro. SMITH testified that the Negro was not harmed, when, as [redacted] stated, it was very evident that the Negro had been badly beaten. After this instance, SMITH attempted to build a name for himself in the community and associate with prominent people. But he then began mixing into politics, neglecting his pastorate, and [redacted] It was for these reasons, according to [redacted] that SMITH was releaved of his pastorate of the Christian Church, although these reasonswere not made public and are hearsay so far as [redacted] is concerned.

It was during this time that SMITH became secretly associated with the Silver Shirt movement, which movement made no headway in Shreveport.

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After this he was hired by HUEY LONG as an organizer for the "Share the Wealth" movement, which SMITH unsuccessfully tried to take over after LONG'S death. It was then that some manufacturers from Detroit, Michigan, hired SMITH to go to Detroit for the purpose of breaking up the labor unions.

[redacted] of the Detroit law firm of BUTZEL, EAMAN, LONG, GUST, and BILLS was a member of the committee instrumental in getting SMITH to Detroit. [redacted] said he saw [redacted] a short time ago and from what he gathered [redacted] has regreted his action in the matter ever since. [redacted] stated he could furnish nothing specific concerning SMITH'S activities but referred Agent to [redacted] for further particulars.

[redacted] on January 29, 1943, said he could give no specific information concerning SMITH'S activities while in Shreveport, and gave substantially the same general information furnished by Messrs. [redacted] did state, however, that SMITH was actively connected with the Ku Klux Klan and information concerning this phase of his life could be obtained from [redacted] attorney and advisor for [redacted], located in Indianapolis, Indiana. [redacted] stated further that he was not and is not a member of the Kings Highway Christian Church and does not know the reason for SMITH'S forced resignation. He referred the writer to [redacted] for specific information concerning SMITH while he was in Shreveport.

On January 29, 1943, [redacted] Commercial Bank Building, stated his office was retaining a file on GERALD L. K. SMITH for one [redacted], who was retained as attorney in the matter. [redacted] suggested that writer contact [redacted] for permission to see said file.

[redacted], was thereafter contacted and furnished Agent with a copy of the report submitted by one [redacted] As background for this report, which was an investigation of SMITH'S activities in Shreveport, [redacted] said SMITH at one time was pastor of the Kings Highway Christian Church and was respected and admired by the local citizenry until he began mixing into politics, siding with the Huey Long group, and began to become conspicuous because of his absences at Sunday services in his church. He was warned and then asked to resign because of his dereliction of duties. Through the efforts of one [redacted], a member of the board of deacons of said church, SMITH was given another chance and reinstated. However, soon after, he gave a speech in front of the courthouse, lauding LONG and then left for Washington, D. C., to confer with HUEY. It was

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during this time that as SMITH and LONG were leaving LONG'S hotel at Washington, D. C., with their arms around each other's shoulders a reporter for the Washington Times-Herald took a picture of them, which the editor of the paper ran with the caption: "Long and his bodyguard Gerald." About this time, or shortly thereafter, the board of deacons of the Kings Highway Christian Church demanded SMITH'S resignation. SMITH sued the Times-Herald for libel, claiming as damage the fact that he had lost his pastorate. [redacted] then went on to say that WILTON J. LAMBERT, Attorney at Law, Munsey Building, Washington, D.C., representing the Washington Times-Herald, sent [redacted] to Shreveport to investigate SMITH'S claim. [redacted] stated he was retained to take the depositions of persons interviewed by [redacted] The aim in taking these depositions was to prove the following facts: b7c b7D

(1) That SMITH prior to February 1, 1934, had actively taken part or participated in political campaigns;

(2) That SMITH was a political follower of HUEY P. LONG, both before and after February 1, 1934;

(3) That the publication in the Washington Times-Herald on February 1, 1934, of SMITH with LONG was not the cause of the resignation of SMITH of the pastorate of his church, but on the other hand he was compelled to resign because of his activities out of the church and because the members of the board of deacons of the church considered SMITH no longer desirable as pastor; and,

(4) That on a prior occasion SMITH'S resignation had been demanded by the board of deacons and this action was only rescinded because of the intervention of [redacted] b7c

In view of the fact that [redacted] requested the return of the report submitted by [redacted], consisting of forty-seven typewritten pages, the same has been photographed and the exposed film has been forwarded to the Technical Laboratory under separate cover with the request that the Detroit Field Division be furnished with two copies of the positive prints and the developed negatives.

On January 30, 1943, [redacted] was interviewed by Special Agent [redacted] and the writer. [redacted] said he knew SMITH very well and that back in the early 1930's SMITH came to him and asked what he knew about the organization headed by WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY. [redacted] said he knew nothing, [redacted] for the purpose of conferring with PELLEY. [redacted] states that both became members at that time and he saw SMITH'S membership card on the way back to Shreveport. [redacted] b7c b7D

[redacted]

stated his only reason for joining the organization was to find out whether or not it was subversive in character, and when he found out what he wanted to know he quit. [redacted] did not reveal, however, what he did find.

As [redacted] report reflects that SMITH had signed a contract with the Silver Shirt Legion, [redacted] was questioned as to the existence of said contract but he said he had no knowledge of the same. In connection with the Silver Shirt movement in Shreveport, [redacted] said there were very few members and the organization soon died out. He also stated he did not solicit members for the organization. In conclusion, [redacted] informed Agents he has had no personal contact with SMITH for a good number of years, but has written three or four times during the past years but has received no reply.

[redacted] was interviewed on January 30, 1943. [redacted] stated SMITH is an intelligent man, smart as a whip, but no good because of his unreliability and his untruthfulness. In [redacted] opinion, SMITH was a good man to have on your side if handled properly and SMITH fitted in well with the HUEY LONG regime because of his oratorical ability. While minister of the Kings Highway Christian Church, SMITH indirectly conveyed to his parishioners the fact that he favored HUEY LONG. The people of Caddo Parish were almost one hundred per cent anti-LONG at that time and told him to go easy. About a week after this, a notice appeared in the local paper that SMITH would make some surprising statements in the courthouse. [redacted] stated the place was jammed and SMITH gave a speech eulogizing LONG which was received with such success and ovation he immediately borrowed money and went to Washington, D. C., to associate himself with LONG. This was when the picture was taken and he sued the Washington Times-Herald. [redacted] stated he was a LONG man and believed in HUEY and therefore knew about SMITH and his money spending. SMITH always demanded money for the payment of his bills and the demands were made at such times that it was impossible to refuse his request without causing the LONG party some embarrassment through adverse publicity.

[redacted] further stated he does not believe SMITH was immoral in his conduct or that his son was illegitimate, but that the people of Louisiana, especially those in Shreveport, would do most anything to destroy a faction or member of the LONG regime. [redacted] stated also that he does not believe SMITH is engaged in anything subversive, nor that he had any connection with the Silver Shirt organization in Shreveport. However, [redacted] stated SMITH bears watching as he loves power and money and publicity. [redacted] was of the opinion that if the United States

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began to lose the war and it started to look like the beginning of the end SMITH would do his utmost to get on a foreign-inspired band wagon to further his own interests.

[redacted], on February 1, 1943, stated SMITH is a man obsessed with the idea that his power of speech and oratory can move heaven and earth, that he is a hero-worshipper and will hitch is wagon to the brightest star and ride until the star fades. When SMITH was pastor of the Kings Highway Christian Church, he began to mingle into politics, siding with HUEY LONG, who was pretty much despised in Shreveport. SMITH recognized the fact that LONG was an up-and-coming figure in the political world and could not contain his thoughts and views from his parishioners, who resented the fact they had a pastor who dabbled in politics. Along with this, SMITH was an organizer. He loved to organize people into factions, especially when there was money involved. He told [redacted] at one time that he had met with the leaders of the Khaki and Silver Shirts and was working for them. For all of these and other insignificant but aggravating reasons, the board of elders of the Kings Highway Christian Church, [redacted] fired and demanded SMITH'S resignation. [redacted] said he was out of town at the time the elders met, so SMITH sought his aid in attempting to regain his pastorate. [redacted] advised SMITH to request a meeting of the board, at which time SMITH could refute any reason the elders had for firing him. [redacted] and when the board refused to bring forth any specific charges, SMITH stepped to the front giving a very eloquent and soul-stirring plea, wrapping the elders around his finger, and thereby gained his job back.

[redacted] stated that he later ascertained that the reasons for this first firing of SMITH were because SMITH was mixing into politics, went on mysterious trips which kept him away from the church for long periods of time, and because of stories that got back to Shreveport of his immoral conduct on these trips, which conduct was unbefitting a minister.

After this, SMITH came out in the open in his support of HUEY LONG, continued to absent himself from the church and became very derelict as far as ministerial duties were concerned. In addition to this, he began to incur large debts with various merchants and persons in town, and was fired again on or about February 15, 1934, this time with a lasting effect. This last termination of employment was not the result of the publicity SMITH obtained through the Washington Times-Herald, [redacted] said.

With reference to the letter from [redacted] of the Silver Shirts, which letter is mentioned in [redacted] report, [redacted] said he received subh a letter when [redacted]

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in which [redacted] solicited his membership, stating that GERALD SMITH and his wife, together with other prominent citizens were members. [redacted] has attempted to find this letter amongst his files on numerous occasions, but has been unsuccessful to date. He stated he would continute to search for the letter and if the same was located, it would be immediately brought to the attention of the New Orleans Field Division.

[redacted] of Centenary College, on February 3, 1943, said he was well acquainted with SMITH when he was in Shreveport and believed SMITH could be a public enemy. [redacted] stated SMITH is a man absolutely devoid of character with speaking ability. He has no conscience and his only love is himself. [redacted] in general, related episodes that reflected against SMITH'S character and reputation in Shreveport, which have been reported heretofore, but could give no specific information that would show SMITH had subversive tendencies at that time. When he was in Shreveport, SMITH'S only tendency was toward politics and then would sell his side short if he thought the other side could do him any good. [redacted] had an idea SMITH was connected with PELLEY'S Silver Shirts, as he received the literature of that organization and understood SMITH was the sender. In [redacted] estimation, SMITH bears close watching as he will do anything that will gain him power and money.

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The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted], at New Orleans, Louisiana:

[redacted]

b7c

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted], at Algiers, Louisiana:

b7c

On February 20, 1943, Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] interviewed [redacted] at his residence at [redacted] stated that he is presently employed as a water inspector for the city of New Orleans, Louisiana. He said that he first met the subject, GERALD L. K. SMITH, some time during the year 1936 when the subject and JIMMIE NOE, former governor of Louisiana, were touring the state of Louisiana in a campaign against a sales tax proposed by the then Governor of Louisiana, DICK LECHE. [redacted]

b7c
b7D

the details of which are set out in the report of Special Agent [redacted] at New Orleans, Louisiana, dated August 28, 1942 [redacted]

[redacted] stated SMITH left the state of Louisiana shortly after this, and to his knowledge did not return until the latter part of December, 1939, or the first part of January, 1940, when he made a three-weeks' campaign in behalf of EARL LONG, brother of HUEY P. LONG, who was running for governor of Louisiana. [redacted] He said that SMITH left Louisiana when this campaign was over and later wrote him, [redacted] He said that he accepted and went to Detroit about April, 1940, and worked for SMITH [redacted]

[redacted] said that SMITH has never confided in him and told him anything about his personal affairs, beliefs, contacts, financial supporters, or associates. He said that most of SMITH'S meetings with his supporters and contacts were held in his hotel room and that he, [redacted] was never present at any of these meetings. He said he did not recall the addresses of any individuals with whom SMITH associated or the names of any of the individuals who arranged SMITH'S speeches in the various towns they visited. He said that SMITH'S secretary, BERNIE DOMAN, handled all of SMITH'S business and arranged all of his speaking engagements. He further informed that he does not know the source of the subject's financial support, and recalls that SMITH was always complaining about being "broke." He said that HUBERT LUCKER (phonetic) of Detroit, Michigan, went with SMITH on his campaign tours during the presidential campaign of 1940, and that [redacted] was employed by SMITH as a chauffer and bodyguard. He could not furnish any other information concerning these individuals. He also said that SMITH had five or six girls employed in his office, but advised he does not know any of their names.

[redacted]. He further stated he thinks SMITH'S father is a retired Baptist minister. He was unable to give the names of these relatives.

ALL
b7C b7D

[redacted] said that to his knowledge the subject has never contacted WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY, and he further informed that he has never heard SMITH mention anything concerning the Silver Shirts movement. He stated he paid very little attention to SMITH'S speeches but does remember that SMITH frequently accused the present administration of being "warmongers" and made the statement that this country has had "too much Roosevelt."

b7C
b7D

[redacted] was questioned closely but did not furnish any additional information. He said that he left SMITH'S employ in September of 1941, because he was tired of the North and wished to return home. He said he had a friend of his in New Orleans send him a telegram advising that his mother was ill so that he would have an excuse to leave SMITH. He said that SMITH paid his expenses home and that he has not heard from SMITH since that time.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

DETROIT FIELD DIVISION:

AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN:

Will interview [redacted] of the law firm of Butzel, Eaman, Long, Gust, and Bills, a member of the committee instrumental in getting SMITH to Detroit, for any information in his possession concerning subject and his activities.

INDIANAPOLIS FIELD DIVISION:

AT INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA:

Will locate and interview [redacted] attorney and advisor for [redacted] for any information in his possession concerning subject and his activities.

WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.:

Will contact WILTON J. LAMBERT, Attorney, or other members of the firm of Yeatman, Horton, and Lambert, Munsey Building, and obtain information in this firm's file concerning the background and activities of SMITH.

Will contact [redacted] at the New Colonial Hotel, 15th and M Streets, N.W. , to ascertain from him what he knows concerning the activities and background of the subject. [redacted] during the day can be located by contacting Congressman JIMMY MORRISON, representative from Louisiana.

ALL DTL

JPHa:WMJ
3-27-43
62-43818

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROSE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

50435

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your information, I wish to advise that a copy of a report submitted in connection with the above-entitled matter by Special Agent [redacted] at New Orleans, Louisiana, on March 16, 1943, was transmitted to the Division of Records under date of March 27, 1943.

b7c

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E.A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mease
Mr. Candy

cc - Assistant Attorney General
Wendell Berge

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY [illegible]

MAR 29 6 03 PM

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b1 with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☒ For your information: THERE IS NO SERIAL 222

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-221

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

Department of Justice

Office of the Assistant to the Attorney General

Washington

March 29, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Lester
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Wintermrode
Mr. Tamm

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith
The Committee of One Million
Internal Security

In your memorandum of February 19 and again in your memorandum of March 24 you requested advice as to whether Smith's admitted violation of the so-called national speed regulation and his public comments in connection therewith could be considered as violative of any Federal statute within the investigative jurisdiction of the FBI.

I have asked Mr. Berge to give you an opinion on this subject and I believe you may expect to hear from him in the very near future.

C. E. Rhetts
Special Assistant to the
Attorney General

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8BT/INC

222 SMC 13-24 83

62 4/35/[illegible]-223

RECORDED

FIVE - JP Hoover

Mar. 21, 1943.

Mr. E.A.Tamm,
3353 Runnymede Place, N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

The attached are copies of the original mimeographed articles put out by GLK Smith. sent them in with request that the originals be returned.

As per your letter of Mar. 16th, have arranged with to secure all information possible regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,

62-43815-224

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 1 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

b1

This is an invitation to hear

DEBATE

GERALD L. K. SMITH vs. PROF. PRESTON SLOSSON

(AMERICA FIRST PARTY ORGANIZER)

(OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN)

Professor Slosson advocates a World Government after the war.

Mr. Smith believes that nothing should be done to compromise our national sovereignty.

Bring this invitation with you to the right of the debate.

Monday, March 22

8:00 P. M.

CASS TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. Smith advocates vigorously an World Government that would be given an authority above the government of the United States.

THIS WILL BE A VERY SENSATIONAL DEBATE.

The admission is free but by ticket only.

Present this invitation at the door and you will be given as many tickets as you need in order to admit yourself and any friends you might bring with you.

COME AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE FOR CHOICE SEATS.

(COPY)

DEBATE

Gerald L.K.Smith
vs
Prof. Preston Slosson

Cass Tech
High School
Auditorium.

MONDAY - MARCH - 22 - 8:00 P.M.

Dear patriotic friend:

On this coming Monday night, March 22, I am debating with Professor Preston Slosson of the University of Michigan. The subject of the debate is:

RESOLVED: THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD JOIN AN INTERNATIONAL UNION WHICH WOULD HAVE AS ONE OF ITS OBJECTS THE ENFORCEMENT OF WORLD PEACE.

As you, of course, might know, I shall take the negative side of the debate. I am opposed to world government. I do not believe there should be any government above that of the United States. I do not believe there should be any flag above the Stars and Stripes.

Professor Slosson favors a world government. In fact, he is one of the most active advocates of world government.

We of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY feel very strongly against all forms of internationalism or any form of a world parliament which might make it possible for foreign citizens to make rules for us to obey.

Vice President Wallace and men of a similar type are advocating a World Government. They are making rapid headway and unless we old-fashioned AMERICA FIRST Americans get busy, this World Government crowd is likely to put something over on us. I am participating in this debate in order to help my friends realize just how serious this proposition is and just how brazen are the advocates of World Government.

I am enclosing herewith some invitations. These invitations are not tickets but when presented at the Cass Technical High School on the night of the debate, March 22, they will entitle the bearer to as many tickets as he needs for himself and his friends that he might bring with him.

I WILL BE ON A TOUGH SPOT. MY BITTEREST AND MOST VIOLENT ENEMIES WILL BE PRESENT PREPARED TO BOO AND HISS ME. I COUNT ON YOU TO COME AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS IN ORDER THAT OUR CAUSE MIGHT HAVE THE MOST VIGOROUS AND ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT POSSIBLE.

Please stick with me. If ever you were my friend I beg of you to stand with me this time because I am meeting one of the strongest advocates of world government in the United States. If you fail me

on next Monday night. It will be difficult [illegible] without your help. Use the [illegible] or as many [illegible] as possible and let's fill up [illegible] with hundreds of old-fashioned [illegible].

Remember the place: Dana Technical High School.
Date: Monday, March 22.
Hour: 8:00 p.m. (come earlier if possible).

Sincerely,

GERALD L. K. SMITH

GLKS/U

P.S. Read the enclosed memo **very** carefully.

(COPY)

SENSATIONAL BOOK

NOW AVAILABLE.

Dear Friend:

Read every line of this page. It may be the most important thing you ever read.

The most sensational book I have ever seen has just come to my hands. It discusses the Communist conspiracy in detail. It contains 423 pages. It is bound in cloth.

BOOK STORES WON'T SELL IT

This book is so sensational in what it exposes that many book stores have been forbidden by their controlled managers to handle it.

2,000 SUBJECTS DISCUSSED

In its 423 pages 2000 subjects are discussed. The book contains 22 dynamic chapters.

The name of the book is "The Red Decade", written by Eugene Lyons, who returned a short time ago from Russia. I want everyone of my friends to have this book. Following are the chapter titles in this book:

1. THE FIVE AXES OF THE COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL 2. A PARTY IS BORN 3. DOUBT FROM WITHIN 4. THE MOSCOW SOLAR SYSTEM 5. THE AMERICAN PARTY IS FORGED 6. A BLIZZARD TAKES COMMAND 7. THE RED DECADE DAWNS 8. FASCISM HAS THE RIGHT OF WAY 9. THE CULT OF RUSSIA-WORSHIP 10. THE LIBERALS INVENT A UTOPIA 11. APOLOGISTS DO THEIR STUFF 12. THE RED CULTURAL RENAISSANCE 13. FIVE PLANETS ARE MARCHED 14. MOSCOW ADOPTS THE TROJAN HORSE 15. COMMUNIST PROGRESS AMERICANIZED 16. THE INCREDIBLE REVOLUTION SPREADS 17. AMERICAN LEAGUE FOR SOVIET WAR MONGERING 18. STALIN'S CHILDREN'S HOUR IN THE U.S.A. 19. STALIN MUSCLES IN ON AMERICAN LABOR 20. RUSSIAN PRINCES AND AMERICAN LIBERALS 21. HOSANNAS FOR STALIN 22. "FRIENDS OF THE G.P.U." 23. COCK TAILS FOR SPANISH DEMOCRACY 24. REVOLUTION COMES TO HOLLYWOOD AND BROADWAY 25. AMERICA'S OWN FOREIGN FROM GOVERNMENT 26. THE TRANSATLANTIC FRONT 27. INTELLECTUAL RED TERROR 28. THE LAST LOCKY SHELL 29. THE MELANCHOLY RETREAT OF THE LIBERALS 30. MEN FROM THE WORLD 31. AND THEY CALLED IT "PEACE" 32. THE MENACE TODAY.

Send no money. Just fill out the attached coupon.

- -

Gerald L. K. Smith
Committee of 1,000,000
Box 459, Detroit, Mich.

Yes, I want a copy of the big 423-page book exposing the alien conspiracy entitled "The Red Decade" by Eugene Lyons.

Send me this book and I will pay $3.00 plus mailing cost to the mailman when he delivers it.

DATE

ADDRESS

CITY

[illegible]

JPHa/AKR

62-43818-225

April 2, 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8 RTJ/mh

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

I am writing you again with reference to this case in order to reiterate my great interest in the investigation of this subject.

In my letter of February 8, 1943, I outlined the contents of two rather lengthy memoranda received from the Department concerning this subject, particularly as to the desire of the Department that the investigation of this case be continued under the theory of the Sedition Statutes and the Federal Corrupt Practices Act. My letter designated certain specific items of information desired and also outlined the general pattern which this investigation should follow.

Recently other officials high in the Government have expressed interest in the activities of Smith and I think it should be quite clear to you that the Bureau must be in the position of being appropriately advised as to all phases of his activities. I want to take this occasion to again impress upon you the absolute necessity of your personally supervising this matter and seeing that this investigation is afforded most thorough and vigorous attention.

DE-INDEXED DATE: 4

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E.A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

You should continue to arrange with other offices to appropriately cover his out of town appearances, as I stated in my letter of February 8, and the investigation at Detroit should primarily follow the form of substantiating pertinent information received from [redacted] by evidence or information from other sources which is of such a nature as could be introduced in testimonial form if prosecution is undertaken against subject at some future date. The services of [redacted] may not be so helpful in so far as the Federal Corrupt Practices phase of the case is concerned but as the Department has repeatedly expressed great interest in Smith's activities as a candidate for public office, this phase of the investigation should not be overlooked.

In accordance with my instructions set forth in Bureau letter dated March 22, 1943, a further report in this case will be expected at the Bureau sometime during the forthcoming week.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

RECEIVED
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
APR 12 1943

DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigati
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

JPHa:lem

March 29, 1

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/82 BY se-[illegible]

Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Gavin
Mr. Todd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
SEDITION

In recent months the Department has evidenced considerable interest in this case. As you will recall, under date of March 25, 1943, the President addressed a memorandum to you requesting advice as to what action was being taken in connection with the activities of Smith. The President's memorandum was accompanied by a copy of the March, 1943, issue of the New York publication "The Hour," which is devoted principally to a discussion of Smith. A detailed memorandum setting forth information as to Smith's background and the Bureau's investigation of his activities, as well as a cover letter advising of the Department's evaluation of the information developed, has been prepared for transmittal to the White House.

As you will recall, Smith is a former minister and at one time achieved a good bit of publicity as a spokesman for the late Huey Long and as a part of the Long political machine. Following Long's demise and an unsuccessful attempt to identify himself with the remnants of the Long machine, Smith went to New York and later to Detroit, where he formed an organization known as "The Committee of One Million."

At its inception the announced purpose of "The Committee of One Million" was that of combatting forces advocating communism. Later, with the coming of the European war, Smith shifted his policy to that of advocating strict isolationism and directing criticism against the Administration's policy of assisting the Allied governments. With the involvement of the United States in the war, Smith again altered his policy and became concerned principally with criticizing the Administration's alleged endeavors to "enslave the people" as a result of the exigencies occasioned by war. Within the past year he has characterized the Government as approaching a dictatorship and has been particularly denunciative of what he is pleased to call the Administration's efforts to form a super world state dominated by Great Britain, in which the United States is a mere entity.

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-42771-22

Although Smith boasts that he has a following of three million persons, it appears that "The Committee of One Million" is really not an organization as such but is merely a medium through which Smith as an individual operates. He publishes a magazine called "The Cross and the Flag" and frequently makes public addresses, some of which are broadcast over radio stations. He has quite a large mailing list and it is known that he receives a considerable amount of contributions from members of the public. It appears

APR 6

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

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83 OCT 13 1964

I think we should bear down & get the Smith case concluded on file. The War may be over. N.

that he claims all of the individuals who are on his mailing list are a part of "The Committee of One Million." In any event, his claim of a following of three million is grossly exaggerated.

Last summer Smith sought the Republican nomination for U. S. Senator from the State of Michigan and although he was unsuccessful he did receive approximately 120,000 votes. Even after this defeat, he insisted on continuing his campaign in the general election in November as a write-in candidate. In the November election, he was badly defeated, receiving less support than he did in the primary campaign.

Smith's most recent endeavors have been in connection with an attempt to form a third political party on a national scale. This party is called the America First Party and Smith has indicated he believes its principal support can be drawn from persons who were formerly members of the now defunct America First Committee. Since the first of the year Smith has traveled rather extensively throughout the middle west and has made a number of speeches advocating the America First Party. The policy of such a party as conceived by Smith would be very similar to the general purposes and policy of "The Committee of One Million."

As indicated previously, it is known that Smith receives considerable financial contributions from members of the public. Even so, the scale of his operations during the past year was sufficiently extensive to indicate that he is receiving sizeable financial contributions, the regularity of which suggests that they may not come from members of the public. In this connection information has been received that Smith is being financed by officials of the Ford Motor Company. However, it should be observed that this information has been received from informants and it is not based on documentary evidence and at present it is not in such form as to be susceptible to proof.

Beginning early in 1942, the Bureau has from time to time sent considerable information to the Department relative to Smith's activities. Initially this information was referred to the Special War Policies Unit. However, on February 20, 1942, the Criminal Division indicated an interest in being furnished with the results of the investigation and up until recently the information developed has been referred to the Criminal Division.

From time to time the Criminal Division acknowledged the information received from the Bureau and occasionally advanced suggestions as to certain specific information desired. These communications on the part of the Criminal Division did indicate a definite interest in the investigation of Smith but at no time did the Criminal Division indicate that it was considering prosecuting Smith. In December, 1942, a memorandum was received from Mr. James Rowe, Jr., with comments to the effect that the Attorney General was interested in the Smith case. This memorandum requested that the Bureau continue its investigation and, as in the case of the memoranda previously received from the Criminal Division, advanced certain specific suggestions as to information desired. In answer to this memorandum, the Bureau on December 28, 1942, addressed a communication to Mr. Rowe requesting his advice as to whether prosecution was anticipated against

Smith and if so the theory or statutes under which such prosecution was anticipated.

On January 3, 1943, Mr. Rowe in reply to the Bureau's memorandum stated that although Smith's speeches and publications approach very closely to the point of sedition they do not actually amount to a violation of the Sedition Statutes. In this regard Mr. Rowe commented that Smith seems to have been quite well advised as to "the extent to which he could safely go in this direction." Mr. Rowe, however, expressed the opinion that due to Smith's wide-scale activities the investigation should be continued along the lines of an inquiry under the Sedition Statutes. He further requested that a particular endeavor be made to determine whether Smith has at any time maintained any connection or association with Axis representatives or adherents.

Shortly prior to the receipt of the memorandum from Mr. Rowe, the Special War Policies Unit requested that an investigation be undertaken for the purpose of determining whether Smith properly complied with the provisions of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act in connection with his primary and write-in campaigns in Michigan. In this regard, the Special War Policies Unit pointed out that information developed by the Bureau suggests that Smith's campaign fund report as required by the Michigan General Election Laws may have been falsified. Relative to Smith's write-in campaign, the Special War Policies Unit pointed out that if Smith was actually a candidate within the meaning of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act he was required by that Act to file an additional report with the Secretary of the Senate in connection with his candidacy in November, 1942. The Special War Policies Unit stated that a number of rather indefinite questions of law are involved in an attempt to make a case against Smith under the Federal Corrupt Practices Act but requested that complete information as to the circumstances surrounding his candidacy and the reports filed by him be developed. Mr. Rowe has also indicated an interest in having this phase of the investigation carried through.

Another interesting phase of this case lies in the fact that Smith is reported to have stated he has in his files detailed information which involves the President in the assassination of Huey Long. Information as to this claim by Smith was developed during the course of the investigation of the case entitled [redacted] Smith had told him he has proof that the President was involved in the assassination of Long and he, Smith, would divulge this information publicly if he were ever proceeded against criminally by the Federal Government. Winrod, you will recall, is currently under indictment in the District of Columbia for sedition and it is known that Smith and Winrod have long been close friends. This particular information has previously been referred to the White House and to the Department.

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b7D

The Attorney General has several times indicated an interest in this case and you will recall that on October 28, 1942, he forwarded to you a lengthy statement concerning Smith prepared by one [redacted] of Detroit. [redacted] at one time had close connections with the Ford Motor Company and for several years served [redacted] This statement was prepared by [redacted] for publication in the New York newspaper "PM" and dealt in detail with the various activities of Smith, particularly in connection with his associations with officials of the Ford Motor Company. [redacted] had previously been interviewed by the Bureau on a number of occasions and always refused to divulge information concerning his knowledge of Smith. However, he apparently intended to sell this statement to "PM." For some reason "PM" did not publish it but referred it to the Attorney General.

b7c
b7D

[redacted] Prior to the receipt of this statement from the Attorney General, during the early part of October, 1942, appeared at the Detroit office and in an interview, in contrast with previous contacts with him, furnished all of the information set forth on the statement made available by the Attorney General. He was closely questioned as to the allegations made by him but he was unable to furnish any documentary evidence or other information acceptable as evidence tending to show a direct tieup between Smith and the Ford Motor Company. Although [redacted] had an unsavory reputation, it might have been possible to utilize him as a witness in any action taken against Smith. [redacted] This phase of the case in so far as [redacted] is concerned is mentioned in view of the fact that the Attorney General was personally interested in the statement referred to "PM" by [redacted]

In view of the potential ramifications of this case, it is being given careful investigative attention and the closest supervision. A technical surveillance has been in progress since May, 1942, and considerable information has been developed through this means. At the present time this technical surveillance is being followed and all Smith's publications and speeches are being carefully covered. All of the information developed is being promptly referred to Mr. Rowe of the Department and the case will continue to receive the closest attention. It is of interest to note that eight reports have been referred to the Department since the receipt of Mr. Rowe's memorandum on January 8, 1943.

Attached to this memorandum is a summary memorandum setting forth detailed information as to Smith's background and previous activities.

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

Attachment

March 29, 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SP.8BTJ/ML

GERALD L. K. SMITH

Personal History and Background

(1)

Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, better known as Gerald L. K. Smith, was born during February, 1898, at Pardeeville, Wisconsin. He attended Butler Seminary at Indianapolis, Indiana, and later was graduated from Valparaiso University (Indiana) where he pursued a course in theology. Smith's antecedents and early life were in no way unusual and are of no particular interest.

After leaving college, Smith took up active duty as a minister and successively held pastorates at Footville, Wisconsin, at the Seventh Street Christian Church of Indianapolis and at the King's Highway Church of Shreveport, Louisiana.

Prior to assuming his ministerial duties at Shreveport, Smith's activities were rather conservative and of a type characteristically befitting one in the ministerial profession. However, while in Louisiana, he became interested in the late Huey Long's "Share the Wealth" movement and eventually extended this interest to the point of actively and openly participating in politics as an adherent of Long. Attendant publicity evoked the displeasure of the Elders of his church, eventually resulting in Smith's dismissal during 1934. Following Long's death, Smith attempted to identify himself with the remnants of the Long machine but being unsuccessful in this left Louisiana in 1937 and came to New York where he attempted to organize an association called "The Committee of One Million." This effort was unfruitful. During the following year he moved to Detroit where he has since been located.

At Detroit, Smith reorganized "The Committee of One Million" as an organization "founded for the purpose of combatting the menace of Communism." During 1939, Smith shifted his policy, advocating the isolationist viewpoint, and since the involvement of the United States in war he has busied himself principally in directing criticism to the Administration's war effort and what he is pleased to characterize as the Administration's efforts to enslave the United States as an entity in an International State dominated by Great Britain.

More detailed comments are set forth subsequently as to Smith's connection with Huey Long and his activities as the organizer of "The Committee of One Million," but it is of significance to observe that it appears that the turning point of Smith's life dates from his association with Huey Long. Prior to that time he was the usual type of minister concerned with problems incidental to his calling. However, it seems that his participation in the "Share the Wealth" movement fired his ambition to the extent of self visualization of himself as a dominant political figure. Being unsuccessful in associating himself with Long's

successors, he has apparently continued his dream of political prominence through his efforts in connection with his so-called "Committee of One Million." The fact that he still evaluates himself as an individual of at least potential political significance, is attested to by the fact that he has often described himself in confidential conversations as being likely "Presidential timber." In an effort to further augment his political background and potentialities, Smith sought nomination as Republican candidate for United States Senator from the State of Michigan during the summer of 1942. This campaign was unsuccessful.

Smith's personal life appears to be normal. He is married, lives with his wife, and has one son, about twenty years of age. His wife is said to be a distant relative of a Mr. Sorensen, described as an official of the Ford Motor Company. From time to time stories have been circulated attributing improprieties to Smith in connection with his associations with women other than his wife. However, nothing factual is known to substantiate these stories.

Activities Prior to 1938

While serving as pastor at the King's Highway Church, Shreveport, Louisiana, Smith became interested in Huey Long's "Share the Wealth" plan. He eventually met Long and shortly thereafter there developed, according to Smith's description, "a close and fast friendship" between the two. It is definitely known that shortly thereafter, and lasting for a period of several years, Smith assumed the position of one of Long's chief lieutenants. Although Smith is prone to describe this relationship as a personal one, several persons who were close to Long at the time state that Long had little personal regard for Smith and apparently evaluated him as being untrustworthy and dishonest. These persons state that Long was merely utilizing Smith's services, and in this connection it is known that Long, as well as others associated with him, regarded Smith as a very dynamic and powerful public speaker. It appears that Smith was widely used by the Long organization in the role of a public speaker for the "Share the Wealth" movement. It is said that Smith, at one time, received as much as $250 per week from the Long organization as reimbursement for expenses and as salary.

Information has been received that while associated with the Long movement, Smith joined William Dudley Pelley's Silver Shirt organization. Nothing in the way of documentary evidence is available to prove this membership, but in recent years Smith has, on several occasions, admitted membership in the Pelley movement. He states, however, that he joined Pelley's organization merely for the purpose of securing information in connection with his work in behalf of Huey Long.

Although during Huey Long's lifetime Smith was an outstanding personage in the Long machine, he rapidly lost his position after the death of Long. It appears that his services were continued for a short period of time by Long's

successors, but that he eventually was displaced due, allegedly, to his untoward efforts to attain personal power. By 1937, any influence which he previously had was completely dissipated and it was during that year that he left Louisiana for New York.

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1. To rebuild the spirit of America.

2. To wipe out the last vestiges of Communism, Nazism and Fascism in all forms.

3. The redefinition of the American National character.

4. The installation of a new spirit in American youth, dedicated to the maintenance of American institutions.

5. To issue a call to farmers and laborers to resist what is now known as an international plot to involve them in a world revolution.

6. To rededicate the citizenry of America to the family altar and to the spirit of the church.

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However, he has advanced contentions that the present Administration is using the war as an excuse for depriving the public of its just liberties. He has also freely voiced criticism against what he has been disposed to characterize as the Administration's efforts to reduce the United States to a mere entity in a great international state dominated by Great Britain.

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Late in 1942, Smith publicly announced the intention of forming a third political party on a national scale. The proposed platform for this Party, as announced, was similar to that advanced by Smith in connection with his work as leader of "The Committee of One Million" and it is understood that Smith hopes to gain support from members of the now defunct "America First Committee." In recent months, Smith has toured the Middle West and has made a number of speeches in various cities, outlining his plan for a third political party. Recently, he has indicated that it may not be necessary to form this party if the Republican and Democratic Parties "present a real issue" for the 1944 Presidential Election.

At various times within recent years it has been reported that certain officials at the Ford Motor Company are interested in Smith and have collaborated with him to the extent of furnishing him information used in some of his speeches and his publication "The Cross and the Flag."

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It is of interest to note that Smith's publication "The Cross and the Flag" was named, along with a number of other publications, in indictments returned in the District of Columbia on July 21, 1942, and January 4, 1943, charging twenty-eight and thirty-four defendants respectively with having engaged in a conspiracy to violate the Sedition Statutes. These indictments have pertinence to the case popularly referred to as United States vs. Gerald B. Winrod, et al. Although Smith's publication was mentioned in the indictment, as being one of a number of publications throughout the country which has contributed to undermining the loyalty and morale of the Armed Forces, neither Smith nor the publication were named as defendants.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 6 OF 18

FILE NUMBER : 62-43818

FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 13

PAGES REVIEWED: 99

PAGES RELEASED: 99

NOTES: _____

19488

[redacted]:LW
62-43818

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP2 STEP/MG

Date: April 5, 1943

To: SAC, Detroit

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
"Committee of One Million"
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

Reference is made to the Bureau letters of January 18 and February 18, 1943, wherein you were requested to contact appropriate officials of the Ford Motor Company, for the purpose of securing information as to the details surrounding [redacted] trip to Indianapolis, where he was, at [redacted] apparently conducting some type of investigation in behalf of the Ford Motor Company. You were further requested to make a general inquiry of [redacted] and among his friends and associates in order to determine whether [redacted] You have previously been informed that the Department has specifically requested that a complete inquiry be made as to the circumstances surrounding [redacted]

Although your letter of January 18, 1943, set forth certain limited information having pertinence to this inquiry, it did not cover all of the information desired by the Bureau and the Department in this matter. Please see to it that this phase of the investigation is completed as soon as possible and that the Bureau is informed of the results by letter.

With further reference to the Bureau's letter of February 8, 1943, wherein, in part, you were requested to institute an investigation of subject's activities as a candidate for public office under the Federal Corrupt Practices Act, pertinent portions of a subsequent memorandum received from the Department concerning this phase of the investigation, are quoted for your information as follows:

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E.A.
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coff
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

62-43818-226

62-43818-226

"This refers to my previous memorandum [redacted] requesting an investigation to ascertain whether or not Smith was a candidate at the Michigan general election for senator in 1942, required to file a statement of campaign contributions and expenditures under the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925. Since the dispatch of that memorandum, Smith has filed an account in the Office of the Secretary of the Senate, Washington, D. C. This account was not notarized or dated, and the date of receipt is not a matter of public record. It shows contributions of $8545.31 and expenses of $5895.02.

APR 6 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

APR 5 6 22 PM
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"The omissions in the statement, taken with Smith's denial that he was a candidate in a letter filed therewith, suggest that he does not admit his candidacy; notwithstanding this quotation from The Cross and The Flag for December, 1942, page 8: "I sought the Senate as an independent sticker candidate". It is therefore requested that you continue the investigation** **********to establish the exact facts of Smith's campaign with a view to proving his candidacy. It is also suggested that you determine his actual contributions and expenditures for comparison with those set out in his field statement. It will also be appreciated if you will procure and forward the statement of contributions in the primary election requested in the first paragraph of the memorandum referred to above."

It is believed that the information set forth in the above memorandum, will be of assistance to you in your further investigation of this case.

[redacted]

3-29-43

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PERSONAL HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, better known as Gerald L. K. Smith, was born during February, 1898, at Pardeeville, Wisconsin. He attended Butler Seminary at Indianapolis, Indiana, and later was graduated from Valparaiso University (Indiana) where he pursued a course in theology. Smith's antecedents and early life were in no way unusual and are of no particular interest.

After leaving college, Smith took up active duty as a minister and successively held pastorates at Footville, Wisconsin, at the Seventh Street Christian Church of Indianapolis and at the King's Highway Church of Shreveport, Louisiana.

Prior to assuming his ministerial duties at Shreveport, Smith's activities were rather conservative and of a type characteristically befitting one in the ministerial profession. However, while in Louisiana, he became interested in the late Huey Long's "Share the Wealth" movement and eventually extended this interest to the point of actively and openly participating in politics as an adherent of Long. Attendant publicity evoked the displeasure of the Elders of his church, eventually resulting in Smith's dismissal during 1934. Following Long's death, Smith attempted to identify himself with the remnants of the Long machine but being unsuccessful in this left Louisiana in 1937 and came to New York where he attempted to organize an association called "The Committee of One Million." This effort was unfruitful. During the following year he moved to Detroit where he has since been located.

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-41311-2

At Detroit, Smith reorganized "The Committee of One Million" as an organization "founded for the purpose of combatting the menace of Communism." During 1939, Smith shifted his policy, advocating the isolationist viewpoint, and since the involvement of the United States in war he has busied himself principally in directing criticism to the Government's war effort and what he is pleased to characterize as the Government's efforts to enslave the United States as an entity in an International State dominated by Great Britain.

8 APR 3 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E.A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
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Miss Gandy

More detailed comments are set forth subsequently as to Smith's connection with Huey Long and his activities as the organizer of "The Committee of One Million," but it is of significance to observe that it appears that the turning point of Smith's life dates from his association with Huey Long. Prior to that time he was the usual type of minister concerned with problems incidental to his calling. However, it seems that his participation in the "Share the Wealth" movement fired his ambition to the extent of self visualization of himself as a dominant political figure. Being unsuccessful in associating himself with Long's

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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mkc

successors, he has apparently continued his dream of political prominence through his efforts in connection with his so-called "Committee of One Million." The fact that he still evaluates himself as an individual of at least potential political significance, is attested to by the fact that he has sometimes described himself in confidential conversations as being likely "Presidential timber." In an effort to further augment his political background and potentialities, Smith sought nomination as Republican candidate for United States Senator from the State of Michigan during the summer of 1942. This campaign was unsuccessful.

Smith's personal life appears to be normal. He is married, lives with his wife, and has one son, about twenty years of age. His wife is said to be a distant relative of a [redacted] described as an official of the Ford Motor Company. From time to time stories have been circulated attributing improprieties to Smith in connection with his associations with woman other than his wife. However, nothing factual is known to substantiate these stories.

ACTIVITIES PRIOR TO 1938

While serving as pastor at the King's Highway Church, Shreveport, Louisiana, Smith became interested in Huey Long's "Share the Wealth" plan. He eventually met Long and shortly thereafter there developed, according to Smith's description, "a close and fast friendship" between the two. It is definitely known that shortly thereafter, and lasting for a period of several years, Smith assumed the position of one of Long's chief lieutenants. Although Smith is prone to describe this relationship as a personal one, several persons who were close to Long at the time, state that Long had little personal regard for Smith and apparently evaluated him as being untrustworthy and dishonest. These persons state that Long was merely utilizing Smith's services, and in this connection it is known that Long, as well as others associated with him, regarded Smith as a very dynamic and powerful public speaker. It appears that Smith was widely used by the Long organization in the role of a public speaker for the "Share the Wealth" movement. It is said that Smith, at one time, received as much as $650 per week from the Long organization as reimbursement for expenses and as salary.

Information has been received that while associated with the Long movement, Smith joined William Dudley Pelley's Silver Shirt organization. Nothing in the way of documentary evidence is available to prove this membership, but in recent years, Smith has, on several occasions, admitted membership in the Pelley movement. He states, however, that he joined Pelley's organization merely for the purpose of securing information in connection with his work in behalf of Huey Long.

Although during Huey Long's lifetime Smith was an outstanding personage in the Long machine, he rapidly lost his position after the death of Long. It appears that his services were continued for a short period of time by Long's

successors, but that he eventually was displaced due, allegedly, to his untoward efforts to attain personal power. By 1937, any influence which he previously had was completely dissipated and it was during that year that he left Louisiana for New York.

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[redacted]

3/29/43

19486

RECORDED & INDEXED

Honorable Marvin H. McIntyre
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

[redacted]

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Dear Marvin:

Recently the President referred to me a copy of the March 19, 1943, issue of "The Hour" which is devoted primarily to a discussion of the activities of Gerald L. K. Smith, of Detroit, Michigan.

In reply to the President's inquiry as to what action is being taken in regard to Smith's activities, I wish to advise that this individual has been under careful investigation by this Bureau for more than a year. All of his pertinent activities, including his public speeches and publications, have been closely followed and all information developed has been referred to The Assistant to the Attorney General. He has stated that Smith's activities to date do not appear to warrant prosecution, but has requested that the investigation be continued under the theory of the Sedition Statutes. The Assistant to the Attorney General has also requested that inquiries be made to determine whether Smith violated any of the provisions of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act in connection with his candidacy for the United States Senate last year. The additional investigation requested is presently under way and the information developed will be appropriately referred to The Assistant to the Attorney General.

For your more complete information there is attached a memorandum setting forth a summary of detailed information as to Smith's background and activities and as to the results of the investigation conducted to date.

Pursuant to the President's request the issue of "The Hour" referred to me is returned herewith.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Director

Attachment

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ MAR 31 1943 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

APR 27 1943

Deleted Copy Sent [redacted] 3/8/76

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DATE 10/8/02 BY [illegible]

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 25, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR

J. EDGAR HOOVER

Is anything being done about this? Please return for my files.

F.D.R.

Letter + memo to me thru type (White House) 3/29/43 – enclosure (copy of 3/19/43 issue of "Hour") returned per ref. memo. ... ce made as Bureau already copy of "Hour" for this date. JEH

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/4/82 BY SP8 BPJ

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hoover
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Tamm
Miss Gandy
B
8 APR 3 1943
FIVE

Recd 3-26-43

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

WB-ESL-NML

146-28-43

STICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

April 7, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith -
violation of National
35-mile Speed Regulation

The requests for advice concerning the action desired with respect to the above named subject's admitted violation of the National Speed Regulation contained in your memoranda of February 19, 1943, and March 23, 1943, were recently referred to this Division.

The now existing National 35-mile per hour speed regulations did not become effective until sometime after the date when it appears the subject operated a motor vehicle in excess of thirty-five miles per hour.

The then existing speed regulation, which was issued by the Office of Defense Transportation on September 26, 1942, issued with the public announcement that no prosecutions under this regulation would be undertaken by the Federal Government, but that it was expected that state governments would implement and enforce the regulation.

For these reasons it has been determined that prosecution of the subject on this matter is not warranted.

Respectfully,

RECORDED

62-43818-228

Wendell Berge

WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General

APR 10 1943

FOR DEFENSE
BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

53 APR 14 1943

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-7463

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CLEVELAND, OHIO	3/2/43	2/11,12/43	[redacted] AJR

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases. THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY-G CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Under the auspices of the United Mothers of America, Cleveland, Ohio Branch, SMITH addressed capacity audience of approximately seven hundred at Franklin Auditorium on 2-11-43, SMITH scoriated Cleveland Mayor LAUSCHE, the City Council, and the Cleveland News for activity in refusing him the use of the Cleveland Public Auditorium. SMITH stated SIR WALTER BINGHAM should be sent back to England; WALTER WINCHELL should be court martialed; and Vice President WALLACE imprisoned. SMITH decried such internationalists as WILLKIE, CLARENCE STREIT, and STASSEN. He suggested LINDBERGH, NYE, BROOKS, WHEELER, FISH, MARTIN L. SWEENEY, and EDDIE RICKENBACKER as acceptable candidates for America First Party. SMITH mentioned favorably FATHER COUGHLIN, FATHER SHEAN, HENRY FORD, and Representative CLARE LUCE. SMITH charged alien propagandists are looting the country from within; held that internationalists were plotting to turn control of United States over to a World Congress after the war. On 2-12-43 SMITH addressed approximately 175 to 200 persons at Toledo, Ohio, including former members of the Million and One Club, the Young Nationalists, and the German-American element in Toledo. SMITH stated there, "If margarine has to be served, keep butter here and serve margarine to our Allies." Newspaper comments set out. License numbers and names of registered owners of cars used at Franklin Auditorium 2-11-43 furnished this office by Cleveland Police Department together with names of persons recognized in attendance. Literature obtained in connection with the rally on 2-11,12-43 forwarded to Detroit.

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: L. V. Boardman, SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-143812 + 229

RECORDED & INDEXED

APR 6 1943

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
5 - Bureau
4 - Detroit (1 USA) - Enclosure
2 - Cleveland

Letter Cleveland 4/13/43

Gov Rowe
Gov Tuck
4/6/43

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/4/02 BY SP-RBD/MCA

100-7463

-RUC-

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 12-11-42 b2c
at Detroit, Michigan.
Letter from Detroit Field Division dated 2-8-43.

DETAILS: At Cleveland, Ohio

The following investigation was made by Special Agents b7c
[redacted] and the writer.

Under the auspices of the United Mothers of America, Cleveland Branch, a Gerald L. K. Smith Rally was held February 11, 1943 at 8:00 PM in the Franklin Auditorium, 2515 Franklin Avenue. A capacity crowd of approximately seven hundred persons were in attendance. Prior to taking the stage, GERALD L. K. SMITH greeted and spoke with numerous persons just off the stage. It was noted that among those in this group were a number of members of the United Mothers of America. The greater portion of those attending this rally were about the age of fifty or over.

Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, President of the United Mothers of America, Cleveland Branch, acting as chairman, read a few introductory remarks, the theme of which was, "no collaboration with foreign governments."

After having the audience rise and sing "America" and then say a prayer, SMITH indicated that whereas this meeting was in honor of Abraham Lincoln, he would make no further mention of Lincoln during his address except to say that if Lincoln were alive today, he would probably be advocating and acting the same as he, SMITH, was this night.

SMITH, at this time, requested the audience to stand up and point out anyone that was taking shorthand notes of his speech. SMITH explained that he wanted the identification of anyone taking shorthand notes because the Government is now accusing loyal Americans of sedition, and he wanted to know who was going to quote him. A Cleveland Plain Dealer newsman taking notes identified himself. SMITH stated that if there was a Cleveland News reporter in the crowd, he would personally escort him to the door and "kick him out." SMITH stated that the Cleveland News was guilty of inciting to riot against his, SMITH's, life in endorsing McMAHON, a Cleveland City Councilman, who according to SMITH, had stated that there were enough lamp posts in Cleveland to hang SMITH and his followers.

SMITH then began a tirade against Mayor LAUSCHE because LAUSCHE had barred him from speaking in the Cleveland Public Auditorium last year. SMITH referred to Mayor LAUSCHE as "LAUSHAY," "LOUSY," and as " a lousy Mayor." SMITH stated, "I'll tell you what's the matter with him. He thinks more about the politics of Yugoslavia than he thinks about the politics of the United States." According to SMITH, Democrats, Republicans, and "jailberg BROWDER" had been allowed to speak in the hall but not GERALD L. K. SMITH.

During the course of his speech, SMITH vehemently expressed himself as being against WILLKIE, whom he terms an internationalist, and against CLARENCE STREIT, lecturer and author of "Union Now." Likewise SMITH denounced Vice President WALLACE because of WALLACE's speech in Madison Square Garden on the twenty-sixth anniversary of the Russian Revolution, and stated that WALLACE ought to be impeached for belittling our Bill of Rights. According to SMITH, SIR WALTER BINGHAM, British Lend Lease Administrator, spoke in Washington before the Press Club. SMITH indicated that BINGHAM had made the remark that no accounts were being kept of the value of the material sent to England and "the books were thrown away." SMITH stated that BINGHAM should be sent back to England because of his international attitude.

SMITH referred to WALTER WINCHELL as "that character assassin," who according to SMITH, should be court martialed as a Naval officer, because he is making on the side, $5,000 for radio and $5,000 a week for his column. SMITH stated that Representative HOFFMAN had suggested the court martialing and he was in accord with this suggestion. SMITH in further denouncing WINCHELL said that WINCHELL had attacked such patriots as NYE, WHEELER, FISH, and BROOKS.

SMITH referred to Governor STASSEN as an internationalist and a "WILLKIE stooge." SMITH then told a story concerning Mr. DOW of the DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY, who, after a trip to Germany, had found that the Standard Oil of New Jersey was in control of certain patents which would make possible the production of synthetic rubber from such chief vegetables as potatoes and wheat. SMITH alleged that the Standard Oil was withholding these patents so as to force the direction of expansion of the synthetic rubber production into the use of crude oil.

SMITH stated that he was touring the United States to form a working nucleus for the America First Party so that they would be ready to announce their own candidate in case one of the existing parties does not nominate an isolationist for the 1944 election. SMITH referred to the America First Party as a "spare tire organization" which would not only serve as a disciplinary effect on the Republicans and Democrats, but would be an active

participant in the coming elections should either of these parties nominate an internationalist candidate. SMITH stated that if the America First Party needed a candidate, he could suggest good men such as LINDBERGH, NYE, BROOKS, WHEELER, FISH, MARTIN L. SWEENEY, and EDDIE RICKENBACKER.

During the course of his speech, SMITH referred to FATHER COUGHLIN as his friend, mentioned favorably FATHER SHEAN, radio priest, and praised HENRY FORD as an isolationist. SMITH praised recent remarks of the woman representative, LUCE, and indicated that she was probably turning away from her ideal husband. SMITH indicated opposition to Communism. In speaking of STALIN and CHURCHILL, he referred to these leaders as being "all right" because they were for their respective countries "first" and he wanted someone in this country to be for the United States "first." SMITH stated that he was opposed to any foreign entanglments or alliances after this war and wants to make America self sufficient. He stated we should build a length of fortresses around America.

SMITH held a short intermission during which subscriptions and collections were taken up from the audience, and it was noted that some of the contributions were ranging from a dollar to ten dollars.

Later SMITH had one of the attendants bring forth placards , and he called upon members of the audience to come forth and hold them while standing in front of the stage. Some of these placards read as follows: "butter for Americans first"; "meat for America first"; "no fourth term"; "bring our boys home when the war is won"; "Rick is OK with the America First Party"; "God bless Rickenbacker"; "Order of loyalty: first to the soldiers, second to the civilians, third to the Allies and the rest of the world"; "Freedom for America First"; "we want a choice in 1944". SMITH stated that everywhere he had spoken so far there had been a small flurry, there had been a blizzard, or it had been extremly cold, and he said that if it was not that way this night, he intended to have a parade with these placards.

SMITH orally offered a resolution to court martial WINCHELL, and another resolution to ask Mrs. DAVID STANLEY to form a committee to again petition Mayor LAUSCHE for the use of the Public Auditorium. These resolutions were adopted with acclaim by the audience. SMITH also asked a vote of approval in regard to the asking of EARL SUTHERLEND to speak if and when they were able to obtain a Public Hall.

Leaflets had been passed out at the beginning of this rally, and at its close, copies of GERALD L. K. SMITH's magazine "The Cross and the Flag" were offered for sale.

Members of the Cleveland Police Department were also in attendance at this meeting and a report has been received by this office setting forth substantially those facts as recited above, and in addition, affording the license numbers of cars and names of their registered owners which were used by persons attending this rally. This report likewise points out that a number of women, who had previously represented the United Mothers of America at the time that organization had picketed in front of the city hall while LORD HALIFAX was a visitor, were also in attendance. The names of several others in attendance at this speech were afforded in this report.

At Toledo, Ohio

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted]

On Friday, February 12, 1943, GERALD L. K. SMITH addressed a gathering of approximately one hundred and seventy-five to two hundred people in the Hunt Room of the Secor Hotel, Toledo, Ohio. SMITH was met at the train by [redacted] Toledo at 7:50 PM. Mr. SMITH was brought by car with his wife to the hotel, making his appearance at 8:05 PM.

In a two hour talk opened with a prayer and closing with the pledge of allegiance to the flag, SMITH scoriated WINCHELL, asked for the impeachment of Vice President of WALLACE for Communist leanings, praised WHEELER and LINDBERGH, and spoke of a new party for the 1944 elections. Admitting that he had no intent of making untoward remarks against Russia or England as our Allies, he repeatedly stated he didn't want any English or Russian propaganda spread around this country under the guise of Allied friendship. He likewise discussed the selling of butter under the lend lease program, stating on one occasion, "If margarine has to be served, keep butter here and serve margarine to our Allies."

Definitely anti-Communist in his talk, SMITH spoke before a sympathetic audience made up mostly of the Million and One Club and Young Nationalists. Strong representation of the German-American element in Toledo was present and included [redacted] and her mother were also present at the meeting.

At Cleveland, Ohio

The Cleveland file reflects the following news article regarding the subject's rally at the Franklin Auditorium from the Cleveland Press of 2-11-43.

"BRICKER BRANDED AS ISOLATIONIST" - "Governor BRICKER was called "an isolationist at heart who wants to be President more than he wants to be an

All b7c

isolationist" today by GERALD L. K. SMITH isolationist and anti-New Dealer, who came to Cleveland to begin the local organization of his America First party.

Mr. SMITH, who was barred from speaking in Public Hall last year by Mayor LAUSCHE, talks tonight at Franklin Auditorium, 2519 Franklin Boulevard.

"If HENRY WALACE and WENDELL WILLKIE are nominated by the Democratic and Republican parties in 1944, we'll have a candidate," he said today. "If the Democrats nominate BURTON WHEELER, we'll fold up. If the Republican Party is in the hands of The Chicago, Tribune crowd and Senator BROOKS and Senator NYE, we'll fold up."

As ideal candidates for his America First Party, Mr. SMITH suggested Col. CHARLES A. LINDBERGH or Capt. EDDIE RICKENBACKER."

An article from the Cleveland News dated 2-12-43, which is captioned, "MENTIONS SWEENEY IN PRESIDENCY LIST" points out that SWEENEY, Senator GERALD NYE, and others were mated by GERALD L. K. SMITH as acceptable presidential material.

An article in the Cleveland Plain Dealer dated 2-12-43 captioned "SWEENEY HAILED BY AMERICA FIRST," in which article is a report of the rally at the Franklin Auditorium and in one paragraph it points out, "Smith charged that alien propagandists were 'looting the country from within' and that 'internationalists in Washington' were plotting to turn control of this country to a World Congress after the war."

Leaflets, copies of the magazine "Cross and The Flag," and a press release obtained in connection with the above mentioned rally on the eleventh and twelfth of February 1943 are being forwarded as enclosures to the Detroit Field Division. The contents of this enclosure may be disposed of as is deemed appropriate by the Detroit Field Division.

ENCLOSURE:
1. Card of admission to meeting held 2-11-43 received from the Cleveland Police Department.
2. A copy of the January issue of the "Cross and the Flag" and other literature obtained at the above meeting.
3. Special invitation and floater mailed to subject's followers in Toledo.
4. Copy of C.O.D. order taken by Smith for "The Red Decade" by Eugene Lyons, and received 3-23-43 from Hdg. 5th Service Command, Service of Supplies, Fort Hayes, Columbus, Ohio for exhibit.
5. April '42 thru Jan. '43 issues of "Cross and the Flag".
6. Miscellaneous literature passed out at the Gerald L. K. Smith rally at Franklin Auditorium on 2-11-43.

100-7463

7. A "Press Release" dated January 10, 1943 obtained at Toledo, Ohio on 2-12-43.

-REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN-

[redacted]klb
4/8/43

RECORDED 62-40918-229

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.

THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your information in connection with further consideration of this case there is transmitted herewith a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted], dated April 2, 1943, at Cleveland, Ohio. b7c

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm Enclosure
Mr Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols cc - Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge (with enclosure)
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 14
APR 13 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED 12 22 PM

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8 BTS/mk

JPHe:KLB:WMJ

April 13, 1943 PERSONAL ATTENTION

RECORDED 62-43818-229

SAC, Cleveland

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted], dated April 2, 1943, at Cleveland, Ohio. b7c

It is noted that although the investigation in this matter was completed in your Division on February 12, 1943, a report descriptive of the investigation was not submitted until April 2, 1943.

Such a delay in submitting a report is entirely without justification and as the Bureau has unusual interest in the Smith case, it is a matter of particular importance in this instance.

Please see to it that any additional investigation concerning this subject which may in the future develop in your district is more promptly reported.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 14
APR 13 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

APR 20 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
April 6, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Miss Gandy

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/8/82 BY SP6 BJA/ pms
264,433

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases, et al
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that the following additional information has been received from [redacted] whose identity is known to you. b7D

On February 22, 1943, SMITH spoke at the Hungry Club, a luncheon club in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. SMITH was warned that the Communists had planned to interfere with the meeting and police protection was sought against such an occurrence. In sending out invitations for this meeting, SMITH was assisted by [redacted], Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and a [redacted] whose telephone number is [redacted] Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. b7
SMITH was introduced at the meeting by Reverend CHARLES A. MADDEN, a Baptist preacher of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Invitations were sent out to the former members of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE.

SMITH also spoke at Franklin Auditorium in Cleveland, Ohio, on February 11, 1943, and the meeting was arranged largely through the assistance of [redacted] of UNITED MOTHERS OF AMERICA, Cleveland, Ohio. [redacted] requested SMITH to furnish her with a copy of the speech that he would give in Cleveland so that she could transmit it to the leader of the former AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE in Idaho. b7c

The Cleveland Plain Dealer newspaper on February 9, prior to SMITH's meeting in Cleveland, criticized SMITH in an editorial for attempting to start a new political party. They called him the worst rabble rouser in America and pointed out that arrangements for SMITH's meeting were being made in Cleveland by an organization which has been accused of spreading Nazi propaganda.

RECORDED

Informant advised that SMITH is continuing to correspond with Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN, of Michigan.

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62-43818-23

FOR DEFENSE
BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

SMITH has commented to [redacted] of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE in Detroit, Michigan, that the filing of the Nolle Prosequi in the prosecution of STANLEY NOWAK for fraud in obtaining his citizenship was a scandal.

COPIES DESTROYED

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When SMITH was advised through the newspapers, particularly PM Newspaper, that RICKENBACKER stated he would refuse to attend SMITH's meeting, at which RICKENBACKER was praised and suggested for President, SMITH replied that he thought it was anyone's privilege to praise Washington, Lincoln, or RICKENBACKER.

SMITH discussed with [redacted] the rumors that were rampant in the early part of February, 1943, that bank accounts were going to be frozen and SMITH said that he had heard that bank accounts were to be frozen on February 15, 1943. [redacted] said that WALTER WINCHELL was going to be investigated within a week by the Naval Affairs Committee under VINSON. SMITH informed her that reporters from PM Newspaper and Time Magazine interviewed him and he told them to go ahead and smear him because everything those publishers stood for would be dead five years from now. SMITH referred to two stenotypists that attended his meeting on February 7, 1943. He said that he had learned that they were sent from the AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE and that the next meeting they tried to attend he would go right down and show them the door. SMITH was rather jubilant over the turn of events in Washington and told [redacted] that "With a reversal of things in Washington we won't be needing much to get us over the hump and then it will roll like a big snowball."

On February 15, 1943, Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH ordered BERNARD DOMAN, SMITH's manager, to draw $200.00 from the AMERICA FIRST PARTY bank account and place it in the SMITHS' account as a donation to the FEDERATION OF AMERICANIZATION OF MICHIGAN, INC., account.

Informant advised that SMITH is continuing to depend upon the cooperation of STADSKLEV, 2928 - 45th Avenue, South Minneapolis, Minnesota, for his organizational activities in the vicinity of St. Paul and Minneapolis. At one of SMITH's meetings in the Minneapolis area SMITH had on the platform Mrs. LUNDEEN, widow of the late Senator LUNDEEN. However, Mrs. LUNDEEN has more recently advised that while she would assist SMITH in every way possible she would prefer to avoid publicity and would rather not sit on the platform at any future meetings.

[redacted]

SMITH is continuing to work in collaboration with Reverend R. [redacted] ROLLINGS, of Detroit, Michigan, who was closely affiliated with Reverend GERALD B. WINROD, of Wichita, Kansas. The collaboration has extended to the furnishing of information by SMITH to Reverend ROLLINGS for ROLLINGS' radio addresses. Informant also advised that SMITH was receiving support from the followers of

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Letter to the Director
April 6, 1943

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was, et al
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION

Reverend Father CHARLES E. COUGHLIN, especially in the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, area.

The investigation of SMITH's income for the past several years has been continuing by Internal Revenue agents. SMITH has expressed serious concern over this investigation at various times to Informant but has steadfastly contended that any income which could not be accounted for as office expense was undoubtedly taken by him for his personal living expenses, and the entire difference was accounted for by SMITH in his income tax returns.

The contacts which Informant has noticed between SMITH and the Ford Motor Company, particularly [redacted]s office, have noticeably declined. SMITH has only contacted on rare occasions [redacted]ecretary, [redacted] on comparatively minor matters.

During the month of February the principal issue that SMITH discussed at his meetings was the post war issue as to whether or not the United States should participate in any world confederation. SMITH, of course, was bitterly opposed to any such suggestion. SMITH has obtained what he called the "Union Now" flag and in his demonstration in Pittsburgh for the benefit of photographers he threw the flag on the floor and jumped on it. He has been most vehement in his assertion that until his death he would oppose any suggestion to tear down the stars and stripes and subjugate the United States and its flag to any world organization.

Informant stated that SMITH discussed with [redacted] conditions in the Army camps. SMITH revealed that he had received letters from boys in the camps complaining about the food and saying that they had to go out of the camps and buy additional food.

SMITH advised [redacted] of Radio Station WJR, that he attended a huge mass meeting in Detroit, Michigan, on Saturday, February 27, 1943. It is noted that the Michigan State Committee of the COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE U.S.A. held its convention in Detroit, Michigan, that same weekend. SMITH told [redacted] that there were less than 100 gentiles present and that the most vocal cheering was made every time Russia was named. At the end of the mass meeting a resolution was adopted that the immigration laws should be changed to permit the entry of Jewish refugees into this country inasmuch as Palestine is now closed to them. [redacted] commented that this would mean more black markets in the United States.

Informant states that SMITH is maintaining contact with HUBERT LUCKER, former companion of the present [redacted] Nothing signifi-

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cant has come from this contact recently.

Informant stated that [redacted], of the News-Advertiser, informed SMITH that he had heard a report, supposed to be reliable, that SMITH was going to be indicted. SMITH told [redacted] that he had been thoroughly investigated and the only thing that was found out about him was that he was a crusader who had spent more on his crusade than he had taken in. [redacted] said that that is what one of the "Department of Justice Fellows" told him in Washington. [redacted] said he told the "Department of Justice fellow" that "You fellows are barking up the wrong tree. If you fellows will find out who the fellows who are always lighting the matches are, you will find that it is the same bunch that is against the Attorney General himself. It will either be a Walter Winchell or a Pelley in his bunch. Pelley was thrown out of Louisiana by SMITH because SMITH would not let him carry on his subversive activities." SMITH agreed with [redacted] comment and continued that SMITH, himself, investigated PELLEY at the request of HUEY LONG and then wrote to PELLEY saying that he had no interest in the PELLEY organization because he did not consider it to be American. [redacted] said that some of SMITH's friends were uneasy about the report that SMITH at a public meeting referred to "Christ killers" which was commonly understood to be an insulting hypothetical reply to Jews. SMITH answered that he did not say anything like that and that he had received an apology from the newspaper that printed it as such. SMITH insisted that he had never said anything against any race or creed.

Informant advised that [redacted] a preacher from Sioux City, Iowa, had spent considerable time in Detroit lately and was apparently collaborating with GERALD SMITH. From Detroit he took a train to Wichita, Kansas, presumably to contact Reverend GERALD B. WINROD.

SMITH's adopted son has been drafted into the Army and has been accepted for officers' training. Mrs. SMITH contemplates the organization of a Blue Star Mothers' Chapter.

SMITH contacted [redacted] and according to Informant, [redacted] commented that he wondered what was going on down in Washington in view of the recent events, such as the reversal of the GEORGE SYLVESTER VEIRIK conviction and the returning of a "no true bill" on the leaders of the NATIONAL WORKERS LEAGUE in Detroit, Michigan. SMITH accused WILLIAM POWER MALONEY, of the Department of Justice, of confusing war hysteria and justice. [redacted] stated that WILLIAM POWER MALONEY "has been here secretly conferring with the CIVIL RIGHTS FEDERATION several times in the last few months. He has secretly met with people who have tried to put you (SMITH) on the spot. I know the dates he met with them in Washington and he told them the material is good but that they will have to get some more; the fellow (SMITH) is no good, but more evidence is

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necessary. He [redacted] made a special trip here to meet with those people in hotel rooms - [redacted] and his crowd, and ALBERT KAHN, the author of 'Sabotage', was in the picture as sort of contact man. MILTON KENDIS, who used to be head of the CIVIL RIGHTS FEDERATION, and who now is in the NATIONAL FEDERATION FOR CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTIES, was in the conference too. I believe that it was on July 8 that [redacted] met with [redacted] and on July 15 they had an emergency conference. I had to keep this to myself because I was afraid you would blast him. The releasing of the defendants in the NATIONAL WORKERS LEAGUE case indicates that they're sort of backing water down there in Washington." SMITH commented that "They certainly gave STANLEY NOWAK a greased path to freedom." [redacted] said "They bowed to the pressure of these Communists and BIDDLE did an about face. The Communists are right out in the open now. They're recruiting everybody." SMITH and [redacted] then discussed a full page ad which the COMMUNIST PARTY ran in the Detroit Free Press at a cost of $1,370.00. [redacted] conjectured that the money was coming from the National Committee of the COMMUNIST PARTY in New York.

SMITH then asked [redacted] if he had been called downtown (presumably to the FBI) for any more interviews. [redacted] said he had not and he did not think they were going to, but he had heard that the Treasury Department was in SMITH's office, according to information he had heard from [redacted] SMITH agreed that they were and said that he told the Internal Revenue agents that if they wanted some first-class testimony against him they should see [redacted] [redacted] told SMITH that they had seen [redacted] and that he had given them stuff he took from the files in New York. SMITH commented "That keeps them chasing up blind alleys. They can't believe that a man will spend all his money on his campaign. I told them that I would sign an affidavit that I possessed nothing in this world. Lots of folks don't understand it. I'm just one of the screwballs who think that Communism is the worst thing on earth and they're out to get me."

SMITH asked [redacted] did he "cover MALONEY". [redacted] assured SMITH he did by covering conferences. He said that the Communists told MALONEY everything they could about SMITH and that MALONEY said it wasn't enough; to go back and get some more because SMITH was dangerous. They took all SMITH's publications, and having analyzed them, claimed that SMITH was following a pattern of defeatism. MALONEY agreed but told them to get some more information because they did not have anything on which to obtain a conviction in court.

[redacted] then remarked that the Communists put MALONEY on the radio when he was here and introduced him to Professor JOHN SHEPHERD of the CIVIL RIGHTS FEDERATION. SMITH inquired if WILLIAM POWER MALONEY was a Jew, and when [redacted] answered he didn't believe he was, SMITH said that he had heard that he was. [redacted] concluded by saying that MALONEY was "definitely no good because

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there's too many of these guys who think he is O.K."

On March 2, 1943 SMITH attempted to contact Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS, and was able to reach only his secretary, [redacted] SMITH asked [redacted] to send him all available material in opposition to the relaxing of the immigration laws since he would need it at a big meeting in Detroit on that subject. [redacted] suggested that SMITH contact JOHN TREVOR's office. SMITH concluded by telling [redacted] to compliment REYNOLDS on his speech the other night and to advise him that whenever SMITH mentions his name before an audience it is received by wild applause.

SMITH was anxiously awaiting the material from "BOB REYNOLDS" or from the AMERICAN COALITION OF PATRIOTIC SOCIETIES. On March 5, 1943 he received a package from the CONSTITUTION FOR EDUCATIONAL RELIEF, and when his manager, BERNARD DOMAN, opened it, DOMAN advised SMITH that it contained a Department of Justice memorandum containing secret and confidential information from the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation regarding the AMERICAN YOUTH CONGRESS.

SMITH conferred with [redacted] again on March 5, 1943, and SMITH said that he heard Rabbi STEPHEN S. WISE on Sunday, February 28. WISE recommended that the immigration laws should be relaxed to admit Jewish refugees from Europe. SMITH said that he contemplated making his first attack on any Jew because he was against admitting more Jews to this country from Europe when we are already eating horse meat. SMITH said that the meeting was attended by 98% Jews and that WISE, himself, was one of the big Reds, and so was his son.

SMITH and [redacted] then discussed a book "The Red Decade" which summarizes the activities of Communists in this country. [redacted] stated that GITLOW and JAN VALTIN helped the author, EUGENE LYONS, in writing that book. SMITH said he had written a letter to ALBERT KAHN, who had criticized SMITH in his book "Sabotage" and his newspaper "The Hour". SMITH also wrote to GEORGE SELDERS, publisher of "In Fact". SMITH described SELDERS as a Red and said that he had sold one million copies of a circular to the Jews which they were going to distribute in case SMITH had been nominated for the office of United States Senator from Michigan. SMITH said, however, that the Jews in Michigan voted for FERGUSON instead. [redacted] stated that [redacted] had persuaded FERGUSON to run in the first place. SMITH was somewhat surprised.

On March 6, 1943, a Mrs. D___, "the one who wrote the book", came to Detroit and stopped at the Hotel Book Cadillac. Informant believed that Mrs. D___ was probably ELIZABETH DILLING. She was anxious to obtain some advice from SMITH, but Mrs. SMITH advised BERNARD DOMAN to stall her off. Later, Mrs.

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SMITH told DOMAN to tell Mrs. D___ that Mr. and Mrs. SMITH would see her at the Hotel at 2:00 P.M., but he was not to carry on any conversation with her.

SMITH has discussed with various persons the article carried in local newspapers about huge quantities of coffee, meat and butter going to waste in Alaska. SMITH commented that things were getting worse all the time and he was afraid the bureaucrats would lose the war by making mistakes with humans like the mistakes they have made with coffee.

SMITH challenged Professor PRESTON SLOSSON, of the University of Michigan, to a public debate on the issue of "Resolved: That the United States Should Join an International Union Which Would Have as One of Its Objects the Enforcement of World Peace." SMITH made arrangements to rent the auditorium at the Cass Technical High School for March 22, 1943. However, he gave specific instructions to BERNARD DOMAN that the application for the hall should be made out as follows: Name of Organization: Special Committee, care of Dr. CRANE, of the Central Methodist Church; Purpose for which organized: To conduct a symposium; References: Dr. CRANE and Professor SLOSSON; Applicant's signature: [redacted] (SMITH's personal secretary); Speakers: Professor SLOSSON, and others; Any further questions: See Dr. CRANE. It was obvious to Informant that SMITH wanted to conceal the fact that he was going to have anything to do with the meeting.

In discussing the proposed debate with Mrs. KNOWLES, Mrs. KNOWLES informed SMITH that she had spoken at Cornwallis Hall in Flint, Michigan, on March 7, 1943, and that there were three FBI men and a Flint Police Department investigator present. SMITH asked how she knew they were FBI agents, and Mrs. KNOWLES said that [redacted] knew them because she had been called into the FBI office. Mrs. KNOWLES said that she left a copy of her speech with the Flint Police Department. SMITH commented that he thought the FBI was very fair and that he had found this man BUGAS a wonderful fellow. He said that the FBI would not hurt anyone and the people in Washington would find out that the Communists are not the real people of America. Mrs. KNOWLES stated that when she made a remark about Technocracy in America, one of the FBI men turned to the other and nodded his head. SMITH stated that FBI agents accept their assignments in the line of duty and that they are "just as good people as your husband or anyone else."

SMITH asked Mrs. KNOWLES what she thought of Rabbi WISE's idea of letting Jewish refugees into America. Mrs. KNOWLES said she has contended for some time that the more affluent Jews are furthering anti-Semitism in this country. [redacted]

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Informant reported that SMITH took in more than $500.00 at his meeting on March 9, 1943.

SMITH, in giving a press release to the Toledo Blade Newspaper, stated that "All our alliances must be merely temporary; the foreign policy of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY is the farewell address of George Washington."

SMITH attempted to ascertain who employed a reporter by the name of [redacted] who took stenographic notes at SMITH's meeting. He ascertained only that [redacted] employer was [redacted] who does some work for various Jewish organizations in Detroit, but he was unable to ascertain the persons or organizations for whom the stenographic transcript was being made.

SMITH and [redacted] discussed [redacted] and the connivery of which he had been guilty. SMITH said that [redacted] had been a specialist with the old corporation auxiliary protecting plants from communism, and whenever things quieted down they would send a couple of men into plants to organize.

[redacted] of Chicago, Illinois, according to Informant, urged SMITH to encourage his followers to write to Congressman MARTIN DIES and other members of the Dies Committee to institute an investigation of WORLD FEDERATION UNION NOW and the people supporting these subversive movements.

SMITH encountered difficulty when he attempted to get the public auditorium in Cleveland, Ohio, because the Mayor was opposed to letting SMITH use it. SMITH finally rented Franklin Hall through [redacted], but the manager of the hall made a provision that SMITH must say nothing to interfere with the winning of the war and could not talk against the Government.

Mrs. SMITH called a local newspaper under pretext on the day following the SMITH-SLOSSON debate on world government and inquired how the debate came out and whether the newspaper would carry a story on it. The newspaper employee informed her that "SLOSSON tore the reverend doctor to pieces," and that "SMITH evidently did better when alone on the platform than when opposed."

Informant stated that SMITH has recently indicated that he contemplated engaging a professor from the University of Chicago in a debate to be held soon in Chicago, Illinois. SMITH described this professor as "One of these fellows who wants to hold down the stars and stripes and throw us in with Russia and China and make us just another state."

On February 18, 1943, BERNARD DOMAN informed Mrs. MURRAY KNOWLES that "The hitch-hiking boy, you know who, had written a letter to the President stating that he would thrust a red hot poker down his throat if he continued to destroy our wealth and represent the national Jewry, and that he is out on a

ALL
b7C

$1,000.00 bond." (The reference to the hitch-hiking boy is no doubt intended to designate LORENCE ASMAN, whom SMITH has introduced at his public meetings as a Good American Boy.)

Informant advised that on February 27, 1943 [redacted] asked SMITH for an additional copy of the January issue of his magazine, "The Cross and the Flag", to send to his son in the Army, [redacted] who [redacted] described as a great follower of SMITH and who would do anything for SMITH.

Informant has advised that SMITH has been drawing from the Dies reports listing Communists for speech material from time to time.

On March 23, 1943, a woman, who described herself as [redacted] from Chicago, said she expected an emergency to come up in the very near future and she wanted to get in touch with SMITH. She left word that she could be reached at Dearborn 7989.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted]
62-1126

ALL
DTC

EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
Detroit, Michigan
April 10,1943

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases
Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt;
THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G,
CUSTODIAL DETENTION;
SEDITION. (62-43818)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated February 8, 1943. Please be advised that all the leads suggested by the Departmental memorandum have been set forth to appropriate field offices for attention with the following exceptions:

[redacted] in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 23, 1942 at Detroit, Michigan was identified as [redacted] who subsequently gave a full account of all information in his possession concerning SMITH. Since that interview [redacted]

[redacted] in the report of [redacted] dated April 27, 1942 at Detroit, Michigan has been revealed to be [redacted] is now known to the Bureau and to me to be a thoroughly unreliable and untrustworthy informant. However, it is believed that he has already given all the information in his possession concerning SMITH'S connections with German agencies.

[redacted] has already been interviewed and the interview reported in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 16, 1943 at New Orleans, Louisiana.

The birth records at Pardeeville, Wisconsin have already been examined, and it was reported in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated December 3, 1942 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The interview with [redacted] whose true name is [redacted] was duly reported by Special Agent [redacted] in his report dated September 2, 1942 at Detroit, Michigan.

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[redacted] continues to advise that HUBERT LUCKER is maintaining frequent and cordial contact with Subject, and it is not deemed advisable to interview him at this time concerning Subject. b7D

The interview with the [redacted] law firm of [redacted] has been previously reported in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 18, 1943 at Washington, D. C. b7C

Please be advised that your instructions have been carefully noted and this case will be accorded continuous and preferred attention in the future.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas
ems

John S. Bugas, SAC

[redacted] b7C
62-1126

The Hour

NUMBER 19485 MARCH 19, 1943

NEWS-KEY

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RECEIVED MAR 23 1943

Number 151-2 March 19, 1943

THE CASE OF GERALD L. K. SMITH

In the city of Detroit, where tens of thousands of war workers are making a major contribution to the cause of the United Nations, a notorious anti-democratic rabble-rouser is making a major contribution to the cause of the Axis. His name is Gerald L.K. Smith. His speciality is distributing defeatist and disruptive propaganda. His Detroit headquarters have become a national center of fifth column intrigue, menacing the war effort of the United States.

Gerald L. K. Smith is the editor and the publisher of a magazine called The Cross and the Flag. Eight months ago a Federal indictment listed this magazine as an agency which had been used in a conspiracy to sabotage the morale of American soldiers and sailors. The Cross and the Flag is still being published in Detroit. Each month a new issue carries Smith's virulent propaganda to Americans in every part of the country.

Gerald L. K. Smith is head of an organization known as the Committee of One Million. This organization has all the characteristic earmarks of a fascist party. It is now being used for the purpose of reviving the America First movement, with the object of launching a new nation-wide appeasement campaign.

Gerald L. K. Smith is the man who once proudly reported to America's would-be Hitler, William Dudley Pelley:

> "... by the time you receive this letter, I shall be on the road to St. Louis and parts north with a uniformed squad of young men composing what I believe will be the first Silver Shirt stormtroop in America."

William Dudley Pelley, who was then Fuehrer of the pro-Nazi terrorist Silver Shirts, is now in jail, where he belongs. Gerald L. K. Smith, who was then Silver Shirter No. 3223 and Pelley's most trusted aide, is now very much at large, carrying on his old work in a new and far more deadly way.

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54 MAY 10 1943

(MORE)

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Past Record

The burly, smooth-shaven, rabble-rousing Smith, who was once a small-town preacher in Indiana, has come a long way since the days when he was a mere organizer of Silver Shirt stormtroop squads. After he and Pelley separated in the early 1930's, Smith moved steadily upward in reactionary and fascist circles. He served for a while as a lieutenant to the late Huey Long, and shortly after the death of the Dictator of Louisiana, he joined forces with Father Charles E. Coughlin. Together Smith and Coughlin organized support for the presidential candidacy of Representative William Lemke in 1936; and it was then that the intimate personal and political relationship, which has lasted until this day, first developed between Smith and the pro-Axis priest of Royal Oak.

Early in 1937 Smith founded the Committee of One Million (which at first had the somewhat less imposing title of Committee of Ten Thousand). From the beginning the organization had an obviously fascist character. Membership was secret. Cells were organized on a nationwide scale, the smallest having ten members and a "Leader." Smith's title was National Leader. For many months he stumped the countryside, endeavoring to build a mass following among the discontented and the insecure. His speeches were rabidly anti-Administration and anti-labor Tirelessly stressing the favorite Axis theme of the "Bolshevik menace," he pictured the United States Government as overrun by Communists, the labor unions as Moscow-controlled, and himself as the great potential savior of private enterprise and the American way of life.

During the early days of the Committee of One Million, Smith was less cautious in his public utterances than he is today. After one of his speeches, the Cleveland News remarked that "Smith smells of Fascist KuKluxers a block away." Another newspaper had this to report about Smith's activities in the summer of 1938:

> "In his recent speedy tour of Ohio, Rev. Smith has spoken in both urban and rural communities. In the urban communities he has made no reference to racial groups, but in the rural communities he has decried the sinister influence of Jews and Catholics."

Work in Detroit

In January, 1939, Smith set up headquarters for the Committee of One Million in Detroit. His talents as a reactionary rabble-rouser were put to quick and profitable use in the city where the murderous Black Legion had been spawned. He was soon giving a series of anti-Administration, labor-baiting broadcasts from WJR, Detroit's largest

and most expensive radio station. The name of his sponsor was never made public, but it was fairly common knowledge that a close working relationship had been established between Smith and a prominent automobile manufacturer, well-known for his extremely anti-democratic views

When the America First Committee was formed late in 1940, and fifth columnists flocked into this organization, it was inevitable that Gerald L. K. Smith should attach himself to the Wheeler-Lindbergh movement. Although he was never an official member of the Committee, he became one of its leading organizers and spokesmen. He helped arrange the largest America First rallies in Detroit, and energetically distributed vast quantities of the Committee's propaganda. He could justly have claimed the title of America First Gauleiter of Michigan.

In the spring of 1941, when America Firsters were making a furious effort to obstruct defense legislation, Smith went to Washington to testify against the Lend-Lease Bill at a hearing held by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Subsequently his arguments against sending aid to Great Britain and the Soviet Union were widely publicized in fifth column circles.

The Inner Circle and Congressional Friends

Immediately after the United States entered the war, Smith formed a secret society called The Inner Circle. Its headquarters were in Detroit. We exposed the existence of this cabal in the February 21,1942 issue of The Hour, reporting that its purpose was to serve as a brain trust for reactionary, appeasement forces in the United States. One of the first projects of The Inner Circle was The Cross and the Flag, a monthly magazine filled with propaganda assailing the United States war effort and harshly criticizing America's allies. The first issue of the publication appeared, by what seemed scarcely coincidence, in the very same month that Father Coughlin's Social Justice was banned from the U.S. mails because of its seditious content.

Before the second issue of The Cross and the Flag had been published, The Hour revealed that certain die-hard isolationist Congressmen who had previously worked with the America First Committee were helping promote the circulation of Smith's defeatist magazine (see The Hour for April 19, 1942). We named Senator Robert R. Reynolds, Senator Gerald P. Nye and Representative Roy Woodruff as Smith's most enthusiastic Congressional supporters.

On July 23, 1942, a Federal Grand Jury in Washington, D.C., handed down an indictment naming The Cross and the Flag as one of several agencies which had been used in a conspiracy to sabotage the morale of the United States armed forces. Nevertheless, Smith has continued to publish the magazine, featuring flagrantly disruptive and defeatist propaganda in every issue. Here are the titles of typical articles appearing in The Cross and the Flag: "Union With Britain -- International conspirators seek to destroy America's sovereignty in the name of wartime emergency and peacetime chaos"; "Will Refugees Take the Jobs Left Vacant by Soldiers?"; "Is President Roosevelt Being Used by the

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Red Smear Artists?"; "Sir Stafford Cripps -- Whose Man is he? Churchill's or Stalin's?" Commenting on the war, the magazine rumors that "much bad news is being kept from us because it is feared it would break the morale of the people." The United States is described as being "overrun with brain trusters, intellectuals, ... war mongers, politicians, international financiers, pressure groups, special interests." We do not know what sort of victory we are fighting for, writes Smith, although "we are to exhaust our financial and physical resources ... to fill rivers with blood and oceans with ships, and battlefields with the dead and dying."

Need for Government Action Against Smith

Smith's latest undertaking is the reorganization of the America First movement, which Dr. Joseph Paul Goebbels once praised as "truly American and truly patriotic!" In January of this year Smith formed the America First Party, with himself as National Chairman. He claims that his Party has no connection with the former America First Committe It is clear, however, that the fundamental purpose of the new organization is to resurrect the old Committee and renew its pro-Axis, appeasement operations.

The time has obviously come for the Federal authorities to put an end to the disruptive activities of Gerald L. K. Smith. The United States is fighting its sixteenth month of war against the Axis. Defeatist propagandists and anti-democratic plotters, who menace the war effort of this country, have no place in America today. Gerald L. K. Smith falls within this category. The Hour therefore urges that the Department of Justice take prompt action against him.

* * * * * * * * * *

POEMS FOR HITLER

Tens of thousands of copies of scurrilous anti-Semitic poems are being distributed around the country, particularly in war plants, in a special Nazi propaganda campaign to incite animosity against American Jews and thus disrupt our war effort. Some of these virulent Jew-baiting rhymes are in the form of printed pamphlets and leaflets; others ar on mimeographed sheets and a number are simply typed, with multiple carbon copies. All spread the familiar Hitlerite canard that the present war was brought about by "World Jewry," and that the Jewish people are now reaping immense profits from it and are shirking every patriotic duty.

A typical poem is entitled "The Official Song of the Kosher Air Wardens." Another, called "The Marine Hymn," which pro-Axis elements are circulating among defense workers in navy yards, concludes with the comment that, after this war is over, "You will find the Jews are rulin you, In Washington's old White House." "America's Fighting Jew " pictures the Jewish people as "setting up black markets in steel and hoarded food" as "the Gentile soldiers go marching proudly by." A poem called "Rejected" is followed by this note: "Copyrighted by Satan & Satan, Inc., Jew York, Jew York." Another, headed "Three Wise Men", ends with this line: "Damned if I don't think Hitler's right."

The Hour recommends that the Federal Bureau of Investigation immediately investigate the printers, publishers and distributors of this new form of pro-Axis propaganda.

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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit - Michigan
April 21, 1943

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/8/82 BY SP6BJA10m5

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G; CUSTODIAL DETENTION;
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth hereinbelow the results of information obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. Informant has advised that this information was obtained during the period from March 23, 1943 through April 19, 1943: b7D

Informant has stated that SMITH has apparently been maintaining rather close contact with Mrs. BEATRICE KNOWLES during this entire period, and that SMITH has carried on lengthy discussions with Mrs. KNOWLES as to future policies of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE. Mrs. KNOWLES has apparently contacted one of the leading officials of the American Legion in this area with the idea in mind of registering a complaint as to the philosophy presently being taught in the Detroit schools to the younger children.

It has been also ascertained that SMITH has been maintaining close contact with a Reverend [redacted] believed to be from the vicinity of Denver, Colorado, who has been in Detroit for the past several weeks conducting revival meetings.

On April 8, 1943 Informant advised that SMITH had made a long distance call to [redacted] of Chicago, Illinois, and on that occasion SMITH advised [redacted] that he, SMITH, had received a wire from one [redacted] (phonetic); that [redacted] was apparently booked to speak at one of SMITH's meetings in Detroit, but that [redacted] had advised SMITH that he would be unable to talk. At this time [redacted] advised SMITH that it was his opinion that [redacted] did not want to talk inasmuch as he did not believe [redacted] wanted to endanger his candidacy in Indiana. b7C

b7C

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On April 9, 1943 Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that on that date SMITH had advised his wife to call up [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company, and tell [redacted] that she wanted to see him about something important she had to tell him concerning a fellow from the east who was coming to Detroit within the next few

FOR DEFENSE BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

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days and that [redacted] and the man that was coming from the east ought to get together. In this connection Mrs. SMITH is alleged to have made several attempts to contact [redacted] with apparently negative results.

Informant stated that SMITH is apparently still being investigated by the Internal Revenue agents at Detroit, Michigan, but that SMITH was of the opinion they had not developed anything important to date.

On April 10, 1943 Informant stated that SMITH called C. O. STADSKLEV at Minneapolis, Minnesota; that SMITH inquired as to whether or not STADSKLEV was coming to Detroit, and that STADSKLEV said that he was coming to Detroit. SMITH apparently made reservations for STADSKLEV at the Book Cadillac Hotel.

On April 11, 1943, in a conversation with Mrs. KNOWLES, SMITH stated that he was lining up the procedure he was going to follow in an attempt to have some sort of investigation made relative to the textbooks being used by the Detroit schools. Mrs. KNOWLES advised that she had some conferences with the head of the Legion in this area and that they promised to issue some material relative to this matter in the name of the Legion.

On April 12, 1943 Informant stated he had received information to the effect that STADSKLEV had arrived in Detroit and was staying at the Book Cadillac Hotel, and that a [redacted] (phonetic) had apparently come to town with STADSKLEV.

On April 13, 1943 SMITH again contacted [redacted] and advised the [redacted] that Mrs. LUNDEEN had promised to speak at a SMITH meeting in Chicago, apparently on the 30th of April. SMITH promised that Mrs. LUNDEEN was going to say quite a bit about WALTER WINCHELL.

Informant stated that he had received information on April 14, 1943 to the effect that SMITH was organizing his followers with the idea in mind of picketing a speech to be made by LANGSTON HUGHES, an alleged colored Communist, who was to speak on that particular date at Wayne University. (It was ascertained through other sources that SMITH's followers actually picketed the Wayne University at the time HUGHES spoke, and at that time his followers passed out copies of a poem which HUGHES was supposed to have written entitled "Goodbye Christ".)

Informant stated that he had information to the effect that SMITH had apparently been successful in his negotiations with the Cass Technical High School in Detroit for the rental of the school on the night of April 28, and that in all probability Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN would be a speaker

ALL DTC

for the meeting that night.

On April 17, 1943 Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had telephonically contacted Mr. MARTIN SWEENEY, of Cleveland, Ohio, and that SWEENEY was apparently a former Congressman from that district. SWEENEY, during the course of his conversation with SMITH, evidenced great admiration for former Senator LUNDEEN, and seemed pleased with the fact that Mrs. LUNDEEN was to address several SMITH meetings. SWEENEY was requested by SMITH to introduce Mrs. LUNDEEN at her Cleveland speech, and SWEENEY replied that he was thinking seriously of accepting this invitation.

On April 19, 1943 a [redacted] of New York City, telephonically contacted SMITH, at which time he stated that he expected to be in the City of Detroit on the morning of April 20 and requested SMITH to make reservations at the Book Cadillac Hotel for him.

On that same date SMITH received a call from [redacted] (phonetic), at which time [redacted] advised SMITH that something had come up which necessitated his going to Washington. At the time of this call, SMITH advised [redacted] of meetings to be held by SMITH in Cleveland, Dayton, Pittsburgh, Detroit, and Chicago. SMITH stated at this time that he expected to be in Washington soon inasmuch as he had written to Senator FERGUSON relative to the "Gestapo Bill" and that FERGUSON invited him to appear before some committee in Washington.

On April 8 Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had telephonically contacted the Social Security Board in Detroit with reference to Social Security payments due [redacted] formerly connected with the FEDERATION OF AMERICANIZATION. SMITH at this time stated that [redacted] had never been employed by the FEDERATION, [redacted] and that [redacted]. SMITH claimed the organization was a non-profit educational organization and exempt from taxes. No definite answer was given relative to this query.

On April 10, 1943 information was received from Informant to the effect that SMITH had received a special delivery letter from a [redacted] (phonetic) of Dayton, Ohio, and that [redacted] was inquiring as to whether or not May 6 was to be the reservation date for a speech which SMITH was apparently to give in Dayton, Ohio. [redacted] stated that she was carrying on negotiations with the County Commissioner for rental of Memorial Hall. [redacted] stated that she had contacted [redacted] (phonetic) relative to the advisability of contacting Governor BRICKER of Ohio as to his ideas of world government.

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Letter to the Director
April 20, 1943

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was, et al
INTERNAL SECURITY - G; CUSTODIAL DETENTION;
SEDITION

On April 16, 1943 BERNARD DOMAN, an employee in SMITH's office, telephonically contacted [redacted] at which time DOMAN advised [redacted] he was sending her some tickets for the LUNDEEN meeting. b7c

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted] b7c
66-1126

43

Detroit, Mich

April, 1943

My dear Subscriber Friend;

By the time you receive this letter I will have been publishing THE CROSS AND THE FLAG for one year. I wonder if you realize what a heavy load this has placed on my shoulders.

For the first three months the magazine was printed by a different printer each month. The printer would be threatened, he would receive anonymous telephone calls, everything imaginable was done to intimidate our printers, and then the next month we would have to find a new printer.

My life has been threatened. Walter Winchell, the character assassin, would scream out my name over the radio in accusing terms. In an article in the Liberty magazine he became so desperate that he said that I had been indicted. The magazine was forced to apologize abjectly for this statement in their issue of September 12.

Since we started THE CROSS AND THE FLAG, I have been a candidate for the United States Senate. All experts agree that I got a majority of the Republican votes. Under the Michigan law the members of both parties can vote for any primary candidate. Fearful of my victory, the New Dealers and the internationalists ganged up on the Republican Party, because there was no contest in the Democratic primary. Every student of political affairs in Michigan knows that I won a great and surprising victory. That was the first time that the New Dealers and the internationalists realized just how strong our kind of people are in America. An indication of my strength in Michigan is in the fact that I polled more votes in the primary than did Mr. Prentiss Brown the year he was nominated.

I am now in the midst of a nationwide tour, visiting large cities and populous centers in the interest of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY. Each month I shall report to the subscribers of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG interesting experiences I am having on this tour.

The enemies of America stop at nothing in attempting to prevent me from speaking in their communities. They riot, they picket, they threaten my friends, they attempt to close meeting halls to me — but when I reach the auditoriums, they are always full, frequently all staning space is taken. I never speak less than an hour and a half and sometimes three hours. Occasionally, we give the people a recess. They go out and come back in again. Such is the hunger of the American people for fearless truth spoken by a Christ-loving citizen who has the courage to put his country first.

Frequently, I have to work all night. Thank God, I have at my side a sweet and lovely and loyal wife who, like myself, reads and thinks and plans day and night for the extension of this cause.

We, of course, hope and pray that the AMERICA FIRST PARTY will never need to be used. We hope that one of the two old parties will fall into the hands of leadership on the order of Wheeler and Nye — but we do know this, that Willkie has lined up his Wall Street friends and his international financiers who are determined that he shall be the Republican nominee for 1944.

Of course, we know that Mr. Roosevelt is now campaigning for his Fourth Term. Should we get a Willkie and a Roosevelt, we must have a third choice. That's one of the things I am working on day and night.

FINE

I thank God for good health. I cannot help but believe that this good health is the answer to prayer. I try not to be santimonious - but, believe me when I tell you that my faith in prayer increases every day.

On February 27 God gave me a 45th birthday. Surely, He has kept me alive and healthy for some noble purpose. I have promised God that I will carry on a crusading fight this year, such as I have never indulged in before.

One or two very sensational and surprising events are about to take place. If I live and have my liberty, I shall keep you informed through the pages of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG. Every conspiring trick known to the enemy will be attempted in the next few months to stop the publication of this crusading journal. Whoever dreamed that the time would come when it would be dangerous in America to glorify the name of Christ and to put America first!

My son, Gerald, Jr., whom we call Gerry, has been in the Army about one month. We made no effort whatsoever to defer him or to postpone his call, because we know that he is no more precious to us than your loved one is to you. The war is on and we have but one task now and that is to win it. The real battle for those of us who are left at home is to preserve our American independence for our boys when they return.

In the future issues of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG I shall try to keep you posted concerning the diabolical conspiracy being attempted by those who would take us into an international government. Foreigners are now in Washington attempting to work up a scheme to put the United States into a post-war government known as the United Nations of the World with a world parliament over us and with foreigners making rules for our people to obey. This, under God, must never happen.

If a paper shortage cuts down the number of issues which we are permitted to print of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG, naturally, the regular paid-up subscribers will come first. That's why I am writing you this letter, in order that you may be sure to renew your subscription which expires with the April issue.

If you have already renewed your subscription for the coming year, be sure to follow the instructions of this letter concerning some other matters in which you will be interested.

If you have not renewed your subscription, be sure to do so at once, so that you will be a part of our regular paid-up list of subscribers.

I prophesy that the day will come when these magazines will be worth much more than the subscription price. When the history of America is written, regardless of what posterity says about my poor ability as an editor, the historians will say: "THERE WAS A MAN WHO HAD THE CHRISTIAN COURAGE TO BE FEARLESS WHEN MANY MEN WERE COWARDS!"

You will need THE CROSS AND THE FLAG for many reasons, but among others are the following reasons:

1. It will contain the best things said by our best Congressmen.
2. Continuation of the Huey Long series.
3. Regular exposures of Communistic propaganda.
4. Facts about Washington published nowhere else.
5. Continuation of remarks by Congressman Dies.
6. The growth of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY.
7. The activities of the Committee of 1,000,000.

8. Fearless statements about the coming Presidential election.
9. The real truth about the internationalists and the World Government gang.

Here is a suggestion. If you are a real friend of this crusade, you will not only want to be a subscriber - and if you have not renewed your subscription, do so at once - but you will want your friends and important people to get this magazine. Why don't you subscribe for others, as well as yourself?

1. Subscribe for your Congressman
2. Subscribe for your Governor.
3. Subscribe for your Mayor.
4. Subscribe for your Pastor.
5. Subscribe for a relative.
6. Subscribe for your best friend.

If you do not want to subscribe for these people for an entire year, why don't you pay for an introductory subscription, which would bring them THE CROSS AND THE FLAG for six months for $1.00?

These are days when most editors are afraid to print the truth and most speakers are afraid to speak the truth.

I promise you that before I will surrender my right to speak and print the truth, I shall face a firing squad, a sentence to prison, or whatever may be necessary to demonstrate my determination to be true to the America of Lincoln and Washington and to the Christ and faith of our fathers.

If you would like to make a donation for subscribers, we have a list of names of people who have expressed a desire to get the magazine but cannot afford to subscribe for it. If you desire to renew your own subscription and enclose a donation, we shall use the donation for such complimentary subscription.

Please use the attached form to express your desires in helping us to carry on the publication of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG.

Sincerely yours in the name of the Living Christ,

GERALD L. K. SMITH

GLKS/U

P.S. Pursuade others to subscribe.

April 23, 1943

[redacted] b1c

~~62-43818~~

SAC, Detroit

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
The Committee of One Million
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

A review of the Bureau's file in this case reflects that your office has been neglecting the submission of the required weekly letters relative to the services of [redacted] b7D

It is expected that the desired letters will be forthcoming regularly in the future.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8 BTJ

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62-43818-235
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 27 1943
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
APR 23 5 21 PM '43
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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FBI

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
APR 24 1943 P.M.
MAIL ROOM
MAY 8 1943

[redacted] b7c

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit - Michigan
April 12, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Keare
Miss Gandy

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

[redacted]

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases
Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt;
THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G,
CUSTODIAL DETENTION;
SEDITION. (62-43818)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated April 5, 1943, in which letter the Bureau requested that the Detroit Office contact appropriate officials of the Ford Motor Company in an effort to ascertain the details surrounding [redacted] trip to Indianapolis, and the Bureau also requested that inquiries be made relative to [redacted] b7c

[redacted], an employee [redacted] for a number of years and a contact of the Detroit Office, upon interview stated that although he had not known [redacted] for a great length of time [redacted] of Ford Motor Company, approximately two or three months prior to the time [redacted] went to Indianapolis on business for the Ford Motor Company. b7c, b7d

[redacted] b7c & b7d

RECORDED 62-43818-23

With reference to [redacted] trip to Indianapolis, [redacted] continued by relating that he had been contacted by [redacted] sometime in the fall of 1942, and at that time [redacted] explained to him unofficially b7c

8 MAY 5 1943

FOR DEFENSE BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

Klussmann to Quinn Tamm to Rosen 4/29/43

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FIVE

that [redacted] (phonetic), [redacted] of the Ford Naval Training Station at Dearborn, Michigan, had informed [redacted] that he had serving under him at that particular base a man by the name of [redacted] that [redacted] had been called a "submarine" and had been threatening to turn [redacted] in for alleged irregularities on the part of [redacted]

[redacted] contacted [redacted] with the idea in mind, according to [redacted] that the Ford Company might unofficially find something out about the character of [redacted] who allegedly resided in Kansas City, and that [redacted] himself had formerly been quite active in boy scout circles in Indianapolis, Indiana.

[redacted] stated that he had then contacted [redacted] and explained that [redacted] was to go first to Kansas City and then to Indianapolis in an effort to find out something detremental relative to [redacted] if possible. [redacted] proceeded to Kansas City where he succeeded in obtaining a great deal of derogatory information concerning [redacted]

[redacted] then went to Indianapolis, where he contacted [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company at Indianapolis, and explained to [redacted] the purpose of his mission; that [redacted] had allegedly worked with [redacted] the entire morning in an effort to locate some derogatory information concernin [redacted] that shortly after [redacted] had his lunch, he [redacted]

[redacted] stated that all of the information which he furnished relative to the purpose of [redacted] mission was very definitely given to the Detroit Office as a matter of confidence, and that he did not desire this confidence violated by having the exact reason for [redacted] trip known to outside sources. [redacted] stated that in the event it became known that he had supplied this information, he might become involved in a great deal of trouble at the Ford Company.

[redacted] stated that he had always understood it to be more or less general knowledge that [redacted] and continued by stating very definitely that the above reasons were the exact reasons why [redacted] was in Indianapolis [redacted] and that [redacted] was not in Indianapolis in any connection with the GERALD L. K. SMITH matter.

[redacted]

ALL b1c, b7

[redacted]

b7

In the absence of any further instructions from the Bureau along this line of the investigation, no further inquiries will be made by the Detroit Office.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

John S. Bugas, SAC

[redacted] b7c

62-1126

JPHq:WMJ
RECORD-29-43

- 43818 -236

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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mlc

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Further reference is had to my memorandum of January 21, 1943, wherein I outlined the results of a certain investigation conducted at your request as to the circumstances surrounding [redacted]

For your further information in this regard, the Bureau's Detroit Office has recently been advised by [redacted]

Mr. T[redacted]
Mr. B[redacted]
Mr. Cl[redacted]
Mr. [redacted]
Mr. G[redacted]
Mr. La[redacted]
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Trac[redacted]
Mr. Car[redacted]
Mr. Harb[redacted]
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuir[redacted]
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

☆ MAY 1 - 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAY 6 1943

[redacted] For your further information, it has been determined from a confidential and reliable source that [redacted] was not in Indianapolis [redacted] concerning any matter having pertinence to this case or the activities of subject Smith.

b7C, b7D

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-7463

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CLEVELAND, OHIO	4-23-43	4/3,16/43	[redacted] AJR

TITLE: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases.
THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000

CHARACTER OF CASE: INTERNAL SECURITY-G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

DEFERRED RECORDING

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

On April 3, 1943 for the second time in Cleveland, at the Franklin Auditorium, an America First Party Rally was held, sponsored by the United Mothers of America. GERALD L. K. SMITH, speaking to an audience of approximately five hundred persons, announced that Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, President of the United Mothers of America, had arranged with Mayor LAUSCHE for the holding of a similar rally in the Cleveland Public Auditorium April 27, 1943. SMITH announced that he expected the widow of ex-Senator ERNEST LUNDEEN to be present April 27, 1943 as a guest speaker. SMITH repeated many of the statements previously made at this same auditorium, and in addition, ridiculed prominent New Deal figures, including HARRY HOPKINS and BERNARD BARUCH. SMITH, after displaying a flag, (a combination of the British and United States flag with the union jack placed where normally the stars would be), threw it to the floor and trampeled on it. SMITH introduced Captain EARL SOUTHARD, Past Departmental Commander, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Chicago, Illinois, who spoke criticizing plans of certain "internationalists" and the New Deal's prosecution of the war. A list of some of the persons attending this meeting, as reflected by license numbers of cars, is being retained in the Cleveland file.

-P-

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/29/91 BY SP2 mAC #88 VK

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 4-9-43 at Detroit, Michigan.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: L. V. Boardman SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43871-237

14 APR 26 1943

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4 - Detroit
2 - Cleveland

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(1 - USA, Detroit)

cc J Rowe 5/3/43

EX-3

100-7463

DETAILS:

For the second time in Cleveland on Saturday night, April 3, 1943 at 8:00 PM, an America First Party Rally was held at the Franklin Auditorium, 2515 Franklin Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio. Introductions were made by Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, President of the United Mothers of America. Mrs. STANLEY read from a prepared speech in which she stated that this was a world of hypocrisy and destructive evils. Mrs. STANLEY condemned the proposed "World Court and World Government" allegedly being advocated by internationalists within the Federal Administration.

Besides Mrs. STANLEY on the platform were Mr. and Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH and Captain EARL SOUTHARD. The audience was approximately five hundred in number, completely filling the hall, comprised in a large part of members of the United Mothers of America, their husbands and friends, together with elderly couples of German descent.

Mrs. STANLEY introduced GERALD L. K. SMITH, National Chairman of the Committee of 1,000,000 and national organizer of the "America First Party."

SMITH announced that Mayor FRANK LAUSCHE, after being again petitioned by Mrs. DAVID STANLEY and her group, did finally allow him, SMITH, to speak April 27, 1943 in the ballroom of the Public Auditorium. SMITH stated that he hoped to have with him as a speaker, Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, wife of former Senator LUNDEEN of Minnesota. SMITH's remarks were mainly, but more briefly, the same as those made at his previous rally in this hall, 2-11-43.

SMITH verbally attacked leading New Deal figures and the internationalists' ideas as to a post war type of government. He repeated his remarks that Vice President HENRY A. WALLACE should be impeached for his address on the anniversary of the Russian Revolution. SMITH mentioned that miners and steel workers were having to live on the meat rationed them. In comparison, he ridiculed HARRY HOPKINS and BERNARD BARUCH, pointing out that BARUCH had given a party at Washington where the price of the dinner was $110 a plate with seven kinds of meat, forty kinds of food, and a rare vintage of champagne was served.

SMITH likewise attacked food administrator CLAUDE R. WICKARD for having a thousand pounds of meat and twelve hundred pounds of lard in his refrigerator, stating that WICKARD should be on his way to the Federal Penitentiary. SMITH praised Representative HAMILTON FISH for submitting an ammendment to a recent bill before the National Congress which dealt with sabotage.

100-7463

SMITH also pointed out that WALTER WINCHELL had been ordered to take off his uniform when making his radio addresses.

SMITH displayed a flag which he stated was that of the "internationalists". The flag is made up basically of the United States flag with a replica of the British union jack in place of the normal field of stars on the United States flag. SMITH after displaying the flag to the audience, threw it down to the floor and trampeled on it, stating, "That's what I think of it."

A good portion of SMITH's speech was taken up in the attack on the Block Plan which was sponsored by the Office of Civilian Defense. SMITH claimed that this plan was being used by men close to the President as a basis for a fourth term campaign.

SMITH also criticized the plan on the belief that the leaders of this system would use it as a Gestapo agency within the United States; thus, the Block leaders would be instructed to talk to persons within their area and report whatever information they obtain.

Before introducing Captain SOUTHARD, SMITH asked for donations and pledges for the America First Party, and baskets were passed in the audience collecting such. SMITH requested that those contributing put a number up on the edge of their pledge cards or donation cards indicating the number of invitations they would be able to distribute for the meeting to be held on April 27, 1943.

Captain EARL SOUTHARD, Past Departmental Commander, Veterans of Foreign Wars, of Chicago, Illinois, addressed the audience for approximately an hour to an hour and a half. SOUTHARD, less vitriolic than SMITH, reviewed the progress of the war, criticized the policies of the present administration, and denounced the ideological form of government sponsored by the "internationalists".

[redacted] b2D

-PENDING-

100-7463

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

CLEVELAND FIELD DIVISION

At Cleveland, Ohio

Will report on the America First Party Rally scheduled for April 27, 1943 in the ballroom of the Cleveland Public Auditorium.

-PENDING-

[redacted]:WMJ
5-3-43
62-43818 - 237

RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your information, there is transmitted herewith a copy of a report submitted in connection with the above-entitled matter by Special Agent [redacted], at Cleveland, Ohio, on April 23, 1943.

b2c

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/20/81 BY SP7MAC #88444

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 2
★ MAY 5 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED READING ROOM
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
MAY 4 4 43 PM '43

MAY 12 1943

[redacted]

5-4-43
62-43818

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Reference is made to our previous correspondence and to the reports which have heretofore been made available to you in connection with the investigation of this case.

For your further information, there are transmitted herewith copies of the following additional reports which have recently been received:

Report of Special Agent [redacted] submitted at Detroit, Michigan, on April 9, 1943.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] submitted at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on April 14, 1943.

b7c

I am also transmitting with this memorandum copies of the January, February, and March, 1943, issues of subject's publication, "The Cross and the Flag," which, as you will note, are listed as enclosures on page twenty-three of Special Agent [redacted] report.

b7c

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Very truly yours,

62-43818-238

RECORDED

John Edgar Hoover
Director

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 6 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
MAY 5 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Enclosure

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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP8BTJ/mlm

J.P. HANRATTY;[redacted]
4-30-43

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mk

BOOKLET ENTITLED, "DANGEROUS ENEMIES"

A booklet of approximately one hundred pages entitled, "Dangerous Enemies," was published by Gerald L. K. Smith at Detroit, Michigan, during 1939. According to an advertisement leaflet circulated with this booklet, it purportedly describes the relationship between "over 700 radicals, Reds, fellow travellers, spies, agitators, Hitlerites, Stalinites," and American schools, churches, labor unions, and governmental agencies. An introductory page to the booklet states that the data set forth therein are founded on "Congressional Committee Reports, police records, photostatic copies of documentary evidence, and the affidavits of living witnesses."

The booklet was apparently written by Smith and according to a notation appearing therein, was published in furtherance of Smith's efforts as leader of the "Committee of One Million."

Gerald L. K. Smith was born at Pardeeville, Wisconsin, during February, 1898, and after having graduated from the Valparaiso (Indiana) University, took up active duty as a minister. He held several pastorates and ultimately became located at Shreveport, Louisiana, as the minister of the King's Highway Church of Shreveport.

During 1932 and 1933 Smith became interested in the political movement of the late Senator Huey Long, and eventually in 1934 left the ministry and took up duties as a public speaker and organizer for Senator Long. He remained so engaged until Long's death.

In 1938 Smith moved to Detroit, Michigan, where he endeavored to found an organization known as the "Committee of One Million." The self-announced principles of this organization were listed as follows:

"1. To rebuild the Spirit of America.
"2. To wipe out to the last vestige, Communism, Nazism and Fascism in all forms.
"3. To redefine the American National Character.
"4. To instill a new spirit in American Youth, dedicated intellectually and physically to the maintenance of American institutions.
"5. To issue a call to farmers and laborers to resist what is now known to be an international plot to make them part of a world revolution.
"6. To rededicate the citizenry of America to the family altar and to the spirit of the Church.
"7. To secure the maintenance of a well-defined standard of American living."

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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43 MAY 10 1943

62-43616-23
9 MAY 4 1943
FILE

Smith distributed a good bit of literature in atte pting to promote the "Committee of One Million" but reportedly was never successful in establishing an organization of any significant size. According to Smith, the "Committee of One Million" still exists, but it is understood that in recent months Smith has been principally engaged in an attempt to form a third political party known as the America First Party. Allegedly Smith hopes to gain support for this party from the remnants of the America First Committee.

According to his own statements, Smith has always been strongly opposed to Communism, and it is known that from time to time he has distributed a good bit of literature concerning Communism, and its alleged efforts to penetrate the American way of life.

Smith reportedly was a strong advocate of isolationism before the involvement of the United States in the war, but it is understood that in recent months his public statements have been directed primarily against the rationing system and alleged dictatorial trends in this country.

During the summer of 1942, Smith unsuccessfully sought the Republican nomination for United States Senator from the State of Michigan. Even though he was defeated in the Primary Election, he maintained his candidacy in the general election as a "write-in" candidate. It is understood that he made a rather poor showing in the general election.

Incident to his work as leader of the "Committee of One Million" and the America First Party, Smith has published a magazine known as "The Cross and the Flag." This publication has from time to time set forth his general policies and programs as outlined above.

Mr. Tolson_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm_
Mr. Clegg_____
Mr. Coffey_____
Mr. Glavin_____
Mr. Ladd_____
Mr. Nichols_____
Mr. Rosen_____
Mr. Tracy_____
Mr. Carson_____
Mr. Harbo_____
Mr. Hendon_____
Mr. McGuire_____
Mr. Mumford_____
Mr. Piper_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm_
Mr. Nease_____
Miss Gandy_____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-5778

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
PITTSBURGH, PA.	4/14/43	4/1/43	[redacted] b7

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY - G Custodial Detention SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: GERALD L. K. SMITH spoke before a crowd of 750 people at North Side Carnegie Free Library, Pittsburgh, Pa. on 4/1/43 denouncing the Administration's rationing program, criticizing present U. S. relationship with Russia and England, and demanding impeachment of Vice President WALLACE. No seditious statements noted.

- RUC - DEFERRED RECORDING

DETAILS: Inasmuch as the Detroit Office had requested that an agent be present at the speech given by GERALD L. K. SMITH at Pittsburgh on February 22, 1943, information regarding which Subject was reported in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 20, 1943 at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, it was deemed advisable to cover the subsequent meeting held by SMITH in Pittsburgh on April 1, 1943. b

At this meeting, which was held in the evening at North Side Carnegie Free Library, SMITH, to a large extent, repeated what he had said in his talks previously given in Pittsburgh which were reported in the report of Special Agent [redacted] referred to above. b

SMITH criticized the nation's rationing program; he assailed Senate Bill #666 on manpower conscription, terming it the "Gestapo Bill" inasmuch as he claimed an effort was being made to catalog and regiment the entire population in order to take away constitutional rights of the people, further claiming that the Bill would authorize the separation of families involuntarily, forcing husbands to work in war industries in some part of the country while the wives might be forced to work in another part of the United States, and in addition, claiming that the Bill would require all men to work or fight.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: H. K. Johnson SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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3 Pittsburgh

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58

HCM

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SMITH assailed BERNARD BARUCH as a supporter of the "Gestapo Bill". He alleged that BARUCH asserted that if people refused to submit to the demands of the Government to do war work, their rations would be cut. He referred to BARUCH'S farewell party given in honor of LEON HENDERSON at the Carlton Hotel in Washington, D. C. SMITH declared that BARUCH and the Administration were attempting to so control the lives of the people that when peace came we would have a peace time dictatorship.

SMITH declared that Vice President WALLACE should be impeached for his pro-Communist attitude and that someone like CHARLES LINDBERG should be elected president; he believed that the next president would be from the America First Party.

SMITH read a newspaper article appearing in the Pittsburgh Sun Telegraph newspaper dated April 1, 1943 giving account of a verbal attack made by representative BRADLEY of Michigan on the alleged fourth term aspirations of the Administration, supposedly being engineered by LANDIS, NEYHUS, WICKARD, C. DAVIS and others. SMITH pointed out that the Sun Telegraph is a Hearst newspaper and that he has noted that this newspaper has been the strongest Pittsburgh paper to support the principles for which the America First Party stands. He stated that BRADLEY was introducing a bill to limit the number of terms that a president may hold office to two terms. He further referred to the Sun Telegraph newspaper, and it was apparent that he was making considerable effort to advertise the paper, doing everything but suggesting that supporters of the America First Party read the Sun Telegraph newspaper regularly.

He remarked that WALTER WINCHELL'S navy uniform had been taken away from him and that WINCHELL is now back in private life.

SMITH referred to the "thousands" of able bodied "draft dodgers" who now hold Government clerical jobs in Washington, D. C.

SMITH criticized the lend lease program whereby Russia was permitted to borrow Henry Ford's rubber plant. He alleged that Japan was selling rubber to Russia, that Russia ie selling rubber products to the United States in return for food and supplies, and that as a result, in effect, the United States is buying rubber from Japan and selling Japan war materials with which to fight us.

SMITH declared that WALTER VENIG, English government representative recently in the United States, said that England has kept no records of the amount of material obtained from us and that England does not intend to keep any records either now or after the war, and that VENIG had implied that England has no intention of paying for the material which she is now obtaining from the United States under the lend lease program.

Mrs. MARIE LOHLE, mentioned in the previous report of Special Agent [redacted] acted as chairman of the meeting. Mrs. CHARLES H. MADDEN, also referred to previously, was on the speaker's platform. b7

During the course of the meeting SMITH again asked for contributions to the America First Party and passed out envelopes which members of the audience would use to indicate the amount which they could regularly give each month to the America First Party cause. Any amount which they cared to contribute on that evening in question was also to be placed in the envelopes. SMITH stated that he did not desire that anyone pledge himself to give less than $1.00 per month to the fund.

At the meeting there was also distributed to the audience a printed leaflet entitled "Awake America To The Dangers Of World Government". This leaflet attacked the efforts made by organisations in support of a world government or world union to control world affairs subsequent to the present war. At the bottom of the leaflet was a notation that any voluntary contributions to the organization (meaning the America First Party) should be sent to the Defenders of George Washington's Principles, Post Office Box 8227, Pittsburgh (17), Pennsylvania. A copy of the said leaflet is being retained in the Pittsburgh file.

It is noted that several copies of admission cards which were necessary to gain entrance at the meeting held at the North Side Carnegie Free Library on April 1, 1943, were received at the Pittsburgh Office. Copies of these cards are being retained in the Pittsburgh file as well as a handbill advertising SMITH'S scheduled talk on April 1, 1943.

It is further noted that SMITH announced at the meeting that Mrs. ERNEST LUDEEN, wife of the late Senator LUDEEN, would come to Pittsburgh in the near future and speak to an audience of America First supporters.

Since there are no further outstanding leads in this Division, the case is being Referred Upon Completion To The Office Of Origin.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
Detroit, Michigan
April 7, 1943

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

Director, FBI

Attention: Mechanical Section

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,
with aliases;
THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000;
INTERNAL SECURITY;
CUSTODIAL DETENTION;
SEDITION. (62-43818)

Dear Sir:

[redacted]

There is being enclosed herewith a roll of exposed minipan film containing exposures of papers made in connection with the investigation of the above-entitled case.

It is respectfully requested that this film be developed and three prints, 8 x 10 inches in size, be developed and returned to the Detroit Field Office.

In view of the extreme importance of this case, it will be greatly appreciated if this matter could be given expeditious attention.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

John S. Bugas, SAC

[redacted] b7c

Enclosure
62-1126

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83 OCT 13 1964

62-1126-244
F B I
MAY - 4 1943

[redacted] b7c

Date: April 26, 1943

To: SAC, Detroit

-241

RECORDED

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,
with aliases;
THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000;
INTERNAL SECURITY;
CONTINUAL DETENTION;
SEDITION. (62-43818)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8 BJS/N

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Reference is made to your letter to the Bureau dated April 7, 1943, transmitting one roll of film containing exposures pertaining to the above named case.

In accordance with your request, three enlarged photographic prints of each exposure and the negatives are being returned to your office under separate registered cover.

RECEIVED APR 27 1943 P.M. FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[redacted] b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Origin DETROIT, MICHIGAN — DETROIT File No. 62-1126

Made At	Made	Period	Made by
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	4/9/43	1/23, 2/26; 3/22; 4/5-7/43	[redacted] BJG

b2

Title	Character
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases: Gerald L. K. Smith; Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY - G CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

SYNOPSIS: Subject SMITH continuing to organize AMERICA FIRST PARTY in Michigan and several other mid-western states. Support received from former members of AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE, followers of REVEREND CHARLES E. COUGHLIN, UNITED MOTHERS OF AMERICA and other isolationist groups. Plans made for isolationist president candidate in 1944 from Republicans or Democrats; otherwise AMERICA FIRST PARTY will furnish one. LINDBERGH and BURTON K. WHEELER suggested. Campaign against world federation after war launched by Subject in propaganda and debates. SMITH sponsored picketing of CLARENCE K. STREIT'S lecture and distributing of literature obtained from COMMITTEE OF AMERICAN WOMEN AGAINST COMMUNISM INCORPORATED, NEW YORK CITY. SMITH attempted to unseat Michigan State Senator STANLEY NOWAK as a Communist. SMITH believed to have contact with REVEREND GERALD B. WINROD, Wichita, Kansas; MRS. ELIZABETH DILLING, Chicago, Illinois; REVEREND HARRY B. CLARK, Sioux City, Iowa; and REVEREND E. J. ROLLINGS, Detroit, Michigan. Subject continues monthly publication of "The Cross and the Flag" magazine with circulation of approximately 7,000. Printed and spoken propaganda of Subject criticizes Administration's policies in rationing, internationalism, Communist influence and other aspects of the Administration's war effort. SMITH shows keen interest in nation-wide indictment for seditious conspiracy. January issue of "The Cross and the Flag" sent to a member of the armed forces.

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(Detroit file 62-1126)

REFERENCE: (62-43818) - Report of Special Agent [redacted] b7c
[redacted] dated January 25, 1943 at Detroit, Michigan.

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan:

[redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, has advised upon recontact that SMITH is continuing to organize the AMERICA FIRST PARTY in Michigan and several other mid-western states. His meetings are now being held under the name of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY rather than under the name of THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000. The AMERICA FIRST PARTY is registered as an independent organization distinct from THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000 and the FEDERATION OF AMERICANIZATION OF MICHIGAN INCORPORATED, a Michigan corporation which has heretofore been used as a fiscal agent by Subject. b7D

SMITH has explained to informant that the purpose of the separate identity was to keep the nature of the FEDERATION OF AMERICANIZATION OF MICHIGAN INCORPORATED and THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000 completely non-political. It was also pointed out that under the charter of THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000 and the FEDERATION OF AMERICANIZATION OF MICHIGAN INCORPORATED, those corporations were not empowered to take up any collection for politial purpose.

Informant stated that the trade name THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY was registered with the Clark of Wayne County Court in Detroit, Michigan, and the headquarters was given as 2006 Industrial National Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan, which has been the headquarters of SMITH'S COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000 and FEDERATION OF AMERICANIZATION OF MICHIGAN INCORPORATED.

Informant stated GERALD L. K. SMITH was the instigator of the picket line that surrounded the entrance of the Detroit Athletic Club on January 13, 1943, when CLARENCE K. STREIT, author of "Union Now" and advocate of world federation, addressed the members of the Detroit Athletic Club. Informant stated that Mrs. SMITH told him that the women who were picketing STREIT were the same group that had picketed LORD HALIFAX when he visited Detroit last year.

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While the picket was going on SMITH'S adopted son, GERALD Z. SMITH, distributed numerous circulars criticizing CLARENCE STREIT'S plan as set forth in "Union Now." These pamphlets were obtained by SMITH from THE COMMITTEE OF AMERICAN WOMEN AGAINST COMMUNISM INCORPORATED, NEW YORK CITY. MRS. GERALD L. K. SMITH herself led the picket line and other women picketers were recruited from the ranks of MOTHERS OF AMERICA by MRS. MURRAY WINGLES.

A photograph of the picket line appeared in the "Detroit Free Press" on January 14, 1943 under the caption "UNION NOW PROVOKES PROTEST IN DETROIT." The photograph shows women pickets in front of the Detroit Athletic Club protesting world union plan of CLARENCE K. STREIT. "Mrs. Gerald L. K. Smith (second from left) led the pickets while Streit addressed Detroit business men." The picket signs read as follows:

"KEEP AMERICA INDEPENDENT"
"AMERICA FIRST"
"STREIT SHOULD BE IN ARMY"
"STREIT IS A TRAITOR"
"'UNION NOW' IS TREASON"

Informant stated that SMITH is maintaining a close contact with CAPTAIN EARL SOUTHARD of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Chicago, Illinois. SOUTHARD complimented SMITH for causing a sensation in picketing CLARENCE STREIT at the Detroit Athletic Club. SOUTHARD informed SMITH that he himself assisted in the writing of the pamphlet which was distributed by THE COMMITTEE OF AMERICAN WOMEN AGAINST COMMUNISM of New York City.

SOUTHARD told SMITH that he himself wrote a letter denouncing any attempt at world government, and that the letter was written on the stationery of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Consequently, SOUTHARD was going to be court-martialed by the Veterans of Foreign Wars for having written such a criticism on the official stationery.

Informant stated that SOUTHARD and SMITH discussed the meeting that was held in Chicago, Illinois on January 15, 1943 with the assistance of SOUTHARD and WILLIAM GRACE. Over one thousand people attended and SMITH obtained subscriptions to magazines to the extent of more than one hundred dollars.

Informant stated that he believed SMITH was maintaining contact with GERALD B. WINROD of Wichita, Kansas through the intermediary REVEREND E. J. ROLLINGS of Detroit, Michigan and REVEREND LELAND MARION of Pontiac, Michigan.

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SMITH expressed his regret to informant that the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE had disbanded after December 7, 1941. He had decided to organize the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE all over the United States as a working nucleus of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY. It would not be necessary for a member of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY to withdraw from either the Republican or the Democratic Party. The purpose of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY, according to SMITH, was to assure the good people of the United States that they will have a real choice for president in 1944 and be protected from a recurrence of the 1940 situation when they had to choose between ROOSEVELT and WILLKIE.

SMITH himself composed the slogans that were to be displayed at the organizational meeting on January 10, 1943 at Eagles Hall, Detroit, Michigan. The slogans read as follows:

"BILLIONS FOR DEFENSE; NOT A PENNY FOR INTERNATIONAL PROPAGANDA"

"BUTTER FOR AMERICA FIRST"

"ORDER OF LOYALTIES--ARMED FORCES FIRST, CIVILIANS SECOND, ALLIES THIRD, REST OF WORLD LAST"

"BRING THE BOYS HOME WHEN THE WAR IS WON"

"NO FOURTH TERM"

"WE MUST HAVE A CHOICE IN 1944"

"AMERICA FIRST MEANS FEED, CLOTHE AND DEFEND AMERICANS FIRST"

"THE FOUR FREEDOMS FOR AMERICA FIRST"

"DRIVE THE INTERNATIONALISTS OUT OF WASHINGTON"

"WE FIGHT ALL ATTEMPTS AT WORLD GOVERNMENT"

"GEORGE WASHINGTON AND NOT HENRY WALLACE WILL DECIDE THE DESTINY OF AMERICA"

"AMERICA FIRST IN WAR AND PEACE"

At SMITH'S meeting on January 10, 1943, he announced the formation of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY and distributed a press release to that effect. A copy of this press release was obtained by Special Agent [redacted] and is set out as follows:

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"To be released not earlier than 4:00 p.m., Sunday, January 10, 1943.

Press Release

AMERICA FIRST MOVEMENT REVIVED.

GERALD L. K. SMITH LEADS IN LAUNCHING AMERICA FIRST PARTY ON NATIONWIDE BASIS.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS TO BE IN DETROIT.

COMMITTEE OF 1000 IN 48 STATES BEING APPOINTED BY SMITH.

500 LEADERS MEETING IN DETROIT APPROVE PLANS.

WILD ENTHUSIASM PREVAILS AS SMITH CRIES OUT FOR "INDEPENDENT DESTINY" FOR AMERICA AFTER THE WAR.

ASSAILS WILLKIE-WALLACE INTERNATIONALISM.

"FORMATION OF AMERICA FIRST PARTY SAFETY-FIRST MOVE," SAYS SMITH, "IN CASE OLD PARTIES GO INTERNATIONALIST IN 1944."

EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT OF PLANS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO GET ON BALLOTS IN STATES REQUIRING NOTICES LONG IN ADVANCE.

SMITH TO TOUR NATION. MEETINGS ALREADY SCHEDULED IN CHICAGO, ST. PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE REPRESENTING ALL STATES TO MEET IN SPRING TO PLAN STRATEGY.

"In a surprise maneuver Gerald L. K. Smith, nationally-known isolationist and bitter enemy of the Henry Wallace philosophy of internationalism and the Willkie philosophy of world politics, called together 500 of his picked leaders in Detroit, Sunday afternoon, January 10.

"He not only revived the America First idea, but formed a working committee and launched a campaign to organize an America First party.

"Cheering delegates, reminiscent of the old America First rallies and rallies conducted under the auspices of the Committee of 1,000,000, paraded and marched up and down the aisles under banners bearing the following slogans:

(Detroit file 62-1126)

"BILLIONS FOR DEFENSE - NOT ONE PENNY FOR INTERNATIONALIST PROPAGANDA! BUTTER FOR AMERICANS FIRST! ORDER OF LOYALTY: 1. ARMED FORCES 2. CIVILIAN 3. ALLIES 4. REST OF WORLD! BRING BOYS HOME WHEN WAR IS WON! WE FIGHT WORLD GOVERNMENT! NO FOURTH TERM! WE MUST HAVE A CHOICE IN 1944! AMERICA MUST REMAIN INDEPENDENT! BEAT FOR AMERICANS FIRST! AMERICA FIRST MEANS - FEED, CLOTHE, DEFEND AMERICANS FIRST! THE FOUR FREEDOMS FOR AMERICA FIRST! AMERICA FIRST IN WAR AND PEACE! RUN THE INTERNATIONALISTS OUT OF WASHINGTON!

""The conduct of the war is not an issue," said Smith. "We all assume that every patriotic American will do all in his power to effect an early military victory. The alarming activities of such internationalists as Henry Wallace and Wendell Willkie in their attempt to promote us into a world government after the war have inspired the formation of this emergency party.

""The best way for the Democrats to kill this new party movement is to put a man like Burton K. Wheeler in leadership, and the best way the Republicans can kill this party movement is to respect the editorial policy of such journals as the Chicago Tribune, quit 'pussy-footing' and follow the course marked out by men like Taft, Brooks and Lindbergh."

"Midst cries of great enthusiasm, Smith continued by saying: "Here is the text of our campaign - This gesture to form a new party, called the America First party, is a safety-first measure. We must devise the mechanics and set up the machinery for a new party. This will not be a "Third" party. This is to be an active, aggressive party just in case the two old parties merge, as they virtually did in 1940 when we were forced to choose between Willkie and Roosevelt."

"Continued Smith, "This step is being taken eighteen months in advance of the National Conventions of the two parties, because if we wait until 1944 or even late this year, we will not be able to get on the ballot in some states. If we do not set up the machinery for a new party, we will have no means for expressing our independence in 1944 - should both old parties nominate internationalist and give us no choice, as they did in 1940."

"If we set up the machinery for a new party and the two old parties merge, then we will have preserved the two-party system. If, on the other hand, the Democrats rescue their party from the New Deal Communists and

bureaucratic Fascists and nominate a good man - we can support him. If the Republicans also nominate a good man, devoted to an independent destiny for America, then our new party can dissolve, because if both old parties remain true to the traditions of the people by putting America First in their platform and in the selection of their leadership and in the nomination of their candidates - there will be no need of the America First party."

""But, if the bureaucratic Fascists and the New Deal Communists keep control of the Democratic party and the Republican party goes Willkie or takes a do-nothing attitude - then we shall strike!"

"Smith advised all the leaders attending the meeting to continue to be active in one of the old parties in order that the America First sentiment might be generated within the old parties, but he called on his people to be prepared to do whatever necessary in order to set up the machinery for a safety-first party to be known as the AMERICA FIRST party.

""Leaders all over America" said Smith, "will set up units such as the George Washington, the Lindbergh unit, the Wheeler unit, the Taft, the Brooks unit. These units can name themselves after any public figure, living or dead, who has taken a courageous stand in favor of an "independent destiny" for America."

""In fact," said Smith, "we wouldn't doubt but what a unit might be named after the late Senator Lodge, who almost single-handed held back the tidal wave of internationalism when he took the floor of the United States Senate following the last war against foreign entanglements and our membership in the League of Nations."

""We wish," said Smith, "that all Americans could concentrate on just one thing at this time -- winning the war as soon as possible. But, inasmcuh as our Vice President and the titular head of the Republican party, Wendell Willkie, and thousands of others in positions of great political power and prominence are working day and night to get us into some sort of world state - those of us who are still foolish enough to believe in the Declaration of Independence and the philosophy of George Washington concerning foreign entanglements feel that the time has come for us to devise an instrument to be used in the expression of our will concerning these matters."

"Smith announced that a working committee of one thousand would be appointed all over the United States, who would be asked to carry out in detail plans for launching the committee.

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"Continuing, he said: "I hope and pray that the two old parties, or at least one of the two old parties, will so rescue themselves from the tentacles of internationalist political conspiracies to the end that the consummation of this movement will be unnecessary - but at this moment the picture looks so dark that we cannot run the risk of being caught between two evils, as we were in 1940."

""We expect to be smeared and dubbed with all the bitter nicknames the enemy can command. Politicians who in this dark hour can afford to sit down to $40-per plate dinners and 23 kinds of food, while the working people of America cannot even get butter and meat, naturally are prepared to persecute those of us who rise up to say - We, the people, are still here."

""We are proud of the slogan "America First in War and Peace" and we are unashamed to pray for and fight for an independent destiny for America after this war."

"Although chief emphasis at the initial meeting had to do with the issue of international politics, Smith announced "at an early date we shall emphasize other potent issues."

""We shall support a thorough investigation of Lend-Lease activities, as being inaugurated by Senator Burton K. Wheeler. We shall put the interests of service men, such as compensations, bonuses and reemployment projects ahead of money squandering schemes now being hatched by those who would scatter our wealth all over the world after the war."

""We shall fight all tendencies toward bureaucratic Fascism."

""We shall support all patriotic Labor movements which are kept in the hands of patriotic American leadership."

""We shall oppose any relaxation of the immigration laws after the war."

""We shall support a protective tariff in order that the American worker be guaranteed protection against slave labor competition in foreign nations."

""We shall support the American Farm Bloc in Congress now attempting to save the American farmer from being reduced to regimented peonage on a par with the peasantry of foreign nations."

""We believe in lifting the standard of world living by example and good will but not by the reduction of the living standards of our own people."

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"(The contents of this release have been read by me and are correct.)

(signed) GERALD L. K. SMITH"

SMITH explained to MURRAY KNOWLES, a former leader of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE, Detroit, Michigan, that he would appoint a committee of one thousand as an Executive Committee for the AMERICA FIRST PARTY. His purpose in doing this was to require his opponents to "scatter their shots" instead of singling out a few people to harass.

SMITH justified the revival of the AMERICA FIRST movement in the form of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY, inasmuch as the activities of HENRY WALLACE and WENDELL WILLKIE had put the United States into the danger of being drawn into a post-war world government.

SMITH explained to Mr. KNOWLES that if the Democrats should nominate BURTON K. WHEELER for president in 1944, or if the Republicans should nominate TAFT or LINDBERGH, it would be unnecessary for the AMERICA FIRST PARTY to nominate its own candidate. The AMERICA FIRST PARTY was instituted as an agressive force in case the Democrats and Republicans substantially merge as they did in 1940 when the people had to choose between ROOSEVELT and WILLKIE.

SMITH stated that if the Democrats nominate a good man and rescue their party from the New Deal Communists and bureaucratic Fascists and if the Republicans nominate a good man devoted to an independent destiny for America - then the AMERICA FIRST PARTY could be dissolved.

SMITH proposed to MURRAY KNOWLES that the platform of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY as tentatively drawn by him would urge an investigation of lend-lease activities, support compensations, bonuses and re-employment for servicemen, fight all attempts at bureaucratic Fascism, support all patriotic labor movements in the hands of patriotic Americans, support a high tariff, support a farm bloc in Congress and to set an example of high living standard for the world instead of lowering the American standard of living in order to raise the standard of living in the rest of the world.

Informant stated that SMITH has instructed his manager, BERNARD A. DOWAN, to sign all necessary papers in the following manner: "AMERICA FIRST PARTY, BERNARD DOWAN, AGENT."

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Informant stated that SMITH embarked on an active campaign to drive State Senator STANLEY NOWAK out of his seat in the Michigan Senate. SMITH advised several State Senators in Michigan that he had information of his own that would prove that NOWAK was a Communist and therefore unfit to represent the people of Michigan.

SMITH had been in contact with the office of [redacted] of Ford Motor Company, attempting to obtain information from the files of the Ford Motor Company to the effect that NOWAK had engaged in Communist activities. [redacted] assigned one of his employees, [redacted] to assist SMITH in gathering this information and to turn over to SMITH any information which [redacted] himself had or which was in the files of the Ford Motor Company concerning NOWAK'S Communist affiliation.

SMITH advised informant and many other of his friends that he had indisputable proof that NOWAK'S wife, MARGARET NOWAK, has been head of the Educational Committee for the Communist Party of Michigan for several years.

SMITH also obtained some information about NOWAK from [redacted] another employee of [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company.

SMITH demanded to be heard by the Michigan State Senate on the unfitness of NOWAK as a State Senator, but he was never permitted to address the Michigan State Senate.

On the recommendation of [redacted] SMITH also contacted [redacted] [redacted] advised SMITH that he knew STANLEY NOWAK'S name had appeared on releases of the Proletarian Party. Informant stated that SMITH explained that NOWAK was successful in gaining his seat in the Michigan State Senate even after he had been indicted for fraudulently concealing his Communist affiliation when he was naturalized through the efforts of JUDGE O'BRIEN. SMITH said that O'BRIEN was the same man that had been the Attorney General who quashed the indictments in 1919 when EARL BROWDER and other Communists were raided at Bridgman, Michigan.

Informant stated that SMITH is somewhat concerned over the investigation that is being made of SMITH'S income by Internal Revenue Agents. Informant said that SMITH'S bookkeeping is rather primitive, and that numerous discrepancies have been found. SMITH steadfastly contends that any discrepancy between money received and money spent for his educational and crusading activity was SMITH'S personal income, which was properly reported in his income returns.

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Informant stated that SMITH has been contacting [redacted] of Barrington Chicago, Illinois, but he was unable to state what was the nature of the business transacted between them. b7c

Informant further believed that SMITH had attempted to contact CHARLES LINDBERGH but found out that LINDBERGH was temporarily not in Detroit. Informant stated that SMITH was interested in obtaining and finally succeeded in obtaining a quotation made by BERNARD BARUCH before a Congressional committee about 1936, in which BARUCH revealed that there was a scheme of regimentation forced upon the people compelling them to work and fight and that by this scheme people could be deprived of food, fuel and other necessities of life if they did not obey orders. After SMITH obtained this quotation, he commented on it, saying that BERNARD BARUCH in 1936 suggested that the only way to keep the American people "in line" would be rationing their necessities and punishing those who do not cooperate by withdrawing their ration books.

Informant stated that SMITH made a tour of leading mid-western cities in January and February of 1943. He organized AMERICA FIRST PARTY rallies in Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota, with the assistance of REVEREND CARL O. STADSKLEV. In Chicago he was assisted by EARL SOUTHARD and WILLIAM GRACE. In Cleveland he was assisted by MRS. DAVID STANLEY of Cleveland, Ohio, leader of UNITED MOTHERS OF AMERICA. SMITH was also attempting to arrange rallies in Milwaukee through the cooperation of MRS. WENDELBERG and WILLIAM E. TAAY. The name of PHIL GRAU was also suggested to SMITH by CAPTAIN SOUTHARD as a possible contact in Milwaukee since GRAU and MRS. WENDELBERG were the principal leaders of the former AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE in Milwaukee. SMITH arranged his meeting in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania with the cooperation of [redacted] Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and [redacted] b7c

Informant stated that REVEREND HARRY B. CLARK, Sioux City, Iowa frequently visited Detroit and Wichita, Kansas, and informant believed that CLARK was an intermediary between GERALD WINROD and GERALD SMITH. On one occasion informant heard CLARK tell SMITH that he had spoken to WINROD and advised WINROD of the sacrifices and troubles that SMITH was undergoing for WINROD'S sake, and WINROD gave CLARK the message that he did not know how to thank SMITH adequately. WINROD acknowledged that he would not have "gotten to first base" if it had not been for SMITH. SMITH answered CLARK that any good Christian man would have done the same thing for anyone who is being libeled; that everyone was supporting the United States Government, but that SMITH did not want to see his friends persecuted by criminals.

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SMITH assured CLARK that he would not claim any expense money from WINROD for anything that he was doing for him and also assured him that there would be no penny-pinching on SMITH'S part. SMITH suggested that he could furnish a lawyer that would be suitable for the purpose, and that this lawyer had taken unpopular causes and could be trusted perfectly. Informant suspected that SMITH was referring to Detroit Attorney [redacted] b7c

[redacted]

SMITH inquired of CLARK how WINROD felt about his case, and CLARK indicated that WINROD was optimistic because the Government was free to go ahead on the indictment and had asked for a postponement, but that the defense attorney was agressive and would not consent too readily to a postponement. CLARK commented that WINROD was going to bring "the real issue" to the front and that they knew it.

Informant stated that SMITH is continuing to publish "The Cross and the Flag" and that 7,000 issues are printed monthly and distributed in practically everyone of the forty-eight states. About one thousand magazines are distributed in the vicinity of Detroit, Michigan.

Informant stated that SMITH ordered stationery printed for the AMERICA FIRST PARTY bearing the following inscriptions: "AMERICA FIRST PARTY, Gerald L. K. Smith, Director and Organizer; Bernard A. Doman, Secretary-Treasurer." At the bottom of the sheet is to be "For God and Country."

Informant stated that he was advised by SMITH that the Internal Revenue Agents investigating SMITH'S income asked SMITH about income that he had received in New York City as far back as 1936. SMITH explained that all this income was spent in the course of SMITH'S crusading campaign, and that none of it was personal income to him except what little amounts he required for personal expenses.

Informant stated that SMITH had publicly complimented RICKENBACKER at his meetings but did not openly suggest that RICKENBACKER should be boomed for president in 1944. When questioned by newspapermen, SMITH said that he thought anybody would have the right to praise WASHINGTON, LINCOLN or RICKENBACKER. He added that he had never suggested RICKENBACKER for president at his rallies, but he admitted that his private opinion was that RICKENBACKER would make a good president.

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Informant stated that on February 5, 1943, he heard SMITH discuss a conversation which SMITH had presumably had with GERALD WINROD of Wichita, Kansas, as SMITH was anxious to have the AMERICA FIRST PARTY organized in the state of Kansas. SMITH was advised that the attorney had proposed to drop the case. Informant surmised that the reference was to the indictment of WINROD and thirty-two others as conspirators in violating the Sedition Act. It was also suggested to SMITH that since the people in Washington had gotten cold feet this would seem to be the opportune moment for agressive action. SMITH was requested to go to Washington, D. C., and supply information to BURTON K. WHEELER and Senator TAFT for the investigation of the action taken by the United States Department of Justice in indicting thirty-three persons for sedition.

Informant stated that SMITH had circulated to at least some of his intimate friends a rumor that the Government was going to freeze bank accounts as of February 15, 1943. On February 15, 1943, [redacted] was ordered by [redacted] to transfer $200 from the AMERICA FIRST PARTY bank account to SMITH'S bank account as a donation to the FEDERATION OF AMERICANIZATION OF MICHIGAN. b7

Informant stated that SMITH was also seeking the indorsement of the widow of late Senator LUNDEEN of Minnesota. Mrs. LUNDEEN did sit on the platform at one of SMITH'S meetings, but she has expressed herself as being reluctant to publicly support the AMERICA FIRST PARTY at any future rallies.

Informant stated that REVEREND E. J. ROLLINGS, of Detroit, Michigan, who is believed to be associated with GERALD B. WINROD, Wichita, Kansas, is collaborating with GERALD L. K. SMITH. He has called upon SMITH to furnish material from time to time for ROLLINGS' radio addresses since SMITH has been taken from the radio.

Informant stated that SMITH has taken a very definite stand against any attempt to enter the United States into any world confederation during or after the war, and he has also publicly expressed himself against the suggestion that Jewish refugees be permitted to entered the United States.

Informant has stated that SMITH is on rather intimate terms with [redacted] of the News Advertiser newspaper, and informant believes that [redacted] divides his time between Flint, Michigan and Washington, D. C. [redacted] advised SMITH that he had told a member of the Department of Justice that SMITH was not subversive in any way, and that only certain b7c

persons with axes to grind were instigating investigations against SMITH. [redacted] told SMITH that he assured the member of the Department of Justice that SMITH had thrown WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY out of Louisiana when he ascertained by an investigation ordered by HUEY LONG that PELLEY and his organization were un-American. SMITH agreed with [redacted] that SMITH was not subversive in any way and had never said anything against any race or creed even though he had been misquoted at a meeting as having referred to Jews as "Christ killers."

SMITH contacted the office of Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS and requested of the Senator's secretary, [redacted] that all available material in opposition to relaxing the Immigration Laws in favor of Jewish refugees be sent to SMITH. SMITH contemplated opposing the stand taken by RABBI STEPHEN S. WISE that the Immigration Laws should be relaxed. SMITH said he did not see why more Jews should be admitted to this country from Europe when we were already eating horse meat.

SMITH commented that he contemplated distributing a new book "The Red Decade" by EUGENE LYONS, since it was such an excellent expose of Communist activities in the United States. [redacted] stated that HITLER and JAN VALTIN assisted EUGENE LYONS in writing that book. SMITH told [redacted] he heard that GEORGE SELDES, publisher of "In Fact," had sold one million copies of a circular to the Jews which were going to be distributed in case SMITH had been nominated for the office of United States Senator from Michigan. Instead all the Jews voted for FERGUSON.

[redacted]

Informant advised that SMITH was contacted by a [redacted] who was described as "the one who wrote the book" on March 6, 1943. [redacted] was stopping at the hotel Book-Cadillac and was visited by Mr. and Mrs. SMITH that afternoon according to informant. Informant stated that he read in the newspapers that huge quantities of coffee, butter and meat were going to waste in Alaska. He stated that things were getting worse all the time and feared that the bureaucrats would lose the war by making mistakes with humans like the mistakes they have made with coffee.

SMITH challenged Professor PRESTON SLOSSON of the University of Michigan to a public debate on the issues of "Resolved: That the United States should join an international union which would have as one of its objects the enforcement of world peace." SMITH had arrangements made to rent the auditorium of Cass Technical High School on March 22, 1943, but insisted that SMITH'S own name should not appear in the application.

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Informant stated that SMITH was encouraged by EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago, Illinois to urge his followers to write to Congressman MARTIN DIES and other members of the Dies Committee to institute an investigation of World Federation, "Union Now" and the people supporting these "subversive" movements. According to informant, SMITH has been drawing from the Dies Committee reports listing Communists for speech material from time to time.

Informant stated that on February 27, 1943, SMITH ordered an additional copy of the January issue of his magazine "The Cross and the Flag" sent to [redacted] who had requested the additional copy for his son [redacted] who is in the Army.

On March 23, 1943, informant stated a message was given to SMITH that a woman who described herself as [redacted] from Chicago" wanted SMITH to call her at [redacted] since she expected an emergency to come up within a day or two.

Special Agent [redacted] attended the first rally of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY in the Maccabees Building auditorium, 5057 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, on Sunday afternoon January 24, 1943.

This meeting was attended by over five hundred people who completely filled the auditorium. When the Subject and his wife entered the hall, a stooge in the back of the room stood up and shouted, "Give them a hand," whereupon the crowd began to applaud, stamp their feet and shout.

About 3:15 p.m. the meeting started with the Subject making a few preliminary remarks. He then called upon Mrs. SMITH to accompany the audience in the singing of the first and last verses of America. While the audience was still on their feet the Subject made a few more remarks concerning the Christian angel of his program and asked that the people also join in reciting the Lord's Prayer which followed.

The meeting last nearly three hours during which the Subject spoke of the following items:

On February 7, 1943, the next meeting of the party was tentatively scheduled, the time and place yet to be announced. At this meeting Captain EARL SOUTHARD, Department Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Chicago, will be the principal speaker and will follow the program of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY which is strictly isolationist.

b7c

(Detroit file 62-1126)

During the course of his talk, the Subject constantly referred to Vice-President HENRY WALLACE and continually spoke of him as being a bureaucratic Communist and many other names. He told the story of how WALLACE was actually nominated at the Chicago convention when the delegates actually pushed him. He told how HARRY HOPKINS sat in a large hotel suite in the Morrison Hotel in Chicago together with Mr. KELLEY and Mr. NASH, and held openly a private wire to the White House so that the final orders could be received as to who was to be nominated. The Subject further pointed out that 65% of the delegates to this convention were on the public payroll and in nominating WALLACE they were only thinking of their own jobs. The speaker further spoke of WALLACE as being against the United States and not for it in his program of world peace.

The Subject also spoke of HARRY HOPKINS and STEVE EARLY as being Communists and bureaucrats who were the powers behind the President and who were controlling the program which would bring the United States into the world picture after the war instead of minding her own business here at home.

The Subject derided LEON HENDERSON and complained of the orders which he was giving to the nation in connection with his position as director of the OPA. He told how people were starving because of the rationing program while the powers that be in Washington were having large banquets at $40 a plate including eight kinds of meats. He told how LEON HENDERSON had made many orders in connection with the rationing program and then resigned his position because he had a sore back, but the night that he resigned he and left his position because of his sore back he went to a large Washington hotel and danced until 4:00 a.m. SMITH said, "The only thing I can say to that is some back."

The Subject went into the question of why organize the AMERICA FIRST PARTY at this time rather than wait until next year which would be closer to the campaigns. He pointed out that in a good many states considerable time is necessary in order to get on to the ballots in some states and this time often is a year prior to the general election; therefore, plans are being made now so that if it is necessary to put a slate on the national ticket in 1944, they will be ready to do so and willhave no trouble in getting complete coverage in the 48 states. Mr. SMITH stated that the whole question of the program of the party in the 1944 general election would depend solely upon the action taken by the Republican and Democratic Parties. He pointed out that if these parties would wake up and present a candidate, either one party or the other or both who was for America first, then this new party would not enter into the election. However, if the two parties put

up candidates who figured on entering into a world program, then the AMERICA FIRST PARTY must enter the campaign.

As to the words as Mr. SMITH discussed the question, he pointed out that if the Democrats put up HENRY WALLACE for President and the Republicans put up WENDELL WILLKIE, whom the Subject termed was simply a New Deal stooge, then it would be absolutely necessary for this new party to act. However, if these parties woke up and put up such candidates as CHARLES A. LINDBERGH, Senator BURTON K. WHEELER, Senator GERALD P. NYE, Senator C. WELAN BROOKS, Senator LEE O'DANIEL, Congressman HAMILTON FISH or Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN then this AMERICA FIRST PARTY would not act. The subject, while apparently not tooting his own horn, seemed to make it evident that he would be very responsive of a nomination for President by the new party. However, he indicated that his choice openly would be CHARLES A. LINDBERGH. (Applause).

The Subject very openly opposed the activities and action of the COMMUNIST PARTY and was also opposed to many of the things being done by Russia. He answered the demand of the Communists and of Russia that we open a second front in Europe by stating that the last move had been made by the United States when they invaded Africa and that now it was time for Russia to act and give us a helping hand with a second front of their own by declaring war on Japan with whom, at the present time, they are not at war. He pointed out that Russia is fighting only Germany at the present time while the United States and Britain are fighting all the Axis nations and that if Russia wants our continued help she also should wage war on Japan.

The Subject pointed out some instances which he said should be stopped at once. He advised that he was for America first and for the American people first. He told of the loading of a boat on the West Coast with oleo-margarine which was to be sent to Russia for their use instead of butter. However, Russian officials pointed out that the people of Russia did not know how to use oleo-margarine and so this boat was unloaded and butter was taken from the people of the United States and sent to Russia and we got the oleo-margarine simply because the Russians did not know how to use it.

The Subject told also of a deal that was to be made in which Russia would supply the United States with crude rubber. He pointed out that Russia had no supply of rubber and that she would have to get it from another source. He advised that the United States was going to supply Russia with iron and steel in exchange for crude rubber and that Russia would trade the iron and steel with the source of supply for the crude rubber and then pointed out again that Russia was not at war with Japan and that Japan controlled

the source of supply of crude rubber and that Russia would trade the steel and iron coming from the United States to Japan for the crude rubber and that Japan would use the steel and iron from the United States to blast our soldiers and sailors out of the Pacific. He then demanded that this practice be stopped at once.

The Subject went into the program of the British representative in connection with the Lend-Lease program in Washington. He pointed out that this gentleman had stated that Britain was keeping no accounts of materials which were being supplied by the United States to Britain and he also was demanding a program which called for an international currency which would do away with the present money system in the individual countries. This British leader also called for an international parliament which would sit one year in Washington, one year in London and possibly one year with the cannibals of South Africa. The Subject then stated that we must have no part of this program and that when this war is over we must bring our boys back home and stay out of any international program of any kind and build a wall of steel around our country so that the foreign aggressors cannot take what we have got.

The Subject stated that the program of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY was being pushed all over the country. He advised that the active launching of the party would probably be done in a small community in Northern Michigan which is strongly Republican and where the editor of the newspaper has already pledged the complete support of the community. He pointed out that the great Republican Party had been launched in a small community in Michigan. He further stated that he wanted all of the members present at the rally to continue their work in their present parties because if the programs of these parties in 1944 is such, it will not be necessary for the AMERICA FIRST PARTY to act. Mr. SMITH reported that he had spoken in Chicago on January 15, 1943, at a meeting which was in charge of Captain EARL SOUTHARD, Department Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Chicago. The Subject reported that this meeting was packed and the enthusiasm was high and he was given the go ahead signal by the people present to proceed with the formation of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY.

MR. SMITH then reported he proceeded to St. Paul where he spoke on January 16, 1943. Mr. SMITH stated that upon arriving in St. Paul he was confronted with a newspaper article with a double headline which stated that the police would investigate the SMITH meeting. The article told of how the St. Paul police, together with the F.B.I., was going to investigate what was behind the meeting of GERALD SMITH in St. Paul and take whatever action was necessary. Mr. SMITH said this did not stop him nor did the below zero weather and he went to the meeting to find the hall packed with over twenty-five

hundred people. He stated that he looked around the hall and saw no policemen and he also did not believe that the F.B.I. was present because if they were it would be an insult to the Detroit F.B.I. because he had been here in Detroit for a long time and if the F.B.I. really wanted him they could have had him any time they wanted to and it would be foolish to chase him clear to St. Paul in twenty-two-degrees-below-zero weather just to get him.

MR. SMITH reported that the next day he went to Minneapolis where two meetings were held, both of them packed to the doors, in below zero weather and where the enthusiasm again ran high for the formation of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY.

Mr. SMITH condemned CLARENCE K. STREIT, President of Federal Union Incorporated, who appeared at the Detroit Athletic Club about two weeks ago. At that time Mrs. SMITH, together with eight or nine men and women of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY, picketed the Detroit Athletic Club on behalf of the Subject and his new party. The Subject had Mrs. SMITH speak for herself in connection with this picketing and she told of the great success in the passing out of pamphlets condemning the program of "Union Now". She reported that the men who went in to the meeting seemed pleased on one or two occasions concerning the activities of this small group who formed the picket line. The Subject pointed out that a reply to this picketing was contained in the "Detroit Free Press" of January 24 in a letter to the editor from CLARENCE STREIT. This clipping is being placed in the Subject's file as a matter of record.

The Subject pleaded for no foreign entanglements and continued to impress that we praise America first. He pointed out that we have a definite order of loyalty in this country: First to our own armed forces; second to our own civilians; third to our allies and then if anything is left to the rest of the world. We must change our present program wherein we are thinking of others first and ourselves last. The Subject pleaded that we fall in the footsteps of the man whose picture will head their place on the ballot and whose program is not too old for us to follow today, GEORGE WASHINGTON, whose program was to place America first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of their countrymen. He also stated that we must forget the present program of internationalism and get back to our own problems here in America.

Mr. SMITH advised that he knew there were spies at that meeting, that there were people who were trying to persecute him and to get something on him. He knew that the F.B.I. was present and that they would be noted because they would be taking notes. He stated that the chances were

75 to 25 that he would be arrested or that he might even be assassinated. He stated that he was with HUEY LONG when he was assassinated and that the gun which killed LONG was also meant for him. He pointed out that they were still after him but that he was warning them that when they got him he was going to tell all because he was the only living man in America who knew the whole story behind the assassination of HUEY LONG and the tie-up between those who got LONG and the powers that be in Washington. He said that when they got him and he told that he knew it would be greatest expose in the history of the world. He said that when he made this statement it would blast the country wide open so let them come if they must. "I am ready!"

Mr. SMITH stated that the program was being spread out and meetings were to be held in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Iowa next. He said that a big meeting was being planned in central Iowa at a time and place to be announced as soon as final plans were completed.

The Subject pointed out that Detroit had been honored a day or two before with a visit of one of the greatest men in America, EDDIE RICKENBACKER. He said that RICKENBACKER was on the original AMERICA FIRST board. The subject condemned the labor leaders who that morning in the "Free Press" made statements against the stand of RICKENBACKER, and he said that these men had no right to talk because they were making salaries of $10,000 a year or over which money was taken from the poor worker's $100 and $150 a month. He pointed out that it was things like this which were causing trouble in this country.

Also, Subject referred to his monthly magazine "The Cross and the Flag" all through the lecture and always spoke of it as being the paper which he edited. He said that the question as to whether the United States still had a free press was constantly being discussed but that that could easily be answered to the effect that the United States has a free press whenever "The Cross and the Flag" comes off the press.

The meeting was brought to a close when many placards were brought on the stage and were given to local followers to hold across the front and around the side of the auditorium. These placards were principally propaganda and set out such things as "BILLIONS FOR DEFENSE; MEAT FOR AMERICANS FIRST; DEFEND AMERICA FIRST, etc." The meeting was finally brought to a close with the audience standing and reporting the Allegiance to the Flag.

Special Agent [redacted] received while attending this meeting a copy of the press release which was dated January 10, 1943 and which has been set forth above.

b7c

(Detroit file 62-1126)

b2c

Special Agent [redacted] also attended the debate on March 22, 1943, at Cass Technical High School, Detroit, Michigan between GERALD L. K. SMITH and Professor PRESTON SLOSSON. SLOSSON took the affirmative side and SMITH took the negative side of the question, "Resolved: That the United States should join in an international union which would have as one of its objectives enforcement of world peace."

It was noted that the auditorium was packed and that people were standing around the side of the auditorium. It was estimated that there were approximately five thousand people in attendance. The chairman of the meeting was DOCTOR HENRY HITT CRANE, a Detroit minister who is an affirmed pacifist. There were also on the stage several unidentified individuals.

It should be noted that when Professor SLOSSON came on the stage there was a smattering of applause, but when MR. SMITH came on the stage there was shouting and whistling and stamping of feet to greet him.

CRANE opened the meeting and explained the fact that each speaker would be allowed certain time for his talk and for his rebuttal, and then explained the purpose of the meeting. He stated that there were two viewpoints present on the question of world union and it was well to present them to a democratic American audience such as was present at that time. DR. CRANE stated that we had heard several speakers on this question and that one of them was Prime Minister WINSTON CHURCHILL, of England. At the mention of CHURCHILL'S name there was a smattering of applause, but there was a very loud and extended period of boos.

Professor SLOSSON in his presentation advised that there were four points on which both of the speakers could agree, namely, hate war, love peace, be good patriots and be good Christians. However, they differed on the question in issue. Professor SLOSSON stated that there had been a general breakdown of alliances that had been made throughout the world and that to maintain peace there would have to be an enforced peace by a world police system. He favored a collective security which would include all people all over the world. He pointed out that in the United States we had a union of states and in a similar area in South America there was no union but a series of different nations which were constantly at war and were constantly in trouble. He pointed out that there had been one dispute between the states of the United States and that was all. This alone was proof that a union of nations would be feasible and would prove successful.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

Professor SLOSSON in the question period following his talk made the statement that he is opposed to the Russian Government and is opposed to principles that have come out of Russia but he could not overlook the fact that a million Russian soldiers had given up their lives and that in their doing so they had saved the lives of thousands of American boys.

Mr. SMITH, who advocates America First, maintained this principle throughout his talk and his comments. He stated that we cannot have a union of countries such as we have a union of the states in the United States. He stated that his philosophy is the philosophy of GEORGE WASHINGTON who advised that we keep out of foreign alliances and entanglements. SMITH stated that recent speakers had all been talking along the lines of getting the United States back into the British Empire, which he was opposed to, and he knew that every red-blooded American was opposed to it. SMITH condemned Vice-President WALLACE, WENDELL WILLKIE, and JOSEPH STALIN, as being one and the same type of individual. He pointed out that Russia and Japan had an alliance although one was an ally and one was an opponent of the United States. SMITH used this as an example to show that you could not trust other nations and that we should keep out of any entanglement or agreement after this war is over.

It was noted during the question period following the debate that Professor SLOSSON was very capable in answering the questions that were put to him, but that Mr. SMITH, when he got away from the prepared manuscript which he read during his talk, was a little at a loss and evaded several of the questions asked him.

[redacted]

b7C, b7D

(Detroit file 62-1126)

ENCLOSURES: TO THE BUREAU

Two copies of "The Cross and the Flag" dated January, 1943

Two copies of "The Cross and the Flag" dated February, 1943

One copy of "The Cross and the Flag" dated March, 1943

- P E N D I N G -

(Detroit file 62-1126)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE CLEVELAND FIELD DIVISION:

At Cleveland, Ohio, will report proceedings at AMERICA FIRST PARTY rally in Franklin Auditorium on February 11, 1943. As previously requested by Detroit letter dated February 8, 1943, will also report the extent of support afforded to SMITH by UNITED MOTHERS OF AMERICA or any organization or persons which might in any sense be considered subversive.

Will report proceedings of AMERICA FIRST rally in Hunt Room of Secore Hotel, Toledo, Ohio, on February 12, 1943. As previously requested by Detroit letter dated February 8, 1943, will also report extent of support afforded to SMITH by UNITED MOTHERS OF AMERICA or any organization or persons which might in any sense be considered subversive.

THE KANSAS CITY FIELD DIVISION:

Will ascertain through confidential informants whether REVEREND GERALD B. WINROD placed any telephone calls to GERALD L. K. SMITH in Detroit, Michigan in February, 1943.

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION:

** Will, if advisable, contact DR. L. M. BURKHEAD, Director of FRIENDS OF DEMOCRACY for information in his possession about GERALD L. K. SMITH and his activities. This lead was originally set forth in report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 25, 1943, but it has since been ascertained that [redacted] is dead and the remaining portion of the lead is therefore deleted. b7c

** Will cover lead requested by Department as follows: "Referring to page 2 of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 23, 1942 at Detroit, Michigan in which mention is made of an article carried by the United Press from noon on October 20, 1936, concerning the announcement by SMITH of the formation of a Fascist organization to seize the Government of the United States. It is requested that an effort be made to secure a copy of SMITH'S announcement if it was in writing and in any case that you attempt to locate and interview concerning the context thereof persons present when SMITH made such announcement." b7c

(Detroit file 62-1126)

** Will cover leads as requested in Departmental memo quoting: "Information has been received that the attorneys for Time and Life magazines with offices in New York City. have compiled a large file of information on SMITH in which may be reflected facts which will interest this (Criminal) Division. It is requested that this file be secured or duplicated if it does exist and that any leads which may be indicated thereby be developed by investigation as soon as possible

Additional information has been received in this office that the law firm [redacted] of New York City handled a law suit against SMITH and some individual identified to the Criminal Division as the 'Banana King, and that one [redacted] or some other functionary in this law firm has some information about SMITH which developed as a result of this law suit that may not be available elsewhere. It is requested that this lead be developed and a report be supplied to the Criminal Division as soon as possible."

** Will cover lead requested in Departmental memo as follows: "Other information reaching this office is that during the time SMITH was established in New York, one [redacted] was intimately associated with him. It is desired that you endeavor to ascertain the identity of this individual and the nature of her connection with the Subject."

Will contact [redacted] and will obtain or ascertain present location of membership cards in PELLEY'S SILVER SHIRTS OF AMERICA issued to GERALD L. K. SMITH and his wife.

Will obtain from [redacted], [redacted], information concerning GERALD L. K. SMITH.

THE SAN ANTONIO FIELD DIVISION:

Will forward to Technical Laboratory letter from Subject to [redacted] San Antonio, Texas, dated July 8, 1933, requesting that an examination be made to ascertain whether the letter was actually written by Subject. Will notify Detroit Field Office when this is done so that a known specimen of SMITH'S handwriting may be sent to the Technical Laboratory.

ALL
b7C

(Detroit file 62-1126)

THE WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE:

** Will cover lead requested in Departmental memo as follows: "The Criminal Division likewise has learned that certain of PELIEY'S files were seized in 1934 or 1935 by the McCORMACK - DICKSTEIN Congressional Committee and are presumed now in the custody of the Clerk of the House." This lead was originally set forth in report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 25, 1943, but it has since been ascertained that H. E. MARTIN is dead and the remaining portion of the lead is therefore deleted. b7c

** Will attempt to locate and interview [redacted], whose address has been given as [redacted] is said to have been a principal contact of the Ford Motor Company with GERALD SMITH, ELIZABETH DILLING and Rev. CHARLES E. COUGHLIN. b7c

Will consider the advisability of interviewing [redacted], as suggested by the Department. [redacted] claimed to possess information concerning the payment of money by [redacted] to [redacted] and that SMITH among others cooperated with [redacted] in a plot to weaken the United States. b7c

** Will endeavor to locate [redacted] through the office of [redacted], and ascertain from [redacted] what he knows concerning the activities, background and associations of Subject. This lead was first set forth in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 18, 1943 at Washington, D. C. It should be noted, however, that [redacted] is still communicating with Subject on a rather friendly basis. b7c

b7c

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION:

At Detroit, Michigan, will attempt to ascertain whether SMITH has had any contact with known German agents. It is noted that in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 23, 1942, [redacted] referred to SMITH'S connections with a [redacted] Schoolcraft Road, both of whom were believed to be Nazi sympathizers. b7c b7D

Will obtain and forward to the Bureau for the Department a copy of SMITH'S report to the Clerk of Wayne County, Michigan setting forth contributions and disbursements of SMITH while campaigning for the Republican nomination for the office of United States Senator from Michigan and also as

(Detroit file 62-1126)

an independent "sticker" candidate for the same office. Special attention should be made to ascertaining the source of an anonymous contribution of $1,500.

Will obtain and furnish information concerning Subject's campaign as a "sticker" candidate to establish that SMITH was a "candidate" within the meaning of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925.

Will check the registration of the tradename "THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY" with the Clerk of Wayne County Court at Detroit, Michigan.

Will ascertain whether Mrs. ELIZABETH DILLING of Chicago, Illinois was registered at the Hotel Book-Cadillac, Detroit, Michigan, on March 6, 1943 under her true name or any known alias.

Will ascertain the person to whom the telephone [redacted] is listed and if advisable will ascertain by discreet inquiry who was at that home on March 23, 1943 who described herself as [redacted] b7c

Will examine bank accounts utilized by SMITH and will verify that [redacted] b7D

Upon notification from the San Antonio Field Office that SMITH'S letter to [redacted] has been forwarded to the Technical Laboratory for examination, will forward to the Technical Laboratory samples of SMITH'S known handwriting and signature. b7c

- P E N D I N G -

(Detroit file 62-1126)

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

TITLE: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH
MISC. MATTERS

S.A. [redacted] b7c

DATE: APRIL 9, 1943

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ALL
b7C

JPHa:MLJ

[redacted]

RECORDED 62-43018-242

May 6, 1943

SAC, Detroit

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/19/75 BY [illegible]

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION
204,433

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report submitted in connection with this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on April 9, 1943.

Although reference report sets out considerable information concerning the activities of subject Smith, it is noted that practically all of the information included in the report was secured from [redacted] Such information, for the most part, is of a general nature having to do with subject's various contacts.

I am particularly anxious that the Federal Corrupt Practices Act phase of this case be given immediate attention. Please see to it that the leads set forth in Special Agent [redacted] report having to do with this portion of the case, are covered in the very near future in order that a further report may be received within a period of the next three weeks. It should be clear to you from our previous correspondence concerning this subject that this phase of the investigation, like the general investigation of Smith, is to be afforded the most careful and thorough attention. It will not be sufficient for you to merely furnish copies of routine and general reports which may be available from state authorities as to subject's candidacy.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

52 MAY 19 1943

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
MAY 6 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

PUBLICATION FILE

JPH:?WMJ

62-43818 May 5, 1943

SAC, Detroit

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on April 9, 1943.

I am deeply interested in the investigation of this case, and it is my desire th t the leads set forth in Special Agent [redacted] report be given prompt attention by all of the offices receiving copies of this letter. I shall expect the investigation to be completed and reports submitted by all offices no later than June 1, 1943.

The instructions set forth in the previous paragraph are modified to the extent that it is not my desire that the lead set forth for the Washington Field Division to interview [redacted] be covered at this particular time. From information heretofore developed, it is known that [redacted] has communicated with subject on a rather friendly basis and in view of this and other considerations, it is desired that this particular lead be disregarded by the Washington Field Division.

Very truly yours,

RECORDED

62-43818 243

John Edgar Hoover
Director

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 7 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 6
MAY 5 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

cc - ~~Cleveland~~
New York
San Antonio
Washington Field
Kansas City

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

ALL b7c

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
April 14, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/14/82 BY SP-8 STJ/Jlc

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Under date of April 6, 1943, [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, contacted the Detroit Office and advised the following facts. Informant stated that on that evening he had been advised that SMITH had been contacted by [redacted] of the Internal Revenue Department, at which time [redacted] stated that [redacted] advised SMITH that he had received a call from the Bureau of Internal Revenue in Detroit, Michigan, apparently advising him that one of the internal revenue agents wanted to discuss the matter of SMITH'S income tax returns for the year 1938. b7D b7C

Informant stated that he was of the opinion [redacted] was quite worried about the reasons why anyone should want to see him about SMITH'S 1938 income tax return. [redacted] advised SMITH that he was anxious for his part in the transaction to be cleared up and that he wanted to "keep clear with the Government in this case". [redacted] mentioned to SMITH something to the effect that he had helped SMITH make up his 1938 report and SMITH expressed the opinion that the Internal Revenue Bureau might want [redacted] to make an affidavit stating that the figures he used were correct as supplied by SMITH. b7C

During the course of the conversation held between [redacted] and SMITH, informant stated he was of the opinion that [redacted] had made a remark to the effect that it was his opinion that now was the time to take the Government over again, although [redacted] stated that he couldn't talk much at the present time because of his "set-up". SMITH advised [redacted] of the fact that he had held a big rally in Cleveland the preceding Saturday night and that he was making attempts to get the America First Party organized so that he could purchase time on the radio in the name of the Party and then "shoot for freedom". b7C

FOR DEFENSE
BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

See page 3

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SMITH also advised [redacted] that since the election, non-political talk had to be watched, and that in view of the fact he could hardly discuss any issues because people might think he was "going soft".

SMITH, according to informant, advised [redacted] that although he might have made a mistake of the head in making out his income tax return, it definitely was not a mistake in heart, that regardless of any criticism that might be leveled at himself, he most definitely did not want to evade any payment of tax due the Government. SMITH commented on the fact that the Government had been investigating his income tax in a very fair manner and that he was well satisfied with the way the investigation was going. [redacted] agreed with SMITH'S statements relative to the progress the party was making and stated that he was not in a very good position to openly express his satisfaction of any of SMITH'S policies inasmuch as he himself might be subject to persecution. [redacted] added, however, that there would come a time when he would be able to openly express his sentiments. Informant stated further that [redacted] had made the remark to SMITH that [redacted] call to SMITH must definitely be kept "off the record" and that SMITH should not mention [redacted] call to any internal revenue agents in the event he was questioned as to any contacts with [redacted]

b7c

On April 8, 1943, a routine interview was conducted with [redacted] at the Detroit Office in an effort to ascertain whether or not any further information had been developed by the local office of the internal revenue relative to any subversive activities, [redacted] having been previously interviewed sometime ago. [redacted] advised at that time that he was not personally acquainted with SMITH other than the few times he had contacted SMITH during the time he was assigned the SMITH case, that is, to collect the 1938 income tax money from SMITH.

[redacted] stated that this case was assigned to him sometime in the early fall of 1942 and that when after contacting SMITH a few times by telephone, SMITH submitted his 1938 income tax return and at that time the return was submitted through a lawyer, name unknown, by [redacted] [redacted] advised the interviewing agent at that time that in view of the fact he and SMITH were on opposite sides of the political fence, he had never taken any interest in any of SMITH'S activities and could give no information which might be of any help to this Bureau. [redacted] stated that he had heard SMITH on the radio a few times but inasmuch as he did not agree with his politics and viewpoints, he had never paid much attention to him, that he had not heard from nor seen SMITH since the fall of 1942 during the time he had contacted SMITH on official business relative to his income tax returns.

b7c
b7D

At the time of this interview with [redacted] it was of course pointed out to him that this Bureau was not in any sense of the word interested in any of

Letter to the Director
April 9, 1943

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

SMITH'S political activities and the Bureau's designation as the investigating agency by the President to investigate any possibilities of espionage or sabotage was definitely pointed out to [redacted] at the time of this interview offered to contact SMITH and attempt to gain information from SMITH which might be of help to this Bureau. His offer of assistance, however, was declined at this time. b7c b7D

It is being pointed out to the Bureau at this time that [redacted] has advised the Detroit Office that he could state fairly definitely that [redacted] had contacted SMITH by telephone on at least four or five occasions in the past six months and that on all of these occasions [redacted] seemed to be on fairly friendly terms with SMITH. b7D b7c

This information is being forwarded to the Bureau at this time in view of the fact that it suggests a possibility of an income tax violation on SMITH'S return of 1938. It is also being respectfully pointed out at this time that the investigative file on instant case reflects a great many contributions turned over to SMITH, and the file also reflects that there is a great possibility of SMITH receiving a great amount of money which he has never declared on any income tax return. There is a possibility, of course, that a definite income tax violation would be present in this particular case and there is also the possibility that the matter might not have been given as vigorous attention as it could have been given by the local income tax office in the person of [redacted] b7c

This information is being set forth at this time for the Bureau's attention with the thought in mind that the Bureau might desire to take up the matter of an income tax violation on the part of SMITH with the Department.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted] b7c

62-1126

[redacted] Treas. Dept. advised verbally and told strictly confidential and would not be passed on otherwise. He said he would take immediate action. 5/1/43 [redacted] b7c

[redacted] checked confidential Treasury Dept. - no report on Smith case - tax matter - avoid possible use [redacted] according to Treasury contacting at Washington office of Dept. 5/1/43 b7c

[redacted]

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

In a memorandum dated December 9, 1942, received from the Criminal Division in connection with this case, a statement was made to the effect that the Department had received information that [redacted] frequently mentioned in Bureau reports concerning Smith, had broken off his association with Smith and might, therefore, be disposed to reveal information of pertinence concerning Smith. b7c

In this regard the Bureau has determined from a highly confidential and reliable source that [redacted] continues to maintain close contact with Smith and that there appears to be no reason to believe that their association and friendship have been disrupted. Accordingly, [redacted] is not being interviewed with reference to Smith at this time. b7c

In its memorandum, the Criminal Division further requested that [redacted], mentioned on page three of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, on May 23, 1942, be interviewed relative to his knowledge of the activities of subject Smith. It has been determined that [redacted] is presently [redacted] Furthermore, according to [redacted] did not know Smith very well and would not be in a position to afford pertinent information as to his activities. In view of [redacted] inaccessibility as well as [redacted] statement, further efforts are not being made at this time to interview [redacted] b7c b7d

The other specific investigative steps which have been suggested in memoranda received from you as well as the Criminal Division and Mr. Lawrence M. Smith, have either been covered in the reports sent you during the last two months or are presently receiving investigative attention.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ellis
Mr. Clayton
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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MAY 5 1943
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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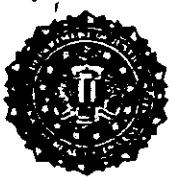
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
May 5, 1943

[redacted]

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth hereinafter the substance of information turned over to the Detroit Office by [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. This information is information developed by the informant during the period from April 19, 1943 to April 28, 1943. b7D

Informant stated that on April 21, 1943, [redacted] an employee in the SMITH office, contacted [redacted] vice-president of the Men's Club of St. Siphinaus (phonetic) Church. Apparently [redacted] had requested SMITH to give a speech at one of the church meetings and that at that time [redacted] stated the pastor of the church was [redacted] Arrangements were then made for SMITH to address the club at a later date. b7c

Information was received on April 24, 1943, to the effect that SMITH had received a letter from [redacted] deputy administrator of the O.P.A., in which letter [redacted] stated "I appreciate your offer of help and if the going gets too tough I will call upon you for your records. I have been told that the Lawyer's Guild is strictly a Communist group." b7c

Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had been in contact with [redacted] and that apparently SMITH had offered to help [redacted] in securing radio time. SMITH advised [redacted] that by being careful he could build up a large radio program with clever planning. b7c

Informant continued by relating that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had been talking with Captain SOUTHARD of Chicago and that SOUTHARD on that occasion had advised SMITH that ELIZABETH, apparently ELIZABETH DILLING, had been giving SOUTHARD a great deal of trouble;

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BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

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that DILLING had apparently attended a meeting on April 22, 1943, in Chicago and that during the course of that meeting which was held in Kimmel (phonetic) Hall and which was supposed to be a book review by Dr. McDANIELS, Mrs. DILLING had openly criticized SOUTHARD and also criticized SMITH. SOUTHARD stated that the ELIZABETH he was referring to had apparently contacted the management of the building in Chicago where SOUTHARD had intended to hold a meeting on the night of April 30 and advised the management that SMITH and Mrs. LUNDEEN were to be the main speakers and that the ELIZABETH was apparently very instrumental in having the management cancel the booking for that particular evening. SOUTHARD further stated that ELIZABETH had been very vicious in her attack against HAMILTON FISH, Congressman DAY and Congressman SWEENEY and SOUTHARD was complaining of this fact stating that these individuals had voted and had stood up for his organization all of the time. SMITH apparently was quite surprised at the attitude taken by DILLING and stated that she had been in Detroit a very short time ago at which time she evidenced cooperation with SMITH's committee. Informant stated he was under the impression that some article had been printed by the Chicago Sun running down the activities of SOUTHARD's group in Chicago and this also had the effect of having the meeting scheduled for Friday, April 30, cancelled by the Chicago group.

Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that [redacted] had contacted [redacted] personal secretary for HENRY FORD, and at that time [redacted] apparently arranged a meeting between Mrs. LUNDEEN and CHARLES LINDBERGH, presently employed by the Ford Motor Company. Informant stated he could not state definitely whether or not LINDBERGH and Mrs. LUNDEEN actually had a meeting but that arrangements had been made for the same. b7c

Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that a local representative of the O.P.A. had taken DOLAN's gas coupon book for allegedly using gas ration coupons for political and campaign purposes rather than for necessary driving.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

[redacted]
5-6-43

19483

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROSE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-1 SJ

In a memorandum received in connection with this case from the Criminal Division under date of November 9, 1942, reference was made to information appearing in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, on May 23, 1942, to the effect that the Treasury Department contemplated investigation as to alleged fraudulent Federal income tax returns by subject Smith.

b7c

In its memorandum, the Criminal Division expressed the opinion that if such an investigation was to be conducted, it should be sufficiently extensive to include an investigation of the tax returns filed by Smith in behalf of his organizations, "The Committee of One Million" and "The Federation of Americanization." It is understood that the Treasury Department has since instituted an investigation of Smith's tax returns and that this investigation is still in progress.

DE-INDEXED DATE 10/19/82

A review of the Bureau's file for this case reflects that previous to the receipt of the above-mentioned communication from the Criminal Division, an undated memorandum was received by the Bureau from Mr. Lawrence M. C. Smith on October 13, 1942, which stated that it was contemplated that the Treasury Department might be asked to make field examinations in connection with certain cases, one of these being the Smith case.

In view of the fact that the information developed during the course of the Treasury Department's reported investigation of Smith's income tax returns might likely have pertinence to the Bureau's investigation of Smith, I shall appreciate your advice as to whether the Treasury Department's investigation was instituted on the suggestion of the Department or as a result of Mr. Smith's memorandum, and, if so, whether the results of the investigation will be made available to the Department and in turn to the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

2 MAY 15 1943

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

★ MAY 7 1943 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 14

PAGES REVIEWED: 83

PAGES RELEASED: 80

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Originated at DETROIT — File No. 100-8486

Made at	Date made	Period	Made by
WASHINGTON, D. C.	1 6 MAY 1943	3-1,6,11,24, 25-43	[redacted] [redacted] :WSL

Title: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was. THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - G; CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION

Synopsis: [redacted] advises has no knowledge of subject's connection with WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY, 6 telegrams addressed to or mentioning subject found among material seized from PELLEY by McCORMACK-DICKSTEIN Committee set forth.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 18, 1943, at Washington, D. C. Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 16, 1943, at New Orleans. Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 25, 1943, at Detroit, Michigan.

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

[redacted], advised that he was associated with the late Senator HUEY LONG as a Public Relations representative; that about six months prior to his assassination, Senator LONG had heard reports from his friends in Baton Rouge and Shreveport, Louisiana, concerning GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH to the effect that subject was a very persuasive public speaker, and Senator LONG was urged to employ SMITH in connection with his "Share the Wealth" program. At the time, subject was Pastor of the King's Highway Christian Church, Shreveport, Louisiana. It had been reported to Senator LONG that SMITH was anxious to join his organization, and his attitude in this regard had caused criticism against him in his church. According to [redacted] Senator LONG instructed his associates to make arrangements with SMITH for a public meeting to be held on the Court House steps in Shreveport. The arrangements were made, and an announcement of the proposed meeting was

Approved: [signature] — 62-43818-247 — RECORDED & INDEXED

Copies: 5 Bureau; 2 Charlotte; 2 New Orleans; 1 Atlanta; 1 New York; 2 Washington Field; 2 Baltimore; 2 Detroit (Encl)

MAY 8 1943

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~~26 MAY 19 1943~~

put in the Shreveport papers with the result that on the day SMITH was to make his speech, a very large crowd, numbering several thousand people, gathered in front of the court house. SMITH'S rendering of the speech, as reported to Senator LONG, indicated that from the beginning, SMITH had held the entire crowd in the palm of his hand and had demonstrated his ability to capture a large audience. Following this demonstration, subject was called to New Orleans, where he met Senator LONG and arrangements were made for subject to join Senator LONG'S organization; SMITH thereafter shortly resigned his ministry and accompanied Senator LONG to Washington.

[redacted] stated that the week subject and Senator LONG arrived in Washington, D. C. together and registered at the Mayflower Hotel, the former Mayor of New Orleans, SIMS WALRNSLEY, a bitter political foe of LONG, also registered at the Mayflower Hotel. The newspapers, expecting some incident to occur between LONG and WALRNSLEY, had posted photographers in the lobby and in the hall outside of LONG'S room. b7c & b7D

On one occasion, SMITH was photographed coming out of Senator LONG'S apartment, and the photograph was published in a Washington paper over the caption, "One of HUEY LONG'S bodyguards." According to [redacted] the subject threatened to sue the Hearst papers for $50,000 but that Senator LONG talked him out of it, and the suit was never filed. Upon Senator LONG'S death, SMITH attempted to step into LONG'S shoes in respect to his "Share the Wealth" clubs, but was not successful because LONG'S associates, particularly [redacted] would not permit it and refused to turn over the records of the "Share the Wealth" clubs to SMITH. A short time after Senator LONG'S death, SMITH left New Orleans, and went to New York City, where he reportedly stayed in the Pennsylvania Hotel, and gave lectures in a hall in the hotel, where he endeavored to interest people in the formation of his "Committee of One Million." b7c

However, this idea did not take on in New York, and after a short time, SMITH moved to Detroit, where he got on the radio and began "pulling chestnuts out of the fire" for the Ford Motor Company and other industrialists. [redacted] stated that he did not believe that, at least for a long time, subject had any direct contact with the Ford Motor Company or the other industrialists in the Detroit area. However, he stated it to be his opinion that these companies were contributing heavily to SMITH'S radio program in such a way that he did not know where the money was coming from.

[redacted] stated that he had never heard of SMITH being associated with WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY, and advised that if such an association existed, it must have terminated prior to the time SMITH became associated with Mr. LONG. [redacted] intimated that he approved of PELLEY'S program and said that he had received PELLEY'S magazine, and that in his opinion, the only difference between PELLY and the man on the street b7c & b7D

was that PELLEY was outspoken in his hatred for the Jews, while the man in the street was inarticulate in his opinion. He stated further that in his opinion, WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY was innocent and was being persecuted by the ROOSEVELT Administration because the New Deal desired to dispose of anyone who might represent political opposition. He stated further that in his opinion, the investigation of subject was in the same category, and that the investigation was due to the desire on the part of some figures in the New Deal to throttle subject as he was potentially a dangerous force in the coming election, and had it within his power to influence a great many people. However, [redacted] stated that his impression of subject was that he was primarily interested in GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH; that he would throw his weight behind whatever program appeared to be most profitable to himself. He stated that [redacted] an oil man, with offices in the New Commercial Bank Building, Shreveport, Louisiana, was primarily responsible for getting SMITH and Senator LONG together. He stated further that at one time HENRY L. MENKIN, writing for the Baltimore Sun, had stated in an article on SMITH that the subject was the foremost "rabble rouser" in America.

b7c b7D

b7c

[redacted], and that practically all of his old files had been destroyed. He stated, however, that his father had represented the American Newspapers, Inc., a holding company for the Hearst Papers, and that his father probably did represent that company in any suit brought against it by the subject. He stated that at the time the suit would have been brought, he was not associated with his father, and had no knowledge of such a suit. However, he stated that a [redacted] who was associated with his father at the time, might have some knowledge of the suit.

b7c b7D

[redacted] who has been associated with [redacted] Munsey Building, advised that he was familiar with the proposed suit which subject threatened to bring against the American Newspapers, Inc., but that in his opinion such suit was never filed. He stated, however, that an investigation had been conducted by one [redacted] who was employed by the Hearst organization and whom he believed still to be connected with that organization, with offices in the Hearst Building, 8th Avenue, New York City. He stated that any files on the case would have been in the possession of [redacted]

b7c

[redacted] Senator THOMAS'S (Oklahoma) Office, advised that [redacted] was presently residing at [redacted]

b7c

The Officer Personnel Section, War Department, Pentagon Building, Arlington, Virginia, advised that a search of their records did not reveal a [redacted]

b7c

[redacted] however, it was pointed out that they had a record on a [redacted] who was now stationed at Camp Butner, North Carolina, who had been [redacted] for six years prior to the time he entered on active duty in the Army. It was said that this man formerly lived in Detroit. They also pointed out that they had on record a [redacted] who was assigned to the Medical Department, Fort Benning, Georgia. b7D

Inquiry of the McCORMACK-DICKSTEIN Committee revealed that all of the material seized by this Committee in respect to PELLEY, which had not been destroyed, had been turned over to the Civil Service Commission in connection with a special project being carried on.

[redacted] Civil Service Commission, 916 G Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., had gone through the McCORMACK-DICKSTEIN material and had alphabetized it. A search revealed six telegrams referring to subject as follows: b7D b7D

"July 25, 1933 11:20 AM

1. "GERALD L. K. SMITH
2020 LINE AVE.,
SHREVEPORT, LA.

LETTER WITH FIRST CHECK AND FULLEST CAMPAIGN DATA GOING

FORWARD THIS NOON HEAVY BUNDLE OF CAMPAIGN MATERIAL

INCLUDING BLUE LECTURES SHIPPED TO YOU TODAY AMERICAN

EXPRESS HOP TO IT.

PELLEY

PAID Chg. to GALAHAD COLLEGE
ASHEVILLE, N. C."

2. JULY 11 3 47 P

"GERALD L. K. SMITH
SPORT

ONE THIRTY THREE HILLDALE ROAD LANSDOWNE PENNSYLVANIA WIRE

FORWARDED PELLEY/ AWAIT RESPONSE

ROBERT C SUMMERVILLE"

3. "ASHEVILLE, N.C.
July 11, 1933.

Mr. William Dudley Pelley,
133 Hilldale Road,
Lansdowne, Pa.

GERALD SMITH WIRES INFORMATION PROMISED MONDAY NOT RECEIVED STOP WANTS EXPLANATION RETURN WIRE WESTERN UNION STOP THESE MEN READY TO GO STOP WILL YOU WIRE ME OR WIRE DIRECT.

BOB

PAID AND CHG.
GALAHAD COLLEGE
SUNSET PARKWAY AND CHARLOTTE ST.
CITY"

4. "CFA89 SVC - ASHEVILLE NCAR - 1933 JUL 23 AM 11 00

22 OUR WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY OR ROBERT SUMMERVILLE SGD GERALD L K SMITH NON DLY CLMD GA

SPORT 23."

5. "JUL 23

GERALD K SMITH

1717 STEVENS AVE SHREVEPORT LA

CONFIRMATION LETTER MAILED YOU YESTERDAY SUPPLIES AND FIRST CHECK GOING FORWARD TOMORROW CARRY ON.

WM DUDLEY PELLEY"

6. "1933 JUL 6 PM 9 24

GERALD L. K. SMITH
ANSWER DATE
SHREVEPORT, LA.

PELLEY PHILADELPHIA EXPECT COMPLETE CAMPAIGN INSTRUCTIONS SPECIAL DELIVERY SUNDAY OR MONDAY FRATERNALLY,

ROBERT C. SUMMERVILLE

Copies of these telegrams are being forwarded to the Office of Origin.

ENCLOSURES: TO DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

Copies of telegrams addressed to or mentioning GERALD L. K. SMITH, found among material seized from PELLEY by the McCORMACK-DICKSTEIN Committee.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Will contact [redacted], Hearst Building, 8th Avenue, in connection with an investigation allegedly made by him regarding GERALD L. K. SMITH. At the time, subject proposed to sue the Hearst papers for publishing his photograph.

Will endeavor to ascertain at the Pennsylvania Hotel the nature of subject's operations in connection with the lectures which he allegedly gave in a lecture hall rented from the hotel.

THE CHARLOTTE FIELD DIVISION

AT CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Will contact [redacted] and ascertain whether he has any knowledge concerning subject and his background.

THE ATLANTA FIELD DIVISION

AT FORT BENNING, GEORGIA

Will contact [redacted], Medical Department, States Hospital, Fort Benning, and ascertain whether he has any knowledge concerning subject's background and associates.

THE NEW ORLEANS FIELD DIVISION

AT SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

Will contact [redacted] New Commercial Bank Building, concerning his knowledge of subject, his background and associates.

THE BALTIMORE FIELD DIVISION

AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

Will endeavor to identify the article written by HENRY L. MENKEN, which is referred to by [redacted] and in which MENKEN speaks of subject as the foremost "rabble-rouser" in America. If thought advisable, will interview HENRY L. MENKEN.

b7c

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

AT FLINT, MICHIGAN

Will contact [redacted], in regard to his knowledge of subject, his background and associates.

bzc

OK

to interview

~~[illegible]~~ if det not so alerts i be no longer in Wash + det not in full answer to stat

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JPHa:WMJ
62-43818-247
5-14-43

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your information, there is transmitted herewith a copy of a report submitted in connection with the investigation of this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Washington, D. C., on May 6, 1943.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/4/92 BY SP8BTJ/MC

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
MAY 15 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

26 MAY 19 1943

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
May 11, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Boson
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gandy
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

DECLASSIFIED BY ... ON 6-15-77 ... 80/LEDel

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases,
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

Dear Sir:

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

There is being set forth below the substance of information obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, which information was received during the period from April 22 through May 10, 1943:

b7D

On April 29, Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that on that particular date, in a conversation with Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, SMITH advised Mrs. LUNDEEN that he would take care of her expenses to Cleveland from Chicago, to Minneapolis. These expenses were apparently incurred by Mrs. LUNDEEN at the time she spoke in Detroit on behalf of the SMITH Committee.

SMITH was later contacted by [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company, at which time [redacted] advised that he was sorry an appointment had not been arranged between Mrs. LUNDEEN and Mr. and Mrs. FORD, but that the FORDS had not received the information quick enough to the effect that Mrs. LUNDEEN would be in town.

b7c

On May 8, 1943, Informant advised that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had advised DOMAN, his office employee, that SMITH was going to raise his salary to $75.00 a week and that he was also going to raise his wife's salary to $75.00 a week.

Informant advised further that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had advised Mrs. KNOWLES that he was making arrangements for press cards to be printed, press cards to state in effect that "the bearer is authorized to represent the magazine I edit — THE CROSS AND THE FLAG — at the press table, signed by GERALD L. K. SMITH." SMITH

FOR DEFENSE BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

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apparently made arrangements for press cards to be issued so that his constituents might attend meetings and openly make notes relative to the proceedings of the meetings. SMITH apparently was making arrangements for various members of his group to attend a speech to be given by EARL BROWDER of the Communist Party in Detroit on the evening of May 10, 1943. It was also ascertained by Informant that SMITH, during the time of BROWDER's speech, through DOMAN, challenged BROWDER to an open debate, which challenge to date, however, has not been accepted by BROWDER.

It was also ascertained from Mrs. KNOWLES that GERALD WINROD intended to be in the City of Flint, Michigan, during the week commencing May 17, 1943.

Informant stated he had received information to the effect that SMITH had contacted [redacted] (phonetic) of Buffalo, New York, at which time [redacted] advised SMITH that arrangements had been completed for a meeting to be conducted in Buffalo, New York, in all probability on the 24th of May, said meeting to take place in the Eagle Auditorium located at the corner of Tupper and Pearl Streets, Buffalo. [redacted] stated that he was formerly the State Deputy Supervisor for Buffalo for "The National Union." [redacted] also advised SMITH that he was President of the Economic League in Buffalo. b2c

Information was received from Informant to the effect that Ex-Congressman MARTIN SWEENEY of Ohio was to arrive in Detroit on the morning of May 11, 1943, apparently for the purpose of addressing a meeting of the SMITH group on the evening of May 11, 1943. Informant stated that SMITH had made a reservation for SWEENEY at the Hotel Statler in Detroit, Michigan.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

b7c

[redacted] jah
62-1126

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

DETROIT FILE NO. 62-1126

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	5/5/43	4/8,10,17,20, 23,28;5/1/43	[redacted] b7c CID

TITLE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000

CHARACTER OF CASE
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE b7D

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[redacted] advises that SMITH is still being investigated by the local Internal Revenue office for irregularities in Income Tax returns. SMITH believes that their investigation will not reveal anything irregular in his returns. On April 14, SMITH organized a group to picket LANGSTON HUGHES, an alleged colored Communist, who spoke at Wayne University. Rally held by America First Party on April 29, 1943 in Detroit, which rally was attended by agents. Main speaker at rally was MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN, who endorsed the policies of the Party and related some of her own experiences. SMITH also gave a talk which in the main was an attack against STALIN, Communism and the present administration. Photographic copies of statements executed by SMITH relative to his campaign for senator obtained and enclosed herewith. SMITH stated in his election statement that he had received $1500.00 from an anonymous source, and although requested to explain the exact source by the Committee has never done so.

See subsequent letter Detroit 5/15/43 pertaining to enclosures returned to Detroit JPA

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated April 9, 1943 at Detroit, Michigan. b7c

(62-43818) Letter from the Bureau to the Detroit Office dated April 5, 1943.

DEFERRED RECORDING

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: John L. Burgess SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-249

RECORDED & INDEXED

1 MAY 10 1943

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cc Rowe 5/10/43 JPA

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(Detroit file 62-1126)

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan:

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, has maintained contact with the Detroit Office since the submission of his last report in this case, and has advised that he has received information to the effect that the local office of the Internal Revenue Department is still apparently vigorously investigating SMITH'S alleged irregularities in Income Tax returns. Informant stated further that he had received the impression that, although this investigation was apparently continuing, SMITH did not seem to be greatly perturbed over the investigation and often expressed the opinion to Informant that, no matter how great nor how long the investigation continued, the Federal Government would not be able to discover any irregularities in any return made by himself. b7D

Informant also advised the Detroit Office that a Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER, believed to be from Denver, Colorado, had been in Detroit for a short period of time sponsoring revival meetings, and that he was of the opinion that SMITH had contacted SPRINGER many times during the time SPRINGER was in town. Informant advised on April 10, 1943 that he had received information to the effect that one C. O. STADSKLEV, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, was coming to Detroit with the apparent intention of discussing matters with SMITH, and Informant expressed the opinion that it was his information that SMITH had made a reservation for STADSKLEV at the Book Cadillac Hotel in Detroit. Informant stated further that he had heard that a man by the name of [redacted] (phonetic) had apparently come to Detroit with STADSKLEV and stayed in the same room with STADSKLEV at the Book Cadillac Hotel. Informant advised the Detroit Office further that arrangements had been made for a meeting to be sponsored in Chicago the night of April 30, 1943 by Captain SOUTHARD, but that this meeting had been called off about a day before the meeting was to be held inasmuch as SOUTHARD had had some trouble in securing an appropriate hall. Informant stated further that ELIZABETH DILLING might possibly have had something to do with this failure in securing a hall, inasmuch as it was reported that MRS. DILLING had contacted various people in the City of Chicago and at that time spoke in very derogatory terms relative to the activities of the group sponsored by SOUTHARD as well as the group sponsored by SMITH. On April 14, 1943, Informant advised the Detroit Office that SMITH had succeeded in organizing a group of his followers to picket one LANGSTON HUGHES, an alleged colored Communist who was to speak at the Wayne University. Informant stated that the picket line was actually formed outside the University and that MRS. BEATRICE KNOWLES and MRS. SMITH apparently were active in the picket line. During the course of the picketing conducted by the SMITH group, the SMITH group distributed copies of a poem alleged to have b7c

been written by HUGHES entitled "Goodbye Christ". Informant stated he had received information to the effect that SMITH had contacted MARTIN SWEENEY, of Cleveland, Ohio, and that SWEENEY was apparently a former Congressman from that district. SWEENEY was requested to take part in a meeting to be held in Cleveland, Ohio, at which meeting MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN, wife of the deceased Congressman, was to speak. SMITH, on one occasion, advised Informant that he had written a letter to Senator FERGUSON, of Detroit, relative to the "Gestapo Bill", and that FERGUSON had invited him to appear before some investigating committee in Washington, D. C. in the very near future.

On the evening of April 29, 1943, the American First Party held a meeting in the auditorium of the Cass Technical High School, Detroit, at which meeting there were approximately 700 people present. This meeting was attended by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] b7c [redacted] There is being quoted hereinafter the substance of a memorandum submitted by these agents relative to the facts of that meeting:

> "The rally was called to order at about 8:30 P.M. by Gerald L. K. Smith, who led the audience in the Lord's Prayer. Present with Smith on the stage throughout the meeting were his wife, Mrs. Ernest Lundeen (wife of Senator Ernest Lundeen of Minnesota, now deceased), Mrs. Knowles (phonetic) and an unidentified male.
>
> "Gerald L. K. Smith delivered the first address of the evening. Among the chief points developed by him were the following:
>
> "1. The war emergency should not be permitted to serve as the means for the establishment in the United States of a bureaucratic dictatorship which would be carried over into the post-war period. Smith stated that the Russians were fighting to save Stalin and the Germans to save Hitler and Nazism, but that we were fighting to save America and not to perpetuate President Roosevelt or his associates in power. He stated that there are men in the government to whom the securing of a fourth term for the president is more important than the gaining of an early victory.
>
> "2. There is a necessity for a clear definition of our war aims. Smith stated that the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms are a good enough statement of policy for him; but added that the Four Freedoms should be

applicable to all nations including Lithuania, Poland, China, India, Roumania and Bessarabia. He said: 'Either we are fighting for the Four Freedoms or we aren't. If we aren't, then just what are we fighting for?'

"3. Smith denounced internationalism as a basis of our post-war policy. In this connection he described the proposed international bank as an institution which would be financed with our gold and controlled by the British Empire.

"4. Throughout his talk, Smith denounced Stalin and Communism. He stated that Russia is fighting solely for Russia and not for us nor for the Four Freedoms. He denounced Russia's attitude toward the Polish government's request for an investigation of the reported execution by the Russians of 10,000 Polish officers. He commented on the internment by Russia of those of Major Doolittle's men who landed there after bombing Tokyo. He stated that one-half of China's army is busy fighting the Communists in China rather than being able to fight the Japanese. He denounced Langston Hughes being permitted to speak at Wayne University recently because he is a rabid Communist.

"5. Smith indicated that the purpose of the America First Party was to see that there would be at least one real American as a candidate for president at the next election and inferred that if neither the Republicans nor the Democrats nominated such a candidate, the America First Party would.

"6. Smith described Walter Winchell as a rat and stated that he should be in jail. He spoke unfavorably concerning Henry Wallace and described him as a 'Stalin bootlicker'. He commented favorably on Senators Wheeler and Nye and on Congressmen Fish, Hoffman and Bradley.

"7. Smith quoted the War Department as estimating that our armed forces would suffer 1,000,000 casualties in 1943 and predicted that the war would last another 3 to 5 years.

"8. Smith announced the next rally of the party in

Detroit would be held on May 11 at Maccabees Auditorium and stated he hopes to have Martin Sweeney (Congressman or former Congressman from Ohio) as the speaker.

"9. Smith also denounced Senate Resolution 666 and described it as the most serious threat to our liberties since the time of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

"10. It should be noted that, during the course of his talk, Smith stated that if Mrs. Roosevelt would promise to stay at home and take care of her household duties as a wife should, he would promise to discontinue making speaches.

"At the conclusion of Smith's talk, Mrs. Ernest Lundeen delivered an address from a prepared manuscript, which was devoted in the main to the following points:

"1. Her husband's record as a member of congress;

"2. Some of her experiences in connection with the Vierick case;

"3. A denunciation of Winchell, Pearson and Allen and the smear campaign which they waged against her husband after his death;

"4. In addition, she pointed out the excessive share of the cost of the war being borne by this country, opposed internationalism as the basis of our post-war policy and endorsed Smith and the America First Party.

"Brief remarks were made by Mrs. Mary Knowles (phonetic).

"There were no remarks made by anyone at this meeting which could be construed as seditious or in violation of any federal Statute.

"The meeting broke up about 11:30, concluding with the audience pledging allegiance to the flag."

During the course of this meeting there was passed around to the audience a small paper entitled "Petition to My Senator". This paper in substance acts in the form of a petition to the Senate to vote against Senate Resolution 666. A copy of this Petition is being enclosed herewith for the information of the Bureau.

Copies of the magazine presently being published by Subject bearing the title "The Cross and the Flag" were secured and two copies of this magazine are being enclosed herewith for the information of the Bureau. These copies were marked Volume 2, Number 1, April 1943.

Reporting agent contacted [redacted] at which time [redacted] allowed agent to make photographic copies of the statements filed by SMITH in connection with his campaign for the office of Senator for the State of Michigan. Photographic copies were secured of the list of contributors to his campaign but the names of these contributors are not being set forth at this time, in view of the fact that they are not deemed relevant at the present time. An examination of the list of contributors reflects the fact that the contributions ranged from 25¢ to a high of $10.00 or $20.00. There was one contribution made under date of August 26, 1942 in the amount of $25.00, the name of the contributor being listed as U. M. of A. It is believed quite possible that this contribution in the amount of $25.00 was made by the UNITED MOTHERS OF AMERICA, although, of course, there is no definite way to verify this possibility at the present time. All of the photographic copies secured in connection with this phase of the investigation are being forwarded to the Bureau as enclosures with this report. b7

In connection with the "Detailed Statement of Nomination and Election Expenses" which all candidates are required to file in Wayne County, SMITH filed this particular document in which he stated that he was "a candidate for nomination to the office of United States Senator on the Republican ticket at the Primary held on the 15th day of September, 1942".

In the matter of his claim of disbursements, SMITH stated on his application form, "Inasmuch as all my campaign funds were received and handled by the Campaign Committee, the report of the Campaign Committee which copies this statement, to my best knowledge, covers the receipts and expenditures in my campaign for the nomination of United States Senator". There is being quoted hereinafter a part of the Disbursement Claim filed by SMITH as follows:

"OFFICE REPORT:

"Postage (permit mail, third class stamp mail and first class)	1,436.10
Supplies (envelopes, mimeograph supplies, etc.)	410.80
Printing & mailing nomination petitions	420.00
Campaign printing	1,443.26
Clerical help	2,313.11
Printing & mailing picture prints	98.90
Car expense (1 public address, 1 passenger car, food, tips, etc. for five people)	1,221.40
GRAND TOTAL	$10,612.21"

"The above expenses are from date of qualification (July 20, 1942) to the day of the Primary election (September 15, 1942) inclusive, plus cost of printing and circulating petitions prior to date of qualification."

On this same sheet, SMITH claimed his unpaid debts and obligations to be as follows:

"Embassy Press, campaign printing - 7/20 - 9/15	465.00
Michigan Bell Telephone & Telegraph Co. 7/20 - 9/15	220.00
City mailing service (addressing) - 7/20 - 9/15	42.50
	$727.50"

This particular report was signed by BERNARD A. DOMAN, Treasurer of the Committee, in connection with the nomination expenses. In accordance with that part of the statement pertaining to receipts relative to the Primary Election held on September 15, 1942, the following information was set forth:

"DATE	FROM WHOM RECEIVED	PURPOSE	AMOUNT
9/12	From meetings - Belleville	CAMPAIGN EXPENSE	12.80
	Clinton	"	2.50
	Tecumseh	"	6.15
	Hudson	"	18.30
	Blissfield	"	35.75

9/1	From meetings -	Cheboygan	CAMPAIGN EXPENSE	35.00
9/5	" "	Davison	"	16.26
		Lapeer	"	57.08
		Imlay City	"	16.30
		Brown City	"	19.25
		Caro	"	33.25
9/7	" "	Manton	"	15.35
9/15	Receipts from attached lists			210.00
	Receipts from attached lists Pages 1-43			5,887.96
8/28	Anonymous from a group of Industrial employees			1,500.00
	GRAND TOTAL			$10,612.21

It is being noted at this time that there are actually two reports submitted to the Wayne County Clerk's Office, one being called "Committee Treasurer's Detailed Statement of Nomination and Election Expenses" while the other statement is called "Candidate's Detailed Statement of Nomination and Election Expenses".

In connection with the contribution dated August 28, entitled "Anonymous from a group of Industrial employees" in the amount of $1,500.00, reporting agent discussed this matter with [redacted] and at that time [redacted] that, according to the law of the State of Michigan, a person could not list on his expense statement the fact that he had received gifts from an anonymous source and that as a matter of practice whenever anyone listed an anonymous donor they were requested to furnish the name of the donor to the Wayne County Clerk's Office, and that in the event they failed to comply with that request they would technically be in violation of the law. [redacted] allowed agent to make copies from correspondence maintained in the Wayne County Clerk's Office files, which correspondence took place in connection with the statement made in SMITH'S report relative to the anonymous gift of $1,500.00. This correspondence is more or less self-explanatory and is being quoted ver batim hereinafter: b7D

"December 21, 1942

"Mr. Bernard Boman, Treasurer of the
U. S. Senate Primary Campaign.
(Gerald L. K. Smith, Candidate),
Treasurer of the Smith for Senate
Campaign (Independent)
2006 Industrial Bank Building
Detroit, Michigan.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

"Dear Sir:

"Your attention is directed to Sections 3309, 3313, 3317 and 3318 of the 1929 Compiled Laws of the State of Michigan, which provide as follows:

"2209. Sec. 4. 'Every candidate and every treasurer of a political committee shall, within ten days after any primary election, caucus or convention, and again within twenty days after any general election, whether state, countu, city, municipal, township or district election, in or concerning which he shall have received or disbursed any money, prepare and file in the office of the county clerk of the county in which such candidate or trasurer resides, a full, true and detailed account and statement subscribed and sworn to by him before an officer authorized to administer oaths, setting forth each and every sum of money received or disbursed by him for nomination or election expenses, the date of each receipt, the name of the person from whom received or to whom paid, and the person to whom and object or purpose for which disbursed. Such statements shall also set forth the unpaid debts and obligations, if any, of such candidate or committee, incurred for the purposes set forth in section three of this act, with the nature and amount of each, and to whom owing, in detail, and if there are no such unpaid debts or obligations of such candidate or committee, such statement shall state such fact.'

"3113. Sec. 8. 'Upon the failure of any persons to file a statement within ten days after receiving such notice, or if any statement filed discloses any violation of any provisions of this act, the county clerk shall forth with notify the prosecuting attorney of the county where said violation

occurred, and shall furnish him with copies of all papers relating thereto, and said prosecuting attorney shall, on such complaint or the complaint of any other person, forthwith enter the same in a docket kept for that purpose in his office, and within twenty days thereafter examine every such case, and if the evidence seems to him to be sufficient under the provisions of this chapter he shall, in the name of the people of the state, forthwith institute such civil or criminal proceedings as may be appropriate to the facts.'

"3317. Sec. 12. 'No person shall make a payment of his own money or of another person's money to any person in connection with a nomination or election in any other name than that of the person who in truth supplies such money; nor shall any person knowingly receive such payment or enter or cause the same to be entered in his accounts or records in another name than that of the persons by whom it was actually furnished.'

"3318. Sec. 13. 'It shall be unlawful for any candidate or treasurer of a political committee, or person acting as such treasurer, to disburse money received from any anonymous source.'

"The Treasurer's report filed by you with reference to the Primary Election, September 15, 1942 contains the following item:

"8/28 Anonymous from a group of Industrial Employees, $1,500.

"We are advised that this entry of an anonymous contribution is contrary to Sections 3317 and 3318 quoted above.

"Upon checking the Treasurer's report filed with reference to

the General Election, November 3, 1942, we find that you list receipts in the amount of $8,545.37. However, upon totalling the list attached to the Treasurer's report which you state 'identifies contributors who sent money through the mail, brought it to the office and contributed to collections taken in public rallies all over the State of Michigan'. We find the total of such contributions to be $2,388.45. You have, therefore, failed to account for receipts in the amount of $6,156.92. You will note that Section 3309, quoted above, requires that a 'detailed account and statement' must be filed, 'setting forth each and every sum of money received'.

"You are hereby notified that the above mentioned items do not comply with the law, and that this notice is given to you to afford you an opportunity to comply with the statutory provisions within ten days from the receipt of this notice.

"Yours very truly,

CASPAR J. LINGEMAN (Signed)
Wayne County Clerk"

"CJL;m

"COMMITTEE OF
1,000,000 Gerald L. K. Smith NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

"Headquarters: POST OFFICE BOX 459 Detroit, Michigan

"December 29, 1942

"Caspar J. Lingeman
Clerk of Wayne County
Detroit, Michigan

"Dear Mr. Lingeman:

"Your letter dated December 21 and mailed to Mr. Bernard Doman, treasurer of my campaign committees for both the Primary and General Election campaigns, has been turned over to me for my attention, due to the absence of Mr. Doman during the Holiday Season.

"We are only too happy to amend our report on campaign expenditures but, inasmuch as your letter written the 21st did not reach us until the 24th of December (Christmas Eve) and inasmuch as the report cannot be amended until our campaign committee can meet, it will be impossible to furnish these amendments within a period of ten days from December 21. But let me assure you that the amended report will be in your hands by January 10.

"Incidentally, I find that your misunderstanding of the General Election report is based on the omission of one typewritten line which can be charged up to a clerical error.

"Sincerely,

"GLKS/U" "GERALD L. K. SMITH" (Sgd.)

"P.S. It would be interesting to analyze the state of mind of a political enemy who would call for the amendment of the campaign expense report of a defeated candidate on Christmas Eve. I know that this letter was not instigated by you but, undoubtedly, you are under the pressure of certain obnoxious enemies of mine who are only interested in persecution."

Photographic copies were secured of the Statements filed with the Wayne County Clerk's Office relative to the election held on November 3, 1942 in the State of Michigan for the office of United States Senator. Inasmuch as it is felt that Statements made at this time by SMITH would be pertinent as to the question of whether or not he was a candidate on a regular party ticket or whether or not he was a "sticker candidate", there is being quoted ver batim hereinafter the information contained on "The Candidate's Detailed Statement of Nomination and Election Expenses":

"In accordance with Act No. 351, P. A. 1925, I, Gerald L. K. Smith, who was a candidate for election to the office of United States Senator on the sticker candidate ticket, at the Election held on the 3rd day of November, 1942, in the Michigan, State of Michigan, hereby submit the following detailed

statement of disbursements, receipts, and unpaid debts or obligations."

Along with his Detailed Statement of Nomination and Election Expenses, SMITH enclosed an affidavit reading as follows:

"STATEMENT: November 28, 1942

"I file herewith a report of receipts and expenditures in connection with my campaign for the United States Senate as a sticker candidate.

"For the record, let it be noted that a sticker candidate, so-called, is not a candidate in the ordinary sense. There was some disagreement among the attorneys as to whether or not I should make a report - but I am filing this report in order that there be no question as to my desire to comply with the law.

"It will be noted that inasmuch as I was the candidate of no party, every expenditure made in my behalf was made through the Smith for Senate Committee; whereas, candidates of regular parties enjoy the good graces of local committees which frequently indulge themselves in expensive cooperation, which does not go on the report of the candidate's finance committee.

"GLKS/U" "GERALD L. K. SMITH" (Sgd.)
"Gerald L. K. Smith"

The Committee Treasurer's Report for the general election held on November 3, 1942 was submitted by BERNARD A. DOMAN, in which report DOMAN listed the name of the Committee to be the "Smith for Senate Campaign (independent) Committee". DOMAN listed himself as the Treasurer of this particular committee. The total disbursements listed by the Treasurer's Committee were $8,895.02.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

The complete set of photographic copies which were made available to the Detroit Office are being enclosed herewith for the information of the Bureau.

Inquiry was made at the Wayne County Clerk's Office, at which time agent was advised that after a thorough search of the records had been made, there was no record located for any incorporation for the "AMERICA FIRST PARTY". Under date of April 11, 1941 there was filed with the Wayne County Clerk's Office corporation papers relative to the "AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE". The purpose of forming the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE was designated as:

> "To promote, foster and encourage by the dissemination of information by public meetings and by any other lawful and appropriate means a desire for peace among the people of the United States."

Incorporators for this particular group were listed as follows:

JULIUS H. MOELLER
1704 Penobscot Building

ROBERT VIETIG
1501 Industrial Bank Building

C. H. HABERKORN, JR.
16761 East Jefferson Avenue

A. B. McCHERNEY
7301 Woodward Avenue

It was also ascertained at this time that a Certificate of Voluntary Dissolution of this particular corporation had been filed with the Wayne County Clerk's Office on December 2, 1942, indicating that this particular group had dissolved at that time.

With reference to the telephone number of [redacted] listed in reference report, reporting agent ascertained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, that this [redacted] number was listed to [redacted] At the [redacted] agent contacted [redacted] at which time

b7C, b7D

(Detroit file 62-1126)

[redacted]

b7C, b7D

ENCLOSURES: TO THE BUREAU

Photographic copies of Statements filed by SMITH with the Wayne County Clerk's Office. } Let to field to be put in order & then for to Bureau

Two copies of booklet entitled "The Cross and the Flag".

One copy of the leaflet entitled "Petition to My Senator".

-P E N D I N G-

(Detroit file 62-1126)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

CLEVELAND FIELD DIVISION:

At CLEVELAND, OHIO, will report on the AMERICA FIRST PARTY rally which was held in Cleveland on April 22, 1943.

KANSAS CITY FIELD DIVISION:

* At KANSAS CITY, will ascertain through confidential informants whether REVEREND GERALD B. WINROD placed any telephone calls to GERALD L. K. SMITH in Detroit, Michigan in February, 1943.

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION:

* Will, if advisable, contact DR. L. M. BURKHEAD, Director of FRIENDS OF DEMOCRACY for information in his possession about GERALD L. K. SMITH and his activities. This lead was originally set forth in report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 25, 1943, but it has been since ascertained that H. E. MARTIN is dead and the remaining portion of the lead is therefore deleted.

* Will cover lead requested by Department as follows: "Referring to page 2 of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 23, 1942 at Detroit, Michigan in which mention is made of an article carried by the United Press from noon on October 20, 1936, concerning the announcement by SMITH of the formation of a Fascist organization to seize the Government of the United States. It is requested that an effort be made to secure a copy of SMITH'S announcement if it was in writing and in any case that you attempt to locate and interview concerning the context thereof persons present when SMITH made such announcement."

* Will cover leads as requested in Departmental memo quoting: "Information has been received that the attorneys for Time and Life magazines with offices in New York City have compiled a large file of information on SMITH in which may be reflected facts which will interest this (Criminal) Division. It is requested that this file be secured or duplicated if it does exist and that any leads which may be indicated thereby be developed by investigation as soon as possible.

* Additional information has been received in this office that the law firm HOUSE, GROSSMAN, VORHAUS and HELMEY of New York City handled a law suit against SMITH and some individual identified to the Criminal Division as the 'Banana King' and that one [redacted]

ALL b7c

(Detroit file 62-1126)

[redacted] or some other functionary in this law firm, has some information about SMITH which developed as a result of this law suit that may not be available elsewhere. It is requested that this lead be developed and a report be supplied to the Criminal Division as soon as possible."

* Will cover lead requested in Departmental memo as follows: "Other information reaching this office is that during the time SMITH was established in New York, one [redacted] was intimately associated with him. It is desired that you endeavor to ascertain the identity of this individual and the nature of her connection with the Subject."

* Will contact [redacted] and will obtain or ascertain present location of membership cards in PELLEY'S SILVER SHIRTS OF AMERICA issued to GERALD L. K. SMITH and his wife.

* Will obtain from CRAVATH, DeGERSDORFF, SWAINE AND WOOD, 15 Broad Street, New York City, attorneys for Time Magazine, information concerning GERALD L. K. SMITH.

SAN ANTONIO FIELD DIVISION:

* Will forward to Technical Laboratory letter from Subject to [redacted] San Antonio, Texas, dated July 8, 1933, requesting that an examination be made to ascertain whether the letter was actually written by Subject. Will notify Detroit Field Office when this is done so that a known specimen of SMITH'S handwriting may be sent to the Technical Laboratory.

WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION:

* Will cover lead requested in Departmental memo as follows: "The Criminal Division likewise has learned that certain of PELLEY'S files were seized in 1934 or 1935 by the McCORMACK - DICKSTEIN Congressional Committee and are presumed now in the custody of the Clerk of the House." This lead was originally set forth in report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 25, 1943, but it has since been ascertained that H. E. MARTIN is dead and the remaining portion of the lead is therefore deleted.

* Will attempt to locate and interview [redacted] United States Army, whose address has been given as [redacted] is said to have been a principal contact of the Ford Motor Company with GERALD SMITH, ELIZABETH DILLING and Rev. CHARLES E. COUGHLIN.

ALL
b7c

(Detroit file 62-1126)

* Will consider the advisability of interviewing [redacted], as suggested by the Department, [redacted] claimed to possess information concerning the payment of money by [redacted] to Senator WHEELER and that SMITH among others cooperated with [redacted] in a plot to weaken the United States.

* Will endeavor to locate [redacted] through the office of Senator THOMAS of Oklahoma, and ascertain from [redacted] what he knows concerning the activities, background and associations of Subject. This lead was first set forth in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 18, 1943 at Washington, D. C. It should be noted, however, that [redacted] is still communicating with Subject on a rather friendly basis.

DETROIT FIELD DIVISION:

At Detroit, Michigan, will conduct appropriate investigation in an effort to ascertain what the extent of cooperation, if any, exists between [redacted]

b7d

* Will ascertain whether MRS. ELIZABETH DILLING, of Chicago, Illinois was registered at the Hotel Book-Cadillac, Detroit, Michigan on March 6, 1943 under her true name or any known alias.

[redacted] Will conduct appropriate investigation relative to [redacted] in an attempt to ascertain the person describing herself as [redacted] who apparently was visiting at that address on March 23, 1943.

* Will examine bank accounts utilized by SMITH and will verify that [redacted]

b7d

* Upon notification from the San Antonio Field Office that SMITH'S letter to [redacted] has been forwarded to the Technical Laboratory for examination, will forward to the Technical Laboratory samples of SMITH'S known handwriting and signature.

b7d

(Detroit file 62-1126)

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT

The identity of [redacted] mentioned in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 5, 1943, at Detroit, Michigan, in the case entitled "GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH with aliases et al," is [redacted]

b2, b7D

62

JPHa:WMJ
62-43818-249
May 15, 1943

RECORDED

SAC, Detroit

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C;
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION.

Reference is made to the report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on May 5, 1943.

b7c

The enclosures described on page fifteen of Special Agent [redacted] report as "photographic copies of statements filed by Smith with the Wayne County Clerk's office" were received at the Bureau in such a condition of disorder that it is not possible without access to the original statements or knowledge as to how they are set up to rearrange the various pages of the enclosures in their proper sequence.

Accordingly, these enclosures are being returned herewith with the request that the various pages of the enclosures be arranged in proper order and returned to the Bureau at the earliest possible date.

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
MAY 15 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP8BTJ/MC

12 MAY 20 1943

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-8486

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
WASHINGTON, D. C.	5/15/43	5/5,10,12/43	[redacted] :MEC b6

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH with aliases THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY - C CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted] said to be traveling in Texas. Appropriate leads set forth. b7c

- RUC -

REFERENCE: 62-43818. Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 5, 1943, at Detroit, Michigan b7c

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Inquiries in Washington revealed that [redacted] had closed his office at [redacted], and had left town. [redacted] dated May 5, 1943, at which time he was staying at the Lamar Hotel in Houston, Texas. She stated he was supposed to be traveling for some commercial house in Texas and she believes the best way to get in touch with him would be to address a letter to an office he maintains in Detroit at [redacted] b7c b7D

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

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DATE 10/4/80 BY SP-8 [illegible]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [illegible] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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MAY 18 1943

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Will endeavor to contact [redacted] and question him as suggested by the Department. [redacted] claims to possess information concerning a payment of money by [redacted] to Senator WHEELER and that the subject, among others, cooperated with Senator WHEELER in a plot to weaken the United States. b7c

THE HOUSTON FIELD DIVISION

AT HOUSTON, TEXAS

Will endeavor to locate [redacted] through the LaMar Hotel and question him concerning his knowledge of the subject. It is claimed [redacted] possesses information concerning the payment of money by [redacted] to Senator WHEELER and that the subject, among others, cooperated with WHEELER in a plot to weaken the United States. b7c

For the information of the Detroit and Houston Field Offices, attention is directed to Bureau letter of May 5, 1943, in which the Bureau instructs that investigation of this case be completed in all offices not later than June 1, 1943. The attention of the Detroit Office is also directed to the third paragraph of the Bureau letter in which the Washington Field Division is instructed not to interview [redacted] as previously instructed. It should be noted that a lead was set out in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 6, 1943, at Washington, D. C., for the Detroit Office to interview [redacted]

b7c

United States Department of Justice
San Antonio, Texas
May 8, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, w.as.,
Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K.
Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

DEFERRED PROSECUTION b9

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, dated April 9, 1943, in which an undeveloped lead is set forth for the San Antonio Field Division to obtain the original letter from the subject to [redacted] San Antonio, Texas, which letter was dated July 8, 1933. b7c

The letter in question was recovered by Special Agents of the San Antonio Field Division during the course of an authorized search of the premises of [redacted] San Antonio, Texas, on May 27, 1942. The referenced report requested that the original letter be forwarded to the Technical Laboratory for the purpose of requesting that an examination be made to ascertain whether the letter was actually written by the subject. An examination of this letter however discloses that it was typewritten in its entirety with the exception of a few scribbled initials above the signature on the letter. Consequently this letter is being forwarded to the Detroit Field Division for whatever disposition they deem appropriate and it is requested that the original of this letter be returned to the San Antonio Field Division for its use in connection with the denaturalization trial of [redacted] which is expected to be held in the near future. b7c

Inasmuch as no further investigation remains to be done in this case in the San Antonio Field Division, this case is being considered as referred upon completion to the office of origin.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8B75 [redacted]

RECORDED
62-43818-25

Very truly yours,

R. C. SURAN,
SAC

21 MAY 19 1943

[redacted] jmp
cc - Detroit (Encl.)

34 MAY 22 1943 b7c

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS

Department of Justice
Office of the Assistant to the Attorney General
Washington

Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Boson
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Neese
Miss Gandy

May 11, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

DEFERRED RECORDING

I have your memorandum of May 7 addressed to Mr. Rowe and to my attention inquiring whether the Treasury Department's investigation of Gerald L. K. Smith's income tax returns was instituted at the suggestion of the Department of Justice and, if so, whether the results of the investigation will be made available to the Department and to the FBI.

The Treasury investigation was instituted at the request of the Attorney General and I am sure that the general results will be made available to us and to the Bureau. I am not sure just how much of the details the Treasury will make available but I will be glad to discuss this matter with Mr. Helvering and attempt to make arrangements whereby any reports rendered by the agents conducting the investigation can be made available to us.

C. E. Rhetts
Special Assistant to the
Attorney General

RECORDED 62-4-5-25
24 MAY 17 1943

FIVE

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) DEPT OF THE ARMY, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
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FBI/DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

EC FILE NO. 100-3598

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	5-13-43	4-28 5-10-43	[redacted] VMD b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH was; THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY - C CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted] advised that no telephone calls were placed by Rev. GERALD B. WINROD of Wichita, Kansas to the Subject in February of 1943. b7D

- EUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit April 9, 1943. b7c

DETAILS: At Wichita, Kansas

[redacted] advised that he had received information to the effect that Rev. GERALD B. WINROD had not placed any calls to the Subject during January or February of 1943. He went on to relate that WINROD placed a call to a [redacted] the Statler Hotel, Detroit, on January 25, 1943, this call being placed at approximately 8:00 p.m. and was talked on at 1:30 a.m. January 26, 1943. b7D b7c

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

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62 | 43818 | 254

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2 - Kansas City

27 MAY 15 1943

cc 4 [illegible] 5/21/43 gpth

- CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT -

[redacted] -- [redacted]

b7c, b7D

JPHa:WMJ
5-21-43

62-43818-254

RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your information, there is attached a copy of a report submitted in connection with the investigation of this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Kansas City, Missouri, on May 13, 1943.

b7c

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
MAY 24 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

27 MAY 31 1943

AMERICA FIRST PARTY

Pittsburgh, Pa.,

May 21, 1943.

The America First Party is holding a meeting in the North Side Carnegie Hall Tuesday evening, June 1st at 8 P. M. with Mrs. Ernest Lundeen as the principal speak

"She will answer Walter Winchell, the character assassin. She will discuss the mysterious death of her husband killed in an airplane accident on his way to address an America First meeting."

Gerald L. K. Smith, National Director and organizer of the America First Party will be chairman of the committee.

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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mlm

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-254X
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SE 16 JUN 2 1943

51 JUN 14 1943

J. P. Hanratty:CSM
5-29-43

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PERSONAL HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, better known as Gerald L. K. Smith, was born during February, 1898, at Pardeeville, Wisconsin. He attended Butler Seminary at Indianapolis, Indiana, and later was graduated from Valparaiso University (Indiana) where he pursued a course in theology. Smith's antecedents and early life were in no way unusual and are of no particular interest.

After leaving college, Smith took up active duty as a minister and successively held pastorates at Footville, Wisconsin, at the Seventh Street Christian Church of Indianapolis and at the King's Highway Church of Shreveport, Louisiana.

Prior to assuming his ministerial duties at Shreveport, Smith's activities were rather conservative and of a type characteristically befitting one in the ministerial profession. However, while in Louisiana, he became interested in the late Huey Long's "Share the Wealth" movement and eventually extended this interest to the point of actively and openly participating in politics as an adherent of Long. Attendant publicity evoked the displeasure of the Elders of his church, eventually resulting in Smith's dismissal during 1934. Following Long's death, Smith attempted to identify himself with the remnants of the Long machine but being unsuccessful in this left Louisiana in 1937 and came to New York where he attempted to organize an association called "The Committee of One Million." This effort was unfruitful. During the following year he moved to Detroit where he has since been located.

At Detroit, Smith reorganized "The Committee of One Million" as an organization "founded for the purpose of combatting the menace of Communism." During 1939, Smith shifted his policy, advocating the isolationist viewpoint, and since the involvement of the United States in war he has busied himself principally in directing criticism to the Government's war effort and what he is pleased to characterize as the Government's efforts to enslave the United States as an entity in an International State dominated by Great Britain.

More detailed comments are set forth subsequently as to Smith's connection with Huey Long and his activities as the organizer of "The Committee of One Million," but it is of significance to observe that it appears that the turning point of Smith's life dates from his association with Huey Long. Prior to that time he was the usual type of minister concerned with problems incidental to his calling. However, it seems that his participation in the "Share the Wealth" movement fired his ambition to the extent of self visualization of himself as a dominant political figure. Being unsuccessful in associating himself with Long's

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
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DATE 10/4/80 BY SP-8BTJ/MC

RECORDED AND INDEXED 123

62-43918-255
F B I
17 JUN 1 1943

successors, he has apparently continued his dream of political prominence through his efforts in connection with his so-called "Committee of One Million." The fact that he still evaluates himself as an individual of at least potential political significance, is attested to by the fact that he has sometimes described himself in confidential conversations as being likely "Presidential timber." In an effort to further augment his political background and potentialities, Smith sought nomination as Republican candidate for United States Senator from the State of Michigan during the summer of 1942. This campaign was unsuccessful.

Smith's personal life appears to be normal. He is married, lives with his wife, and has one son, about twenty years of age. His wife is said to be a distant relative of a Mr. Sorensen, described as an official of the Ford Motor Company. From time to time stories have been circulated attributing improprieties to Smith in connection with his associations with women other than his wife. However, nothing factual is known to substantiate these stories.

ACTIVITIES PRIOR TO 1938

While serving as pastor at the King's Highway Church, Shreveport, Louisiana, Smith became interested in Huey Long's "Share the Wealth" plan. He eventually met Long and shortly thereafter there developed, according to Smith's description, "a close and fast friendship" between the two. It is definitely known that shortly thereafter, and lasting for a period of several years, Smith assumed the position of one of Long's chief lieutenants. Although Smith is prone to describe this relationship as a personal one, several persons who were close to Long at the time, state that Long had little personal regard for Smith and apparently evaluated him as being untrustworthy and dishonest. These persons state that Long was merely utilizing Smith's services, and in this connection it is known that Long, as well as others associated with him, regarded Smith as a very dynamic and powerful public speaker. It appears that Smith was widely used by the Long organization in the role of a public speaker for the "Share the Wealth" movement. It is said that Smith, at one time, received as much as $650 per week from the Long organization as reimbursement for expenses and as salary.

Information has been received that while associated with the Long movement, Smith joined William Dudley Pelley's Silver Shirt organization. Nothing in the way of documentary evidence is available to prove this membership, but in recent years, Smith has, on several occasions, admitted membership in the Pelley movement. He states, however, that he joined Pelley's organization merely for the purpose of securing information in connection with his work in behalf of Huey Long.

Although during Huey Long's lifetime Smith was an outstanding personage in the Long machine, he rapidly lost his position after the death of Long. It appears that his services were continued for a short period of time by Long's

successors, but that he eventually was displaced due, allegedly, to his untoward efforts to attain personal power. By 1937, any influence which he previously had was completely dissipated and it was during that year that he left Louisiana for New York.

On arriving at New York Smith attempted to organize a group known as "The Committee of One Million." According to the self announced purposes of this organization its primary concern was that of combating the forces of Communism. However, Smith's efforts in New York met with little success, and reportedly he was disheartened to the extent of ceasing his activities and removing to Detroit, Michigan, early in 1938.

Toward the end of his stay in Louisiana, Smith's personal reputation apparently suffered to some extent. On November 3, 1936, he was arrested by the New Orleans Police Department on a charge of having disturbed the peace in the using of obscene language in a public place. Reportedly, this arrest resulted in his receiving a suspended sentence of $10.00 and ten days.

During 1936 and 1937, Smith was also involved as a plaintiff in several libel and slander cases. These cases were apparently of minor importance, but the consensus of opinion appears to be that Smith's reputation suffered more than did the reputation of those whom he sought to sue.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

On arriving in Detroit in 1938, Smith almost immediately set out to reorganize the defunct "Committee of One Million." In this connection he distributed a considerable amount of literature designating the purposes of "The Committee of One Million" as follows:

1. To rebuild the spirit of America.

2. To wipe out the last vestiges of Communism, Nazism and Fascism in all forms.

3. The redefinition of the American National character.

4. The installation of a new spirit in American youth, dedicated to the maintenance of American institutions.

5. To issue a call to farmers and laborers to resist what is now known as an international plot to involve them in a world revolution.

6. To rededicate the citizenry of America to the family altar and to the spirit of the church.

7. To secure the maintenance of a well defined standard of American living.

Other literature of "The Committee of One Million," sought particularly to stress the activities of this organization in combating Communist influences.

With the coming of the European war in 1939, Smith shifted the policy of "The Committee of One Million" to that of promoting the cause of isolationism. In various pieces of literature distributed during 1939, 1940 and 1941, he was especially critical of the Government's policy of rendering assistance to the allied Governments.

Since the involvement of the United States in the war, Smith has again shifted his policy as well as that of "The Committee of One Million" to the direction of criticism against the Government's efforts in prosecuting the war. He has not questioned the necessity of winning the war, but on the other hand, in various of his publications, as well as his public utterances, has been careful to lay stress on the necessity of the people's aiding and assisting in every way in defeating America's foes.

However, he has advanced contentions that the Government is using the war as an excuse for depriving the public of its just liberties. He has also freely voiced criticism against what he has been disposed to characterize as the Government's efforts to reduce the United States to a mere entity in a great international state dominated by Great Britain.

Smith carries on the work of "The Committee of One Million" through radio broadcasts over Station WJR at Detroit, the distribution of literature, and through the publication of a monthly magazine known as "The Cross and the Flag." Although Smith claims that "The Committee of One Million" has a following of three million persons, it appears that "The Committee of One Million" is really not an organization as such, and is merely a name used by Smith. Smith, of course does have a rather large mailing list, and it seems that the persons who receive his literature and make occasional financial donations to him are considered by Smith as being members of the Committee. Available information indicates that Smith's claim of three million followers is grossly exaggerated.

Early in 1942, Smith sought to establish another organization known as "The Inner Circle." As suggested by its name, this group was described by Smith as consisting of the more prominent and trustworthy members of "The Committee of One Million." He announced the foundation of this group through the distribution of literature calling for the donation of additional funds, and it appears that its purposes were the same as those of "The Committee of One Million." According to information received, "The Inner Circle" is no more of a real organization than "The Committee of One Million" and was conceived and used by Smith merely for the purpose of collecting additional money from persons on his mailing list.

During the summer of 1942, Smith sought the Republican nomination for the position of United States Senator from the State of Michigan. He made a number of speeches and conducted quite an active campaign and in the primary

election received approximately 120,000 votes. Although this was not sufficient for nomination, political observers were of the opinion that Smith had made an unusually good showing. Even after this defeat, Smith continued his candidacy in the general election in November, 1942, when he projected himself as a write-in candidate. He was badly defeated in the general election, his following being less than that in the primary campaign.

Late in 1942, Smith publicly announced the intention of forming a third political party on a national scale. The proposed platform for this Party, as announced, was similar to that advanced by Smith in connection with his work as leader of "The Committee of One Million" and it is understood that Smith hopes to gain support from members of the now defunct "America First Committee." In recent months, Smith has toured the Middle West and has made a number of speeches in various cities, outlining his plan for a third political party. Recently, he has indicated that it may not be necessary to form this party if the Republican and Democratic Parties "present a real issue" for the 1944 Presidential Election.

At various times within recent years it has been reported that certain officials at the Ford Motor Company are interested in Smith and have collaborated with him to the extent of furnishing him information used in some of his speeches and his publication "The Cross and the Flag."

In connection with his various appearances as a public speaker Smith has attained the reputation of being a very effective and forceful speaker. Although he is somewhat bombastic, and at times given too freely to overemphasis, it does appear that he is an unusually good speaker and that he is effective in influencing audiences. Some persons have described him as among the foremost public speakers of the day.

It is of interest to note that Smith's publication "The Cross and the Flag" was named, along with a number of other publications, in indictments returned in the District of Columbia on July 21, 1942, and January 4, 1943, charging twenty-eight and thirty-four defendants respectively with having engaged in a conspiracy to violate the Sedition Statutes. These indictments have pertinence to the case popularly referred to as United States vs. Gerald B. Winrod, et al. Although Smith's publication was mentioned in the indictment, as being one of a number of publications throughout the country which has contributed to undermining the loyalty and morale of the Armed Forces, neither Smith nor the publication was named as a defendant.

RECORDED

62-43818-255

MAY 31 1943

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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8B/JMC

XXXXXXM
JPHa:DXM :LVO
5/29/43
62-43818
61-7850

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

b7c

Reference is made to your memorandum of May 28, 1943, concerning Gerald Smith of Detroit and one [redacted] described as being thirty-three years of age and a resident of either Detroit or Cleveland. You will recall you stated that the President telephoned you on May 27, 1943, requesting that the Bureau make an investigation of Smith and that he be informed as to the draft status of [redacted]

b7c

Smith is usually referred to as Gerald L. K. Smith and for several years has been a resident of Detroit where he has been active in connection with an organization known as "The Committee of One Million." Last fall he was an unsuccessful candidate for the United States Senate and since December, 1942, he has been principally concerned with an effort to establish a third political party known as the America First Party.

During recent months Smith has made a number of public speeches, attempting to gain support for this Party and during the course of these speeches has frequently attacked the Administration, alleging that it has seized on the emergency created by the war in an effort to develop a dictatorial form of Government. He has also criticized what he is disposed to characterize as the Government's efforts to reduce the United States to a mere entity in a great international state dominated by Great Britain. Despite such assertions, he has been careful to profess loyalty to the war effort and has urged his following to give loyal support to the war effort.

Copy Sent by Letter 3-8-76 Per FOIA Request

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Since the early part of 1942, the activities of Smith have received close and continuous investigative attention by the Bureau. His background, resources and associates have been closely examined and all of his public speeches since the fall of 1942 have been covered. As a supplement to such investigative attention a technical surveillance has been in effect since May, 1942.

All of the information developed has been referred to the Criminal Division and to Mr. James Rowe, Jr., but Mr. Rowe's office has stated that Smith's activities and statements to date are not sufficient to justify prosecution. However, the investigation is being continued unabated, according to certain suggestions advanced by Mr. Rowe, and reports and other information, as received, are being referred to him.

With reference to the report that Smith has made statements suggesting that people not pay their income taxes, you are advised that no information has been received indicating that Smith has made such statements either

SENT VIA AIR MAIL
1943 8:19 AM
DATE 5/31/43
BY

5/31/43

during the course of personal conversations or during his public speeches. It is known that the Treasury Department is investigating the income tax returns made by Smith during 1938, 1939 and 1940, but nothing has been developed to suggest that Smith has attempted to counsel evasion of the income tax laws.

On March 25, 1943, an inquiry was received from the President concerning Smith and subsequently, on March 31, 1943, a summary memorandum setting forth pertinent data as to Smith's background and the results of the investigation as to him was referred to the office of the President. For your information I am attaching copies of that memorandum.

Concerning the individual designated as [redacted] it is believed that the reference is to [redacted] formerly active in Christian Front activities at New York and now a resident of Chicago, Illinois. [redacted] has been under investigation by the Bureau for more than two years and for your information, I am transmitting herewith copies of a memorandum concerning his background and activities.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

ALL
DT

Complete information concerning [redacted] draft status is set forth in the attached memorandum and as you will note, he was classified as recently as May 19, 1943 by his local Draft Board at Chicago as [redacted] this classification being given him inasmuch as he is more than thirty-eight years of age and is not engaged in an essential industry. [redacted]

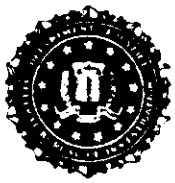
Respectfully,

b7c

John Edgar Hoover
Director

osure

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



CC-287

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

FLN:TD
9:45 AM

May 29, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith;
Internal Security -
Sedition

SAC Bugas of the Detroit Office telephoned, stating that pursuant to previous Bureau instructions the files on the subject were thoroughly reviewed back to January 1, 1942, and no information whatsoever was found indicating that the subject had ever counseled evasion of income tax laws either in regular conversations or in his speeches.

Mr. Bugas also mentioned that for the past six to eight months complete coverage has been had of the subject's speeches throughout the Detroit area and that during none of these has he ever suggested or commented to his audiences that they should not pay their income tax to the Government.

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch

F. L. Welch

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8075 pc

RECORDED

F B I
17 JUN 1 1943

59 JUN 5 1943

Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D.C.

May 28, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOOVER

The President telephoned me yesterday requesting that the FBI make an investigation of Gerald Smith, who is alleged to have made speeches in Detroit suggesting that people do not pay their income tax to the Government.

The President also wishes to know the draft status of one [redacted] alleged to be 33 years old, of Detroit or Cleveland.

b7c

Francis Biddle
Attorney General

RECORDED

F B I
17 JUN 1

51 JUN 10 1943

By letter 3-8-76
Per FOIA Request

RECORD COPY FILED IN

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
May 25, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080/LEW ON 6-15-77

Dear Sir:

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

There is being set forth below the substance of information received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. This information was received during the period from May 10, 1943 through May 20, 1943.

Informant advised that he had received information to the effect that SMITH was to attend a rally sponsored by the America First Party, presumably in the city of Erie, Pennsylvania on May 25, 1943.

On May 17, 1943 SMITH advised his office employee that he had just discovered that Dr. WINROD (phonetic) was not receiving his magazine and requested that Dr. WINROD be immediately placed on his subscribers list.

Informant advised further that he had received information to the effect that arrangements were being made for SMITH to attend a rally to be held in the Wedgewood Ballroom at the Secor Hotel, Toledo, Ohio at three p.m. on May 30th and that he expects approximately six hundred people to attend this rally.

Informant stated that on May 11, 1943 he had received information to the effect that SMITH reserved a railroad ticket for Reverend LELAND MARION, Pontiac, Michigan to Chicago, Illinois for the purpose of Reverend MARION making a visit to Captain SOUTHARD. MARION apparently was going to Chicago for the purpose of addressing a rally to be sponsored by the Captain SOUTHARD Group.

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62-43812-254

E B I
24 MAY 28 1943

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83 OCT 13 1964

Letter to the Director
dated May 25, 1943

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was

SMITH apparently is about to start on somewhat of an extensive speaking tour and information to date indicates that he intends to make speeches at Fort Wayne, Indiana; Erie, Pennsylvania; Toledo, Ohio; Saint Henry, Ohio and Chicago, Illinois.

Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that SMITH apparently had contacted Mr. and Mrs. WINROD during the time they were in this vicinity and it appeared that SMITH had had dinner with WINROD on several occasions.

Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that a person describing himself as Congressman UPSHAW of Georgia had telephonically contacted SMITH on several occasions and had endeavored to make appointments with SMITH, but informant stated he was under the impression that SMITH had not actually met UPSHAW during the time he was supposed to have been in Detroit.

During a conversation with [redacted] (phonetic) of Buffalo, New York, informant stated that SMITH had made the remark that in the event anyone made any inquiries relative to SMITH's character they could be advised by [redacted] that SMITH at all times had given HENRY FORD of Detroit, Michigan as a reference and if anyone wanted to verify this, they could telephone FORD's private secretary, [redacted] b7c

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted]
62-1126 b7c

JPHa:pgb
RECORDED 62-43818 - 258

June 1, 1943

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

EX-10

SAC, Detroit

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080/LED/ac
ON 6-8-85/27

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of May 25, 1943 setting forth certain information recently furnished your office in connection with this case by [redacted] b7D

It is noted that according to this information Smith apparently intends to shortly commence an extensive speaking tour which will take him to such places as Fort Wayne, Indiana; Erie, Pennsylvania; Toledo, Ohio; Saint Henry, Ohio; and Chicago, Illinois.

As has been done by your office in recent months, it is desired that appropriate arrangements be made with other offices to cover and report subject's speeches on these occasions.

As I have pointed out previously, I regard this investigation as extremely important, and I believe it necessary to adequately cover all of subject's public appearances. Your office is, of course, covering subject's speeches at Detroit, and it will be your responsibility to see that auxiliary offices are appropriately advised as to my desires in this matter on the occasions subject makes public speeches in other cities.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr Nease
Miss Gandy

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP8B75/MC

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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JUN - 2 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUN 1 6 16 PM '43
RECEIVED READING ROOM
F B I
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

448

21 JUN 9 1943

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-7463

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CLEVELAND, OHIO	5-12-43	4-27-43	[redacted] b7c NL

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases. THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000.	INTERNAL SECURITY - G CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

The third America First Party rally in Cleveland was held at the Public Auditorium Ballroom, 8:15, April 27, 1943. GERALD L. K. SMITH opened the meeting reiterating the aim of the America First Party, denounced Senate Resolution 666, mentioned the "remarkable and mysterious" death of HUEY LONG and Senator LUNDEEN, referred to WINCHELL as "skunk, louse, character assassin" in making "small campaign" against deceased Senator LUNDEEN. SMITH alleged that, on complaints of Communists, ministers of the gospel had been interviewed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He requested that mothers of men in the service get together with Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, President of the United Mothers, and prepare for the return of their boys who would come back crippled, blind, and with legs and arms missing. SMITH stated that rationing would be in effect five years after the war was over. He attacked the Block Plan as a Gestapo Agency and a fourth term preparation. SMITH announced rallies in Detroit and Chicago on next Thursday and Friday respectively. He proposed that Mrs. DAVID STANLEY with a committee beseech Father COUGHLIN to break his silence and speak in Cleveland. MARTIN L. SWEENEY, ex-Congressman from Cleveland, paid tribute to LUNDEEN and his isolationist record, stated we have not been told the truth about Pearl Harbor, and that if the opportunity were presented again he, SWEENEY, would vote against war. Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN read a speech in vindication of her husband, his isolationist record,

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: L. V. Boardman SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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(2) 43818 | 259

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2-Cleveland

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24 MAY

JUN 1 1943

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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE F.B.I.

100-7463

and their associations with GEORGE SYLVESTER VIERICK. She labeled remarks of WINCHELL, PEARSON and ALLEN, and the Washington Post as a "small campaign" against her deceased husband. She told of receiving letters from United States Attorney General BIDDLE and Federal Bureau of Investigation Director HOOVER denying any investigation of Senator LUNDEEN. Previous to the party end subscriptions to "The Cross and Flag" were taken up. Of almost capacity audience of about 1400 a large portion were aged couples of Germanic descent. Reference to Germany, Hitler or present war activities were studiously avoided by speakers.

- R U C -

References: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated April 9, 1943, Detroit, Michigan.

Report of Special Agent [redacted], dated April 23, 1943, Cleveland, Ohio. b7c

Details: The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents [redacted], and the writer at Cleveland, Ohio, Tuesday, April 27, 1943.

GERALD L. K. SMITH

At 8:15 p.m. April 27, 1943, the America First Party held its third Cleveland rally. On the platform with GERALD L. K. SMITH, National Director and Organizer of the America First Party, was Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, President of the United Mothers of America, Cleveland Branch, MARIE LOWELL (announced by SMITH as the sponsor of the initial America First Party rally in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania), Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH, Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, widow of the late United States Senator LUNDEEN of Minnesota, an unidentified woman, and MARTIN L. SWEENEY, former Congressman from the Cleveland area.

After leading the audience of some 1400 persons in the Lord's Prayer GERALD L. K. SMITH reiterated the aims of the America First Party, that is, no fourth term and no international form of government after this war.

SMITH denounced Senate Resolution 666 presently pending in the National Congress and stated that if it ever came to open committee meeting he would appear and testify against it. SMITH labeled this resolution as a threat to his continued free speech.

SMITH made reference to "pencil-pushers, stooges, spies, and the dictaphone boys" in the audience and stated, "If you want to know how we feel about the war--we want to win."

SMITH pointed out that he had come from several generations of Christian ministers. He related that one of his committee members had heard the brother of EARL BROWDER say that they were going to put Father COUGHLIN and SMITH together in the same prison cell that EARL BROWDER came out of. SMITH spoke vaguely of prosecution and mentioned that it had come to his attention that ministers of the gospel had been brought in and questioned at length by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on the complaint of Communists.

SMITH referred to the death of HUEY LONG and Senator LUNDEEN as "remarkable and mysterious" and inferred that the present administration was hiding the facts. He asked for the election of administrative officers who would bring to light the true happenings surrounding the death of these men.

SMITH bitterly attacked WALTER WINCHELL, calling him a "skunk, louse, and character assassin." SMITH remarked that he had heard someone in the present administration say that we would have rationing for five years after the war.

SMITH asked for a show of hands as to the number of mothers in the audience who had sons in the Armed Forces. After receiving a response to this request he pointed out that about one-fourth of the audience was in that classification. He requested them to get together with Mrs. DAVID STANLEY of the United Mothers of America and prepare for the return of their boys who would come back crippled, blind, and with legs and arms missing.

SMITH excoriatingly criticized "Bureaucrats", Communists, President Roosevelt, and the "smear campaign" directed against America First supporters. He proposed that the America First Party "kick these foreign new dealers out of Washington" and nominate such men as Senator BURTON K. WHEELER of Montana and MARTIN L. SWEENEY for President and Vice President respectively. SMITH stated that he and his party were against the international bank proposed by Secretary of the Treasury MORGENTHAU, new world congress as proposed by union now, all "internationalists", and the block plan, which he referred to as a Gestapo agency to be used for a fourth term campaign.

SMITH displayed a flag which bore the stripes of the Flag of the United States and in place of the field of stars the British Union Jack was superimposed. He denounced this as the flag of certain internationalists, and pointing to the American Flag on his right he stated, "That is the only flag that I respect," and thereupon threw down and trampled the combination flag described.

Prefacing his remarks by stating that he did not wish to be thought anti-Semitic, SMITH quoted from an article which he claimed came from the largest Jewish newspaper in the country. He stated that this article called for the execution of Father COUGHLIN and himself, justifying such action on the basis of "that was the way Russia would handle it" in this war time.

As to the plans of the America First Party he said that next Thursday night there would be a rally at which he would speak at the Cass Hospital in Detroit and another on next Friday in Chicago. SMITH stated that in the latter part of next month (May) he planned to make a tour of midwestern cities, then to the west coast, and then back to New England. He proposed to the audience that they urge Mrs. DAVID STANLEY to make a journey to Royal Oak, Michigan, and beseech Father COUGHLIN to come to Cleveland and break his silence by addressing this audience. He likewise proposed that Mrs. STANLEY take with her a committee or delegation of as many as she needed. SMITH asked that the audience give a hand to this proposition, and he received a full ovation.

SMITH directed Mr. and Mrs. BERNARD A. DOMAN and the other helpers to take up the contributions placed in the envelopes. SMITH from the platform closely supervised this operation requesting that everyone watch their donations closely as they passed along the aisle because "a new dealer would grab them and run."

MARTIN L. SWEENEY

SMITH then introduced MARTIN L. SWEENEY, ex-Congressman from the Cleveland area. SWEENEY paid tribute to ex-Senator LUNDEEN and his isolationist record, spoke of LUNDEEN's "untimely" death, and referred to the "smear campaign" allegedly instituted against Senator LUNDEEN after his death by WALTER WINCHELL and other correspondents. SWEENEY then entered a tirade against the present administration in which he inferred that the true facts behind Pearl Harbor were being held back. He stated that he had recently

read an article in the Saturday Evening Post by Lieutenant DICKINSON, which recited that ten or twelve days before Pearl Harbor, he, DICKINSON, led a squadron of twelve Gruman Wildcats from Pearl Harbor to Wake Island under sealed war orders with instructions to attack if enemy ships were sighted. SWEENEY stated that according to DICKINSON war ships thought to be Japanese were sighted through the clouds on this trip, but in dropping down to find their range the squadron lost sight of the ships in the clouds. SWEENEY stated that he had prayed long before voting for war on December 8, 1941, in our National Congress, but that if he had it to do over again, knowing what he now knows from Lieutenant DICKINSON's article, he would vote against war. He asked, "What happened at Pearl Harbor?" He stated he would continue to ask this question.

SWEENEY then recited how the Maine was blown up at the beginning of the Spanish-American War, which according to SWEENEY was a "sugar war", and that ten years later when it was partly salvaged it was found to have been blown up from inside. SWEENEY inferred that the present administration was not telling the truth about Pearl Harbor where 3000 "fine American boys" were killed. SWEENEY stated that after this war besides punishing the Japs who had killed our Tokyo fliers, those who sold scrap iron to Japan should also be punished.

SWEENEY related that prior to the last war England had stopped our boats and caused situations which had really given us more reason to go to war against England in 1917 than any other country. He stated that for some inexplicable reason it is only England that can draw us in a war. According to SWEENEY we allowed China to be attacked, Poland to be overrun, and other small countries to be injured, just standing by and saying, "We are sorry", but as soon as England was in danger we went right in.

SWEENEY mentioned favorably the articles of Colonel ROBERT McCORMICK in the Chicago Tribune (a paper which is subscribed to by most of the United Mothers of Cleveland) and stated that we should have papers in Cleveland like that.

Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN

SWEENEY then introduced Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, who read a lengthy prepared speech in vindication of her deceased husband and his isolationist record.

Mrs. LUNDEEN pointed out that she had been a witness at the trial of GEORGE SYLVESTER VIERICK at Washington, D. C. She stated that she had told the court about two letters received from one of the government witnesses by her late husband, which letters definitely made a perjurer out of this witness. She stated that on the Saturday afternoon following this testimony she went with the defense attorney to her home in Washington to look for these letters, and on the way out she, together with the defense attorney, who was carrying a portable radio wrapped in a newspaper for Mrs. LUNDEEN, were photographed by men from the Washington Post. Mrs. LUNDEEN said that in an article the next day, accompanied by photographs, the writer of an article in the Washington Post falsely inferred that the package carried by the defense attorney at that time was letters and material of the defendant VIERICK.

She stated that this was only part of a "smear campaign" by this writer and the paper together with WALTER WINCHELL and PEARSON and ALLEN, the "Merry-go-Round" boys. She stated that WINCHELL and the others would never have made this attack on her dead husband if they had not known that the libel laws were so written as to protect them after the death of their victim. She stated that not only had this "smear campaign" been directed against her but against other fine Americans like GERALD L. K. SMITH and his America First Party.

In upholding her husband's association or connection with VIERICK she related that in about 1931 Rear Admiral SIMMS of the United States Navy spoke at the University of Minnesota on the use of propaganda in World War One, proposing that propaganda classes be set up in all the universities over the country. Mrs. LUNDEEN stated that she and the Senator were so impressed by this speech of Admiral SIMMS that years later in Washington Senator LUNDEEN addressed a letter to SIMMS requesting that he furnish copies of this speech or similar speeches to LUNDEEN. According to Mrs. LUNDEEN in reply SIMMS stated that he had given the address from briefly headed notes, but that if they were interested in a full coverage of this propaganda subject they could refer to the book by GEORGE SYLVESTER VIERICK, "The Germs of _____" and another book which he named in the letter.

Mrs. LUNDEEN stated that after the "smear campaign" had started against her deceased husband she had received a letter from Attorney General FRANCIS BIDDLE and J. EDGAR HOOVER, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, completely denying any investigation of her husband or his activities. She stated that BIDDLE's letter to her had emphatically affirmed

that no investigation of her husband's activities had been made or had been contemplated by the Department of Justice or any branch or bureau thereof.

Mrs. LUNDEEN stated that she opposed a fourth term and was against any form of world police force.

GERALD L. K. SMITH

SMITH, at the end of Mrs. LUNDEEN's address, requested that the audience remain seated (a good number of the audience had begun to leave before the end of Mrs. LUNDEEN's speech). There had been hardly any applause at the end of her speech, but when SMITH asked for a show of applause the audience responded with a full ovation. SMITH proposed to the audience that Mrs. LUNDEEN should be sent to the United States Senate to take the place of her deceased husband. This likewise received acclamation.

SMITH directed that new envelopes be passed out to members of the audience, and he requested that all those wanting to subscribe to The Cross and Flag make predges on these envelopes and enclose the amount of their subscription. He pointed out that he could not mail these envelopes in soliciting subscriptions because of the postal laws and that the audience should take advantage now of being able to obtain this magazine. He announced that everyone who subscribed this night for the magazine would receive the recent copy of The Cross and Flag which carried the sensational article "Gestapo". After asking the audience to rise and leading the pledge to the United States Flag, SMITH terminated the rally.

Miscellaneous

It was noted that a good portion of this audience of approximately 1400 were aged couples of German descent. It was further noted that all of the speakers strictly avoided any mention of Germany or Hitler or the actual prosecution of the war in terms of present events. Japan, Russia, England, STALIN, CHURCHILL, ROOSEVELT, Communists, Internationalists, Bureaucrats, and New Dealers were constantly mentioned, but Germany and its leaders were not touched upon.

An admission card for this rally is being forwarded as an enclosure to the Detroit Field Division.

ENCLOSURE: TO DETROIT - Admission card to America First Party rally.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

JPHa:WMJ
5-28-43

62-43818-259

RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your information, there is transmitted herewith a copy of an additional report submitted in connection with this case by Special Agent [redacted], at Cleveland, Ohio, on May 12, 1943.

b2c

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8B5/MC

Mr Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr Clegg
Mr Coffey
Mr Glavin
Mr Ladd
Mr Nichols
Mr Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr Carson
Mr Harbo
Mr Hendon
Mr McGuire
Mr Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr Quinn Tamm
Mr Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
MAY 20 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN. ATLA. FILE NO. 62-562 VG

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Atlanta, Georgia.	5-29-43	5-20-43	[redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases, THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION.	INTERNAL SECURITY - G, CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Investigation at Fort Benning fails to reflect [redacted] is attached to any medical unit.

RUC.

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] Washington, D. C., May 6, 1943.

DETAILS: AT FORT BENNING, GEORGIA.

[redacted] in charge of the Locater Files at Fort Benning, was contacted and after searching his files advised that there was no record for [redacted] The following persons and their respective organizations were contacted for information concerning [redacted] all with negative results:

[redacted] Station Hospital, Fort Benning; [redacted] Twenty-First General Hospital; [redacted] Twenty-Fourth General Hospital; [redacted] 226th Hospital [redacted], 225th General Hospital, and [redacted] Fifty-Third General Hospital.

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REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [illegible] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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AMERICA FIRST MEETING

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP8 [illegible]

Pittsburgh, Pa.,

June 1, 1943.

Attended the America First meeting held at North Side Carnegie Lecture Hall, arriving at 7:45 P. M. The auditorium was filled to approximately 95% capacity on first floor, with no one sitting in the balcony. The audience was lower middle cl and mostly older people, with not more than 20 people under 45 years of age, and t average being near 60 years of age.

Mrs. Lowell, the chairman, opened the meeting at 8:15 P. M. with a prayer b a minister, followed by the singing of "Star Spangled Banner." The meeting was tu over to Gerald L. K. Smith, National Director and organizer of the America First P who received a great ovation from the audience.

For several minutes he talked about his past political ambitions, God, and America First movement, tying them together very neatly. (He ran for the Senate fr Michigan, and only the New Deal defeated him.) Said "We are not fighting this war give Franklin Roosevelt a fourth term." "You'll hear a lot about not changing hor in mid-stream - well England did - and in going through deep water an elephant can through deeper water than a jackass." At his mention of Burton K. Wheeler and Sen Nye being ready to assume leadership, the audience cheered loudly.

He then referred to Bill #666, conscription bill, extended to daughters and wives, and the conscription of all workers - saying this bill will be defeated, gi credit to three Pittsburghers who appeared before the Senate Military Affairs Comm Mr. Madden, Mrs. Lowell and Mrs. Colligan.

RECORDED & INDEXED
62-43818-260
29 JUN 21 1943

Mr. Madden then told about their meeting with this committee, and told tha Senator Austin, who introduced the bill, said on the witness stand that if the bill was passed any worker in the U. S. could be put in the Merchant Marine, if he was needed there.

FILE 5

Mr. Smith then announced the Flag Day meeting and told of America First meeti over the country, and took up a collection, urging everyone to make pledges to carry on this work. Said expenses were $70.00 railroad fare for Mrs. Lundeen (including hotel), $10.00 for sound equipment, $25.00 rental, $50.00 for notices and incidentia and his train fare, and his wife's train fare. He said, "You're not going to cheat Mrs. Lundeen, are you, she's a widow." Collection was taken by five people with sho ing bags. Everyone that I could observe gave money in their envelopes.

Mr. Smith then attacked Wendell Wilkie - calling him the Wall Street build up In a number of instances politics were very shrewdly brought into the talk, saying, "There's some other political prostitute ready to be glamorized, but we have been fooled for the last time - we must have our man ready.

Mrs. Lundeen was then introduced - a very attractive woman - who read her tal She read from 9:40 to 10:28 P. M. Told of her husband's background and how he advocated "Trade with all nations, entangling alliances with none." Told of how he want to take over islands in Western Hemisphere in 1919 for war debts, and fortify them. Quoted from New York State Economic Bureau that last year America spent 3 times as m as Germany, 5 times as much as England, 6½ times as much as Russia, over 10 times as much as Italy, and over 14 times as much as Japan on the war. She told of the Viere trial where she was called to testify, and how her husband's name was on trial inste of Vierek. Attacked Stokes, Winchell, the Merry-Go-Round Boys and Attorney General Biddle's aide Maloney, for their slender campaign, and in answer to their insinuatic asked us to read the Congressional Record.

Mr. Smith then took over. He gave the following as the issues of the hour.

1. We must be sure the Communist Party in America does not take advantage of our military alliance with Russia, to put over their lying propaganda (watch thos on the Roosevelt payroll). We'll be told that if we attack Communism we attack Russ Call for dissolution of the Communist Party in America. (Earl Browder in a speech last week in Detroit endorsed Roosevelt for a fourth term - and said Wendell Wilkie' new book is the best to be found in America.) Attacked movie "Mission to Moscow" as

the worst piece of international propaganda he knew of. Said "Stalin is no St. Peter to me." Said "Wallace, vice president of the U. S., should be impeached" - told of dinner at Waldorf Astoria - giving date - when Wallace praised the Russian form of government, while pointing out defects in ours.

2. Our boys must be brought home the day the war is over, and not left to police the world. Attacked the government policy of "World State". Said Canadian soldiers cannot be taken out of Canada unless they volunteer, the same in Australia, while our boys are all over the world. "Billions for victory, but not one penny for Internationalist propaganda."

3. We must get those bureaucrats out of Washington - "run the rascals out." Talked of Gestapo bill, restrictions in food, gasoline, etc. Said "Claude Wickard should be in the penitentiary" - and told of his having this big refrigeration plant on his farm in Indiana, and how much food he has hoarded - named pounds, enough for 5½ to 7 years according to our rationing.

At the mention of Father Coughlin's name, a great ovation was given, and when asked if the audience would like to have him as a speaker sometime, the audience actually stood up, waved their hands, and yelled.

It appeared that this meeting was for the purpose of preparing for the 1944 political campaign.

Meeting closed by prayer by a Catholic priest at 11:25 P. M.

b7c

[redacted] DCW
RECORDED

62-43818-260X

Date: June 19, 1943

To: SAC, Pittsburgh

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE; INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Attached hereto are copies of the content of a communication concerning the captioned organization recently made available to the Bureau through an unknown outside source.

These data are being submitted for your information and such utilization as may appear valuable in view of other information contained in your files. In the event the attached material is used for inclusion in any future report or other communication, it should be carefully paraphrased.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Enclosure

cc Detroit

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
JUN 19 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/11/82 BY SP-18/1/26 [redacted]

JUN 24 1943

b7c

International Workers Order

BRANCH NO. 3501
Gowanda, New York

104

Gowanda.N.Y.
June 3rd,1943.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS;The demonstration of flag-stomping at a meeting in Eagles Auditor: in Detroit by Gerald L.K.Smith of "America First Party" was a sensational and unpatriotic act,and

WHEREAS; Smith displayed a flag with thirteen red and white stripes with combined Cross of St.Andrew and St.George in the caton,upon which was imposed a yellow star,and

WHEREAS;This same Smith proceeded to speek in a derogatory manner about this flag-then threw it upon the floor,proceeding to jump up and down upon the flag,and

WHEREAS;This particular flag,etept for the yellow star,is a replica of the Cambridge-Grand Union flag,an emblem with a glorious history which was raised by General Washington himself on January 2nd,1776,and wa the first American official flag,and

WHEREAS; This fascist orator from Detroit had violated the flag code of th United States as approved by Congress,THEREFORE be it

RESOLVED;that we the members of the local lodge # 3501 urge immediate inve gation on your part of these actions of Gerald L.K.Smith of Detroit, demand that he is put where all fascist belong.

[redacted]

[redacted]emorial Hosp.Perrysburg,N.Y

Seal

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]
DATE 10/9/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

b1c

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-261

6 JUN 10 1943

EX-32

Ack Rec 6/8/43
Memo to Berger
6/18/43
JPM

JPHa/AKR
62-43818-261

RECORDED

June 18, 1943

[redacted]

A. J. N. Memorial Hospital
Perrysburg, New York

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your communication of June 3, 1943, setting forth a resolution recently adopted by Branch Number 3501 of the International Workers Order.

The content of your communication has been carefully reviewed and is being made a part of the official records of this Bureau.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/92 BY

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

57 JUN 22 1943

JUN 18 3 17 PM '43
RECEIVED READING ROOM
F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

JPHa:EMJ
RECORDED 6-18-43
62-43818-261

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Reference is made to my recent memorandum transmitting copies of a resolution concerning subject Smith adopted by the Erie County (New York) Committee of the American Legion on May 27, 1943. You will recall that this resolution complained of the fact that during the course of a public address at Buffalo, Smith desecrated a flag which reportedly was a replica of the flag once used by George Washington and the Continental Army.

For your further information, I am transmitting herewith copies of a similar resolution recently adopted by the members of Local Branch Number 3501 of the International Workers Order at Gowanda, New York. [redacted] President of the Lodge, recently furnished the Bureau a copy of this resolution.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP8 [illegible]

JUN 23 1943

J. EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
May 25,1943

D2760

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000
INTERNAL SECURITY
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SP. SBT J/ck

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to letter to the Bureau dated May 8, 1943 from the San Antonio Field Division, a copy of which letter was forwarded to the Detroit Field Office along with the original letter allegedly written by the Subject to [redacted] San Antonio, Texas, which letter was dated July 8, 1933. Photostatic copies of this letter have been made, one copy of which is being forwarded to the Bureau with this letter, while the other copy is being retained in the Detroit Field Office files of this case. b7c

When information was originally received by the Detroit Field Office relative to this letter it was believed that this letter was written in longhand and also bore the complete signature of one GERALD L. K[redacted]SCHMIDT. At the time this information was received it was believed entirely possible that this letter was written by the Subject of instant case, so for that reason it was deemed advisable for a comparison to be made between the writing in the letter dated July 8, 1933 and the known handwriting of the Subject of this case.

In view of the fact the letter allegedly written by the Subject of this case was entirely typewritten with the exception of three scribbled signatures at the end of the letter, it is not believed feasible for an examination of the scribbled signatures to be made by the Technical Laboratory. In view of this fact the letter as received from the San Antonio Field Office is being returned herewith and no comparison will be requested of the Technical Laboratory unless specifically requested by the Bureau for a comparison to be made.

RECORDED
INDEXED
a35

62-43818-262
B
1
JUN 9 1943

Very truly yours,

5-29-43

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

Enclosure
cc San Antonio, Enclosure

62-43818

FOR DEFENSE
BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

b7c
[redacted]JP

L-42

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED 62-43818-262

OX

Laboratory Report

June 8, 1943
File # 62-43818
Lab. # D2760

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,
with aliases
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

Examination requested by: Detroit

Reference: Letter 5-25-43

Examination requested: Document

Specimens: [redacted] bx

QC1 Photostatic copy of a typewritten letter dated July 8, 1933 beginning "I write to you concerning....."
QC2 Photostatic copy of second page of typewritten letter beginning "anti-German propaganda being....."

RESULT OF EXAMINATION:

The style of type on the typewriter used to prepare specimens QC1 and QC2 was not definitely determined but closely matches the Underwood pica style of type which is spaced ten letters to the inch. Such characters as appeared on the obscure photostats designated as QC1 and QC2 were searched through the file of writings pertaining to National Security without effecting an identification. It is suggested that the San Antonio office forward the original letter to the Bureau in order that a more thorough search may be made in this file and suitable photographic copies made for inclusion therein.

The photostatic copies are being retained in the files of the Laboratory.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Hollomon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JUN 16 1943

2-Detroit
1-San Antonio
1-Laboratory

JUN 16 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SC-80

bx

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b1 with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-263

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

CLARENCE A. CONWAY
Commander

ARTHUR A. DILS
WILLIAM J. WYNNE
EDWARD TOMCZAK
Vice Commanders

EVERETT J. SCHLENDER
Finance Officer

ELSIE INGERSOLL
Secretary
Phone CLeveland 1868

ERIE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

1606 CITY HALL
BUFFALO, N. Y.

ELLIO
Serg
MATHIA
Historia
EDWIN J.
Judge Advocate
REV. DONALD M. CHAP
Honorary Chaplain

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-1 BTJ/mk

June 2, 1943

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

The attached resolution was unanimously adopted at a meeting of the Erie County Committee of the American Legion, held May 27, 1943.

The Erie County Committee represents the 35 American Legion Posts of Erie County having a total membership of 8000.

Very sincerely yours,

Clarence A. Conway

Clarence A. Conway
Erie County Commander

CAC:I
Enc. 1

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Ta
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. L
Mr. N
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Stanford
Mr. Clarke
Mr. Quinn Te
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ack 6-7-43

1 Encl. 3

RECORDED
INDEXED

62-43818-264

F B I
2 JUN 14 1943

HISTORY OF OUR FLAG

1. Cambridge Flag—thirteen alternate red and white stripes with the combined Cross of St. Andrew and St. George in the canton. Raised by George Washington at Cambridge, Massachusetts, January 2, 1776.

2. One of the first Stars and Stripes was flown under General Stark in August, 1777 near Bennington, Vermont. All that remains is the canton with the thirteen stars.

3. The Flag with fifteen stars and stripes was approved by President Washington, January 17, 1794—a star and stripe for each state. The growth of the Union was unforeseen at that time and on December 9, 1816, a resolution was offered to change The Flag.

4. April 1818 the act passed changing The Flag to thirteen horizontal stripes, alternate red and white and twenty white stars in a blue field.

5. The Flag with the thirteen stripes and a star added for every new state was completed, July 4, 1912, with the admission of the State of Arizona.

FOLD ON EDGE OF BLUE

STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

Oh, say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming;
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming;
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.

FIRST CHORUS

Oh, say, does the star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

On the shore, dimly seen thro' the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it lifully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected now shines on the stream.

STAR-SPANGLED BANNER (Continued)

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore,
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion
A home and a Country should leave us no more?
Their blood has wash'd out their foul footsteps' pollution;
No refuge could save the hireling or slave
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave.

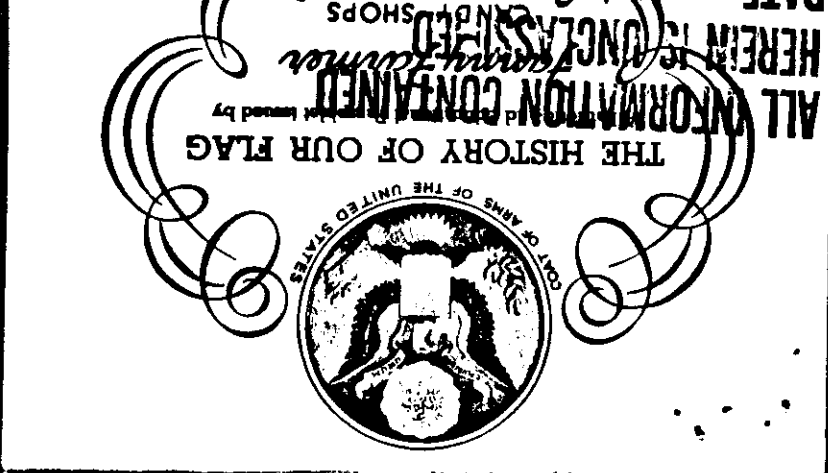
THIRD CHORUS

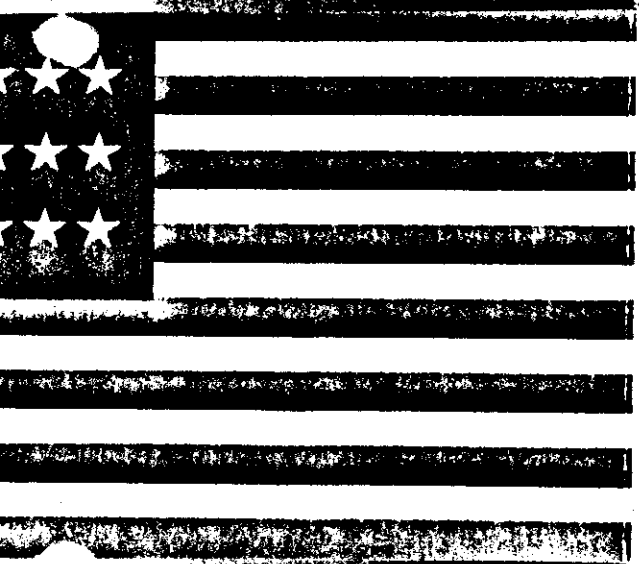
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

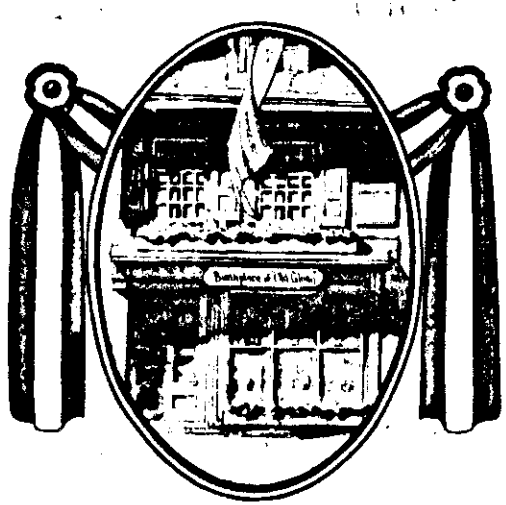
Oh! thus be it ever when free men shall stand
Between their loved home and the war's desolation.
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n-rescued land
Praise the Pow'r that hath made and preserved us a Nation.
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto, "In God is our trust."

FOURTH CHORUS

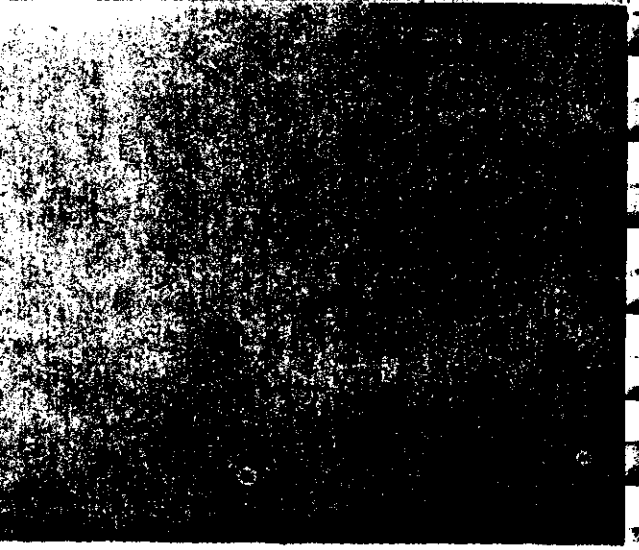
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

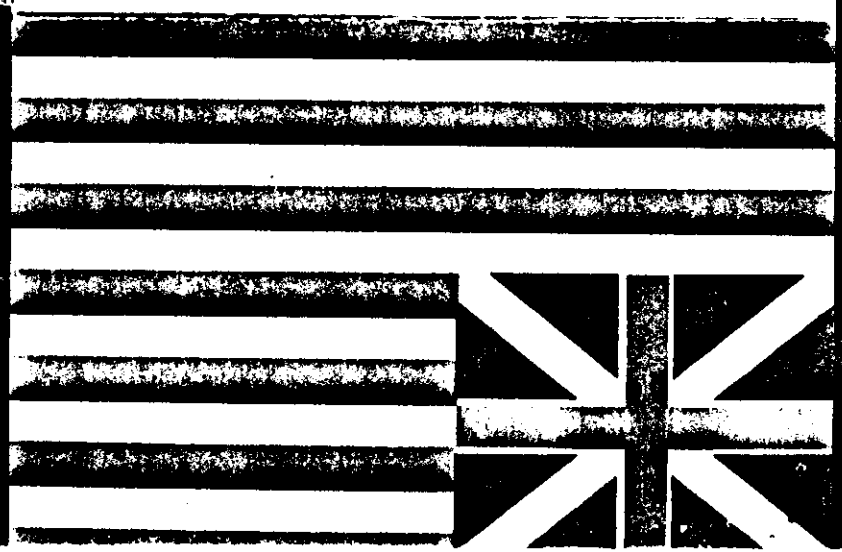


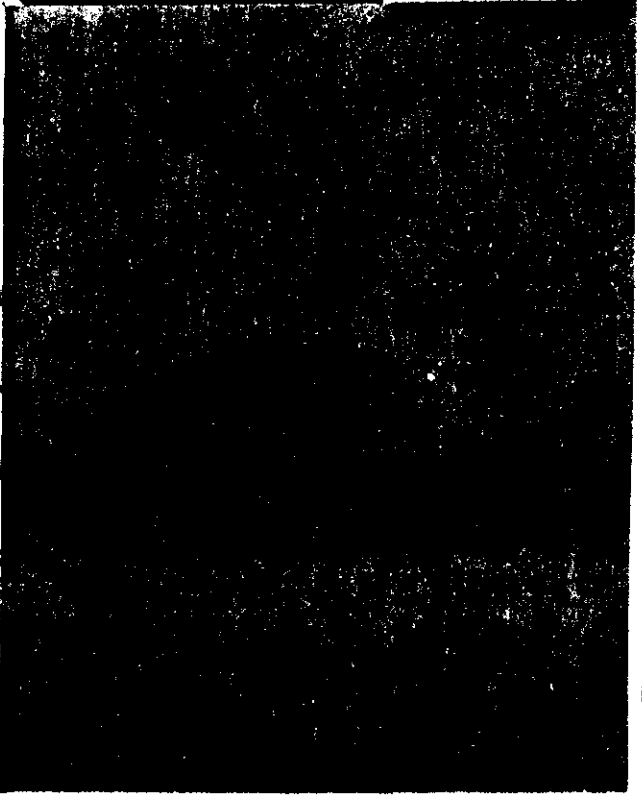




The Home of Betsy Ross







WHER S, on the evening of Monds May 24th, 1943 one Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit, Michigan addressed in public hall in Buffalo, an organization known as the Economic League; and

WHEREAS, near the conclusion of his talk, he displayed a flag with thirteen alternate red and white stripes with the combined Cross of St. Andrew and St. George in the canton upon which was imposed a yellow star; and

WHEREAS, this same Gerald L. K. Smith proceeded to speak in a derogatory manner about this flag and then threw it upon the floor, proceeding to jump up and down upon it to the accompaniment of the cheers of those present; and

WHEREAS, this particular flag, except for the yellow star, is a replica of the Cambridge - Grand Union Flag, an emblem with a glorious history which was raised by General Washington, himself on January 2, 1776 and was the first American official flag until August 1777; and

WHEREAS, this flag was also degraded by having a yellow star placed upon it - a distinct violation of the Flag Code of the United States as approved by the 77th Congress on December 22, 1942 and as stated in Sect. 4--g of Public Law 829 - "the flag should never have placed upon it, nor on any part of it, nor attached to it, any mark, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture, drawing of any nature."

THEREFORE, Be it Resolved that the Erie County Committee of the American Legion, the representative organization of the thirty five county Posts, in meeting assembled this 27th day of May, 1943 do hereby condemn most vehemently this sensational and unpatriotic act of Gerald L. K. Smith to a flag that was the revered symbol of our republic in its early days and that also

Be it Resolved that a copy of the details of this incident be forwarded to our National Americanism Commission at Indianapolis, Indiana, and

Be it Further Resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent immediately to our National Commander Roane Waring, Our Department of New York Commander, Arthur Bouton, the Hon. J. Edgar Hoover at Washington and the local press.

b7c

[redacted]:vj

62-43818-264

RECORDED

June 7, 1943

Mr. Clarence A. Conway, Commander
Erie County Committee of the
American Legion
1606 City Hall
Buffalo, New York

Dear Mr. Conway:

I appreciate the interest which prompted you in directing to me your letter of June 2, 1943, together with a copy of a resolution unanimously adopted at a meeting of the Erie County Committee of the American Legion held on May 27, 1943.

Inasmuch as the information contained in your communication and enclosure is of interest to the Office of the Attorney General of the United States, I am taking the liberty of forwarding copies thereof to that office.

May I take this occasion to request that any information you obtain and believe to be of interest to this Bureau be communicated directly to me or to the Special Agent in Charge of our Buffalo Field Division which is located at 400 United States Court House Building, Buffalo, New York.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY [illegible]

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 4:45 PM
JUN 8 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED HEADING
F B I
JUN 8 1 43 PM
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

b7c

62-43818-264

JPHa:WMJ
6-10-43

RECORDED
INDEXED

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
WENDELL BERGE

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your further information in connection with your consideration of this case there are transmitted herewith copies of a resolution concerning Smith unanimously adopted at a meeting of the Erie County (New York) Committee of the American Legion on May 27, 1943. A copy of this resolution was furnished the Bureau by Mr. Clarence A. Conway, Commander of the Erie County Committee of the American Legion.

Also attached are copies of an editorial captioned, "The Flag He Defiled," which appeared in the May 26, 1943, issue of the Buffalo, New York, newspaper, "Buffalo Courier-Express." As you will observe, this editorial also has reference to Smith's reported desecration of a replica of the Flag once used by George Washington and the Continental Army.

You will recall that in various reports heretofore submitted concerning Smith's previous public addresses, reference has been made to Smith's various antics in defiling flags or replicas which he has indicated are representative of the idea of a world government or a combined British American government.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

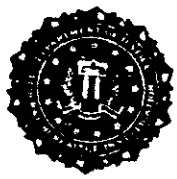
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8 Brd/ab

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
JUN 12 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED
JUN 12 1943
24 PM 4:
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
READING ROOM

56 JUN 2 0 1943

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



ral Bureau of Investigati
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit - Michigan
May 20, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
The Committee of One Million.
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated May 15, 1943, which letter referred to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 5, 1943, at Detroit, Michigan, in the above-entitled case.

In accordance with the suggestion contained in the letter of May 15, 1943, there are being returned herewith the enclosures mentioned in this report. These photographic copies have been arranged in their proper sequence as requested.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas
SAC

[redacted] b7c
62-1126
Enclosure

RECORDED 62-43818263
F B I
15 MAY 22 1943

FOR DEFENSE
BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

50 JUN 29 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8613/mc

25/43

Walter Winchell

to Hoover

Being an admirer of your past stand in the matters referred to in this clipping, I am sending you this.

[redacted] b7c

Unable to Locate

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/80 BY SP2 [illegible]

ack rec'd 6/11/43

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43898-266

F B I
2 JUN 16 1943

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/21/57

4 JUN 19 1943

BUFFALO EVENING NE Tuesday, May 25, 1943

Win Their Silver Wings at Holph Field

Lt. Metz

Lt. Gillooi

Lt. Ammerman

Lt. O'Shea

In the fifth 1943 class graduate
Gulf Coast Training Center advanc
at Randolph Field, Tex., these Buf
day were awarded their silver wi
Ammerman, 56 Shirley; Harold W.
Franklin; John F. Gillooly, 87 Lar

Gerald Smith Warns Of Fascistic Tendency

Tells Economics League To Guard Home Front

His declarations wildly acclaimed by 250 persons Monday evening in Eagle's Auditorium, husky Gerald L. K. Smith, national director of the newly-formed America-First

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-2055/[illegible]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 7 OF 18

FILE NUMBER : 62-43818

SUBJECT GERALD L. K. Smith

PART 4

FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
REQUEST

SUBJECT GERALD L. K. Smith

PAGES REVIEWED: 3994

PAGES RELEASED: 2979

NOTES: SECTIONS 15-20

NO DUPLICATION FEES FOR THIS PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 15

PAGES REVIEWED: 103

PAGES RELEASED: 99

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

[redacted]

May 27 '43

Walter Winchell
New York City
Dear Sir.

Answer
Dear John: Why not the man arrested? Walter

I enjoy your Sunday night broadcasts a great deal and I wish we had more like you and Drew Pearson.

The enclosed clipping may reveal just how far Mr. G. L. K. Smith goes if he can get away with it.

Hoping to hear more of your broadcasts I am

Sincerely yours

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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP5 [illegible]

[redacted]

memo to Berge re G.L.K. Smith
6/10/43 [redacted] E/P
1 ENCLOSURE

Ack sent
6/11/43 [redacted]

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-267
F B I
2 JUN 16 1943
[redacted]

ALL b7c

THE EVENING NEWS
William J. Conners, Jr., President.
Ben[illegible] Matthews, Vice-President.
John [illegible] Meagher, Secretary.
Frank [illegible]. Cleary, Treasurer.

Buffalo's Best Newspaper

LORENTZEN & THOMPSON, INC.
Publishers' Direct Representatives
Chicago—New York—San Francisco

MAIL SUBSCRIPTION RATES

	Daily	Sunday
Postal Zones 1, 2 and 3....	$9.00	$6.00
Other Zones and Canada...	$12.00	$7.00

Entered as second class matter at the Postoffice in Buffalo, N. Y., June 21, 1926.

MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
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All rights of publication of special dispatches herein also are reserved.

THE FLAG HE DEFILED

Night before last, 300 Buffalonians saw Huey Long's former healer, Gerald L. K. Smith (now director of the America First Party), defile a replica of the flag which first was raised over Gen. George Washington's headquarters at Cambridge, Mass., in January, 1776—the flag which Washington's troops carried when they marched into Boston after British evacuation in March, 1776; the flag which the Continental Army used until adoption of the Stars and Stripes a year after the Declaration of Independence.

Of course, the Buffalonians who saw Huey Long's former aide jump up and down on the flag did not know the history of the banner which was being defiled. They did not know that Smith was doing something which would have qualified him for the noose if American patriots had caught him doing it in 1776. They believed what Smith had told them—that this flag was a thing which New Dealers and British imperialists had designed as a postwar substitute for the Stars and Stripes. It was easy for Smith to put over this yarn, because Washington's Cambridge flag of 1776 (of which Benjamin Franklin was one of the designers) had thirteen alternating stripes of red and white, like our present flag, but had the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew where we now have the stars.

If Smith's Buffalo hearers had known the history of the flag which he was defiling, we are sure they would have put a summary stop to the proceeding—although his audience ought to have been forewarned by the abusive threats which Smith directed at the official representative of the American Legion of Erie County (a World War I veteran with two sons fighting for America in World War II), who challenged one or two of the speaker's wilder flights of oratory.

Free speech is one of the things for which we are fighting in this war. Under the American conception of free speech, this man Smith, goes around the country trying to stir up animosity against Great Britain, against Canada, against Russia, against the Chinese, against all our Allies. When Smith hurls abuse at our Canadian neighbors, when he derisively hawls the epithet, "Chinks," at Chiang Kai-shek's gallant soldiers, when he resorts to all the other tricks to which he resorted here—well, you know whom he is helping.

But American tolerance permits Smith to enjoy his freedom of speech. It permits him to misuse the name, America, in the title of his America First Party. It permits him to enjoy freedom of the press in his publication entitled The Cross and The Flag.

That title calls attention to this fact: The flag under which George Washington fought in 1776 is not the only [illegible]

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DATE 10/4/82 BY [illegible]

INDEXING
62-43818-267

RECORDED 62-43818-267

[redacted]

June 11, 1943

Mr. Walter Winchell
New York Mirror
235 East 45th Street
New York, New York

Dear Walter:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your communication postmarked June 8, 1943, with which you forwarded two letters as well as newspaper clippings recently received by you concerning Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit, Michigan.

Relative to your penciled notation as to why prosecutive action has not been undertaken against Smith, I thought you would be interested to know that although this individual's activities have been carefully investigated and the information developed has been referred to the Assistant to the Attorney General, he has indicated that Smith's activities to date are not sufficient to justify prosecution.

The information concerning Smith's defiling a replica of the Flag once used by George Washington is being sent to the Assistant to the Attorney General, and I want you to know that I appreciate very much your bringing this information to my attention.

With kind personal regards,

Cordially,

J. Edgar Hoover

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
JUN 12 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

4 JUN 12 1943

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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP3 [illegible]

Approved by

The American Federation of Labor recently accused ... of renewing its anti-union campaign in Louisiana, Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, North Carolina and Tennessee. This is no small time movement. It succeeded in popularizing so effectively the idea of prohibiting unions from making political contributions that such a clause was incorporated by Congress in the Connally-Smith anti-strike bill.

Many of the Congressmen who voted for this bill are close to Gerald L. K. Smith, America First Party fuehrer. They speak at meetings arranged by his followers in big cities. They are sponsored by the same men who are promoting the anti-Semitic, ex-Mobilizer street-corner gauleiter, Joseph McWilliams.

• • •

Just a few words now for labor circles here. During the first week in June important conferences took place in Chicago to discuss realignments, conferences and America First possibilities in many regions. It was decided that the time has come to invade New York. Some of the eastern reports were from a leader of the American Rock Party, of Queens, the same organization which sent representatives to Washington to testify against lend-lease. They said then that there would be riots and worse if the lend-lease bill passed. Now Smith is planning to come East.

He is stepping in where Charles Coughlin feared to tread. The effect on local labor and liberal circles will not be salutary.

Can you get dirty [illegible] this? F.B.I. Middle Western [illegible]?

62-43818-269

File: [redacted]
RECORDED 62-43818

Date: June 16, 1943

To: SAC, New York

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/14/80 BY SP-8B3 [illegible]

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

Reference is made to the report submitted in connection with this case by Special Agent [redacted] at New York, New York, on May 31, 1943.

The Bureau desires that in connection with the further investigation of this case, efforts be made to locate and interview [redacted], and [redacted], all of whom are mentioned in reference report. It would appear that these individuals may be able to give pertinent information concerning Smith's activities and that [redacted] can perhaps furnish data concerning any relationship or association which may have been existent between [redacted] and Smith.

cc - Detroit

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

RECORDED 62-43818

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
JUN 17 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED 62-43818 26
JUN 16 8 30 AM
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 18 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL 67C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

NY FILE NO. 100-19707 DMM

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK, NEW YORK	5/31/43	5/14, 13, 17, 18, 20, 21-28/43	[redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	CUSTODIAL DETENTION - G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Photostatic copy obtained of letter signed by [redacted] stating SMITH'S registration number as a member of Silver Shirts was 3223 and his wife's number 3220; also copy of excerpts of letters and telegrams from SMITH indicating his connection with PELLEY. Statement of [redacted] in the possession of [redacted] states ELIZABETH DILLING, WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY and GERARD WINROD were personal friends of SMITH and that [redacted] was friendly with [redacted] attended conferences with [redacted] and entertained him at luncheon which was paid for by the Committee of One Million. Efforts to locate [redacted] unsuccessful to date. Interview with [redacted] negative.

DEFERRED RECORD

* P *

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/4/92 BY SP-8BT/INC

REFERENCES: Bureau file #62-43818

Report of Special Agent [redacted] made at Detroit, Michigan dated May 5, 1943.

DETAILS: At New York City:

The following information was obtained through [redacted]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-269

RECORDED & INDEXED

4 JUN 7 1943

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2—New York

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cc Rowe 6/16/43 cc Rose 7/5/43

NY 100-19707

[redacted]

In 1936 WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY, founder of the Silver Shirts, announc in his magazine Liberation that SMITH was at one time a member and lecturer for that organization. On [redacted] interviewed SMITH and asked him if PELLEY'S assertion was true. SMITH denied it. On [redacted] wrote to PELLEY asking him for a verification of the stateme which appeared in Liberation. At that time PELLEY was on the west coast organizing the Christian Party, the party ticket on which he later ran for the Presidency and the letter was answered by [redacted], whom PELLEY had placed in charge of his Asheville, North Carolina headquarters.

[redacted] letter which is written on the stationery of PELLEY'S WEEKLY is as follows:

"August 5, 1936.

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

"Answering your letter of [redacted] regarding Mr. Gerald L. K. Smith's connection with the Silver Shirts, which you say he denies, we have on file certain letters and telegrams from him received during July and August 1933. The letters are all written on Silver Shirts of America letterheads and signed by him. His registration number as a member of the Silver Shirts was 3223 and his wife's number was 3220.

"The enclosed extracts from these letters will undoubtedly serve your purpose.

Sincerely yours,

The Pelley Publishers,

/s/ [redacted]

The extracts referred to in the above letter are as follows:

AV b7c. b7D

NY 100-19707

"-C O P Y-

"Western Union Telegram dated July 22, 6:54 P.M.

"WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY or [redacted]
Care Asheville Biltmore Hotel or Liberation Magazine
Woman's Club Bldg., Asheville, N. Car.

NO MAIL WHEN CAN WE EXPECT INSTRUCTIONS PEOPLE ENROUTE SEETHING ANSWER WESTERN UNION

(signed) GERALD L.K. SMITH

"Letter dated July 31, 1933

"As was my understanding with Mr. PELLEY I am personally under cover and will be until I can make some adjustment honorable to my work here."

"Letter dated Aug. 8th, 1933

"I have been working under cover but will come out in the open the first Monday after the first Sunday in September. I succeeded yesterday in enrolling a man here with about one million dollars in oil."

"I have about three addresses ready on the following subjects:

'Who Stole America'
'Your Name May Be on the Death List'
'America's Real Dictator is an Alien'

"I am preparing others on the subject:

'Who Will Save Your Life When the Bolsheviks Descend Upon Us'
'Some Day 100,000,000 Americans Will Hide Behind a Silver Shirt for Protection.'
'Why I Left the Conventional Pulpit to Join the Christian Militia of the Silver Legion.'

"Letter dated August 15th.

"By the time you receive this letter I shall be on the road to St. Louis and parts north together with a uniformed squad of young men composing what I believe will be the first Silver Shirt storm troop in America.

"Letter from Hot Springs - not dated but received by us on Aug.18,1933:

"Nine O'clock the second night. We have held three mass meetings two street meetings, appointed key men for literature in six towns; no, seven towns."

"Letter dated August 18th, from Shreveport, La:

"On Friday last I realized that it would be impossible for me to

"leave the active ministry."

". . but for the present and for at least six months I am asking that you disassociate me with the movement, officially."

"My storm troop has not lost one ounce of their courage and I have said or done nothing to affect their attitude."

Photostatic copies of the letter from [redacted] and the extracts from SMITH'S letters and telegrams, as well as the envelope in which the letter was sent to [redacted] are being furnished the office of origin.

[redacted] stated that he believes PELLEY sent the above communications to him because at the time he was angry with SMITH for denying his membership with the Silver Shirt organization. He advised that he has never actually seen SMITH'S membership cards in the organization and that he has no knowledge of their present whereabouts. [redacted] informed, however, that one of PELLEY'S field men by the name of [redacted], who was active in the Christian Party in 1936 and whom he believes is located at Seattle, Washington, told him that SMITH had admitted to him that he belonged to the Silver Shirt organization.

Inquiry was made at the offices of the United Press, 220 East 42 Street, regarding an article which was released on October 20, 1936 by that association. It was ascertained, however, that the United Press did not keep records of news articles for more than 6 months.

The New York Times for October 20, 1936 contained an article entitled, GERALD L. K. SMITH Plans New Organization; this article appears to be the original statement on which the United Press release was based. It states, "The Reverend GERALD L. K. SMITH who learned political science from HUEY P. LONG and studied economics under the Rev. CHARLES E. COUGHLIN and Dr. FRANCIS E. TOWNSEND, announced last night that he would lead a new nationalist organization combining the best features of his mentor's schemes and design ultimately to 'seize the Government of the United States'. Describing his projected organization in his suite at the Hotel Warwick last night, SMITH asserted that already he has the financial backing to carry on for a year or more and declared that more than 1,000 political potent leaders in various parts of the country await his orders. He aims at a following of ten million patriots willing to lay down their lives if necessary to save the country from what he considers an international plot to collectivize it.

"Four hundred business men in twenty-two key cities worried over the future of private property and the integrity of bequests to their children have pledged themselves to contribute 1% of their incomes of 1935 to enable SMITH to wage his crusade to make America a victoriously, nationalistic,

patriotic country, he declared. In New York City alone, he said, he has 40 financial backers, one of them a man with an income of $280,000 a year. SMITH was chary about revealing details of his organizational program or the names of his backers. He wanted to save that for a radio speech to be delivered after the end of the campaign when he pointed out there would be less competition for national attention."

Through [redacted] of the News Department, New York Times, it was ascertained that the writer of the above article was Mr. RAYMOND DANIELL. DANIELL is presently attached to the New York Times Bureau in London, England.

The Daily News for October 21, 1936 carried an article with a Chicago date line, attributed to the United Press, which contains substantially the same information appearing in the Times article. It also adds that SMITH was reported to have replied to the accusation that he was a Fascist by stating, "I am no more Fascist than Abraham Lincoln" and explained that he was associated with a tremendous undertaking to preserve Americas nationalistic identity.

[redacted] of the law firm of House, Grossman, Vorhaus and Helmey, advised that his firm filed a law suit against SMITH in March, 1938 in the Municipal Court of the Borough of Manhattan, First District, for $1,000 damages for breach of contract. He stated that the plaintiff was CHARLES COSTA, owner of a trucking company in New York and that judgment had been obtained by the plaintiff. This judgment has been fully satisfied. [redacted] explained that payment was obtained by attaching a judgment which SMITH had obtained against the Time and Life magazines. He informed that [redacted] the attorney who handled the case is presently in the United States Army and that his, [redacted], knowledge of the case is based soley on the formal papers which are in the file.

The pleadings in the case of CHARLES COSTA vs. GERALD L. K. SMITH were located at the Municipal Court for the Borough of Manhattan, First District, under index #22534 (1938). A review of these papers reflects the following information.

The complaint stated that on or about February 15, 1937 the plaintiff and defendant entered into an agreement in consideration of $1,000 in which SMITH promised to introduce COSTA to SAMUEL ZEMURRAY, then managing director of the United Fruit Company and to assist in negotiating a certain contract with ZEMURRAY. It alleged that COSTA paid SMITH $1,000 but that SMITH had failed to carry out his part of the contract and that COSTA claimed damages for $1,000.

ALL INFO. b2D

On September 15, 1938 judgment was obtained by default for the plaintiff in the amount of $1,126. On May 10, 1939 SMITH filed a motion to vacate and set aside the judgment and to permit him to interpose an answer. In an affidavit he stated that the Committee of One Million, Inc. was organized in 1936 for the purpose of carrying on an educational campaign to combat Fascism and Communism in this country; that it is a non-profit organization and had to obtain contributions to carry on its work. He said that JACK REILLEY held several conferences with COSTA inwhich he outlined the work of the Committee and COSTA agreed to contribute $1,000 as a donatioh. He denied that there was any agreement to introduce COSTA to ZEMURRAY. He claimed that the suit was brought without merit; that it was false and based on perjury.

The file contains an affidavit by COSTA in which he denied he made a contribution to the Committee of One Million but stated that he wanted to meet ZEMURRAY in order to obtain trucking business.

The file also reflects that it was brought to the court's attention that SMITH was seeking $45,000,000 damages from Time Magazine for liable. He was believed to have settled for $2,500 or more and that he only filed the motion to answer the suit at such a late date because he realized that the liable action against the Time Magazine could not be closed without satisfying the judgment which COSTA had obtained by default.

Mr. CHARLES COSTA, 204 Franklin Street, advised that he formerly had a farm in Louisiana and that he met SMITH when SMITH was active with HUEYLONG'S organization in New Orleans. He stated that SMITH was highly regarded in Louisiana and was very popular. When SMITH came to New York and started to organize his Committee for One Million he asked COSTA for a loan of $1,000 with which to establish his office. COSTA stated he made the loan giving SMITH 2 checks for $500 each made out to Cash. He denied that there had ever been any contract between SMITH and him regarding an introduction to ZEMURRAY although he said that SMITH claimed to know ZEMURRAY and told him he would introduce him. He maintained, however, that the $1,000 was given to SMITH by him merely as a loan. He advised that he collected the judgment against SMITH by attaching a judgment or settlement which SMITH had obtained from the Time Magazine.

COSTA said that he took no particular interest in the Committee of One Million and claimed to know nothing about it except that it purported to be a patriotic organization. He stated that he was not close to SMITH although he admitted that he had met SMITH'S wife and son, both of whom impressed him very favorably. He claimed that he had no knowledge of SMITH engaging in any subversive activities or having any connections with persons or organizations

of such tendencies. He advised that although he fell out with SMITH over the loan of $1,000 he nevertheless has no doubt as to SMITH'S loyalty to this country.

[redacted], advised that he conducted an investigation concerning SMITH in 1934 in connection with a suit for damages filed by SMITH against the Washington Times Company, Washington, D. C. He stated that his report was sent to WILTON J. LAMBERT, Washington attorney who handled the case and that he has no copy in his possession. It will be noted that previous reports reflect that LAMBERT is deceased and his files have been destroyed. [redacted] informed that he interviewed a number of people in and around Shreveport, Louisiana and that upon receipt of his report LAMBERT filed a motion in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia in Washington, D. C. to take the depositions of 23 witnesses in Louisiana. He said that when SMITH learned of this he realized that this testimony would develop a great deal of unfavorable information and he suddenly decided to drop his suit.

b7c
b7D

[redacted] suggested that a copy of this motion is on file in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia containing the names and addresses of the proposed witnesses. He also suggested that the name of the attorney who was to make the deposition at Shreveport, Louisiana would appear in this motion and it is probable that he received a copy of [redacted] report.

[redacted] made availabe a correspondence file pertaining to this suit which reflects the following information.

The title of the case is GERALD L. K. SMITH vs. the Washington Times Company. It was filed on February 3, 1934 and carries index number 83688. The declaration claimed injury to the extent of $150,000 because of the published statement that SMITH was the bodyguard or secretary of Senator HUEY LONG and conveyed the thought that he and LONG tried to get a fight out of T. SAMUES WALLSLEY, LONG'S political opponent and that "he was a quarrelsome person and given to brawls, disturbances, etc."

The file contained a copy of a letter from THOMAS O. HARRIS, Political Editor to JOHN D. EWING, publisher of the Shreveport, Louisiana Times. This letter stated that SMITH came to Shreveport from Indiana 5 years ago to take over the pastorate of the Kings Highway Christian Church. Stories got around concerning SMITH'S "bibulos habits" and "the issuance of rubber checks". SMITH also made radio talks which were considered Communistic and the trustees of the church demanded his resignation.

According to the letter, one DAVID HARRIS who was in charge of one of Shreveport's branches of city service telephone Mr. H. H. TARVER, who is

an independent oil operator and advised him that SMITH demanded an automobile ot be used for a trip to Asheville, North Carolina. HARRIS supposed that this car was to be used in connection with church work but TARVER advised him that it was not. The automobile was supplied, however, and SMITH took it and a party of friends to Asheville. There he visited the head of the Silver Shirts, an organization which is said to be basically anti-Catholic and anti-Jewish. SMITH let it be understood that he was engaged as a lecturer by that organization.

The letter further states that SMITH returned to Shreveport and placed a substitute in the pulpit and let it be known that he was quitting the ministry and went to Little Rock, Arkansas where he was scheduled to deliver a lecture. This lecture, however, was never delivered and SMITH returned and resumed his duties as pastor.

HARRIS later advised that he was mistaken about SMITH having been asked to relinquish his pastorate because of his personal habits and his Communistic statements but that he had been requested to resign because of his frequent absences from his parish.

This file also contained a letter from Mr. LAMBERT which stated that he was able to force the plaintiff to dismiss the case against the Washington Times Company without payment of any kind. He stated that this action was taken after he had carefully selected from the report of [redacted] a large number of witnesses for the defense and had given notice of his intention to make their depositions. He said that when this motion was filed SMITH realized what the testimony would develop and came to the conclusion that he could not take the time to come to Washington for the trial of the case. b7c b7D

Inasmuch as the investigation in connection with the above law suit was aimed soley at refuting SMITH'S denial that he was LONG'S bodyguard and that he was a quarrelsome person, it is not believed that the witnesses named in the motion filed at Washington could furnish any pertinent information in connection with this investigation.

[redacted] advised that the membership cards for SMITH and his wife in the Silver Shirts are not in his possession and that his information concerning them came from [redacted] made available his file on GERALD SMITH. A review of this file reflects that most of the information contained therein has already been reported by the Detroit Office. There was observed, however, a statement allegedly given by one [redacted], but which actually, according to [redacted]'s secretary, is the statement of [redacted] b7c b7D

According to this statement [redacted] met SMITH through [redacted] and during the interview at which [redacted] was hired by SMITH, SMITH stated, "I really believe that the American public will at all times stand directly in back of a man like HUEY LONG. He bambozzled them, he stole for and from them and now I am in a position not only to employ his tactics but to improve upon his technique, and with all the experience I received in the LONG organization and with all the finesse that has come to me in other organization work, I will make the Committee of One Million the strongest organization of its kind in the United States."

[redacted] asked SMITH then if he believed in dictatorship and told him that this country is two thirds Protestant and that any man who could swing the Protestant vote could be the real power in this country.

[redacted] then asked SMITH, "Do you intend to be another HUEY LONG?" and he replied, "It did not take you long to get my idea.".

SMITH then told [redacted] that he would have 3 units in every state with national headquarters in New York City, Chicago and San Francisco. There was to be a national chairman and 48 national vice-chairmen. There would be one treasurer who was Mrs. SMITH.

SMITH opened 4 offices in the Hotel Pennsylvania and had a staff consisting of 2 stenographers, 2 bodyguards, who were [redacted] and [redacted] a secretary and some outside help. The first meeting which was held in the main ballroom of the Pennsylvania Hotel was attended by 1400 persons. An average of 3 meetings were held each week at the Pennsylvania and large outside meetings were also held at the McAlpin and the Astor Hotels. At the larger meetings open collections were always held at which envelopes were handed to the people as they entered in which to insert their donations and on which they placed their names and addresses.

According to the statement, during the first part of 1937, large sums in cash were sent to the Pennsylvania Hotel addressed to either Mr. or Mrs. SMITH, the sources of these funds were unknown except that SMITH stated that they were receiving $1,500 a week from a source which he would not divulge.

SMITH allegedly made arrangements with various persons to collect funds on a percentage basis. Among these were the following individuals: a [redacted] for the State and National Republican Party; [redacted] and [redacted] This party was introduced by [redacted] She is stated to be a firm believer in the Bund and a personal friend of [redacted] According to [redacted] she tried to get pro-Bund material in the hands of those

All b6, b7D

attending meetings and was prevented from doing so by him.

SMITH gave 6 broadcasts over Station WINS. [redacted], was in charge of the Radio Division and [redacted] was Chairman of the Women's Division to raise funds. b7c

The organization maintained a bank account at the Corn Exchange Bank on Seventh Avenue. This account was maintained merely for convenience in cashing checks and did not accurately reflect the amount of money which was collected. The organization also had an account in a bank in Washington, D. C. which was handled by [redacted] The statement declares that by SMITH'S orders "we never kept a large balance in the New York bank for he explained it is safer to keep money behind the paper on the wall than in any bank backed by Uncle Sam. None of these larger contribution s were ever put into the commercial bank account because most of the contributions were given to SMITH and consisted of cash." b7c

The statement further reflects that [redacted], was over friendly with [redacted] On many occasions [redacted] had conferences with [redacted] associates. He sat in on many conferences with [redacted] and his advisers and afterwards would report to SMITH. b7c

On one occasion [redacted] entertained at a luncheon in the Hotel Pennsylvania [redacted] and 3 of his associates. He telephoned [redacted] to come and meet [redacted] but [redacted] declined. [redacted] according to [redacted] signed a check for the luncheon and the bill was subsequently paid by the Committee of One Million. b7c b7D

[redacted] is said to have sent many of his friends to attend SMITH'S meetings. On one occasion [redacted] sent 500 invitations to Bundsmen to attend SMITH'S meeting. On many occasions pro-Hitler literature was prohibited from being distributed at the meetings but for months, [redacted] worked with Bund members to increase the Bund membership in the Committee of One Million. b7c

On another occasion [redacted] arranging for a mass meeting at Philadelphia sent 1,000 invitations to members of the Bund. At a conference it was suggested that the Bund members attend in full regalia. [redacted] agreed to this but [redacted] objected and SMITH backed him up. The Bundists attended in large numbers but without their uniforms. b7c b7D

[redacted] statement indicates that ELIZABETH DILLING was a personal friends of SMITH'S, visited the organization regularly at luncheon and sent letters of commendation. b7c

[redacted] claimed that information came to him from [redacted] b7c

who was identified with the national campaign of SMITH for 8 years; that SMITH and PELLEY were interested in a midwestern campaign of religious hatred long before SMITH came to New York City to launch his campaign under the auspices of the Committee of One Million. SMITH and PELLEY would exchange communications, ideas and literature and were otherwise on friendly terms.

Rev. GERARD B. WINROD was also stated to be a personal friend of SMITH and he and SMITH often exchanged communications [redacted] b7

A statement by [redacted] attributes the main support of the Committee of One Million to [redacted] It also states that [redacted] of New York and Washington, a close friend of [redacted] furnished bonds of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad with which SMITH financed the contract to take over the radio time of Father COUGHLIN. It also states that an account was opened at the American Security and Trust Company in Washington, D. C. for clearing checks which were received as a result of SMITH'S broadcasts.

[redacted] also stated, "I recall that on several occasions SMITH instructed me to write to PELLEY asking for advance copies of all his speeches and literature to be sent to SMITH for his information and perusal."

[redacted] files also contained a statement by [redacted] dated October 28, 1942. This statement contains substantially the same information which was previously furnished by [redacted] It is noted that [redacted] claims his connections with SMITH were motivated primarily with the amount of good he could do for a Republican victory in 1940 and after the election he severed his relationship and has seen SMITH only 6 times since then. b7

[redacted] file also contains a list of the contributors to SMITH'S organization in the New York area. Inasmuch as this list is identical with that reported by [redacted] it is not being set out.

[An effort was made to contact [redacted] through [redacted] and [redacted] of the Friends of Democracy with negative results.] b7

[redacted] advised that she became interested in SMITH through [redacted] who is the widow of a former corporation lawyer who resides at [redacted] She stated that both she and [redacted] were attracted by the religious theme which SMITH injected into his speeches and that they believed him to be at that time sincere and thoroughly patriotic. She said she attended only 3 or 4 meetings which SMITH addressed and she could not now recall exactly what b7

SMITH'S objectives were. She stated she has completely lost track of SMITH and was unacquainted with his present activities or his whereabouts. She met SMITH'S wife and son and was very favorably impressed by them. She had no knowledge of SMITH having connections with any subversive element and said she could recall no statements by him which were in any way un-American.

[redacted]

[redacted] b7c

[redacted]

[redacted] of the Hotel New Yorker, recalled that there was some difficulty experienced with SMITH at the time he stayed at the Hotel in 1936. He stated that he believes it had something to do with a woman but he was unable to recall the details. He stated that he thinks SMITH was reported by the house detective to him but was unable to state definitely what the charges were. He advised that he is not personally acquainted with SMITH.

[redacted] at the Hotel New Yorker, examined his reports for the time during which SMITH is believed to have stayed at the Hotel but was unable to find any mention of SMITH. He advised, however, that he recalls that there was some difficulty with SMITH and that he thinks the woman involved was a member of the chorus of the Cotton Club or some similar night club and that he also believes that she was of the colored race. b7c

[redacted] Hotel Pennsylvania, advised that he recalled SMITH having been at the Hotel several years ago. He stated that SMITH occupied a room which he also used as his office. He could not

recall anything specific concerning SMITH'S conduct or activities and informed that the registration records for 1936 had been destroyed.

It was ascertained through the Auditor's Office at the Hotel Pennsylvania that SMITH occupied 4 rooms at the Hotel from March 1937 to April, 1938. His accounts were paid in full. From correspondence it was ascertained that [redacted] was treasurer of the Committee of One Million and that [redacted] and [redacted] were also on the staff. b7c

[redacted] of the Pennsylvania informed that his records reflect that the Committee of One Million held 37 meetings at the Hotel Pennsylvania between February 15, 1937 and April 13, 1938. These meetings were attended by some 75 to 250 people.

[redacted] of the Murray Hill Hotel, advised that SMITH occupied rooms there during the following periods: February 12, 1937 to July 1, 1938; from December 13 to 18, 1938 and from January 10 to 18, 1939. He informed that SMITH left the Hotel owing a bill of $80 which is still unpaid. He could not recall anything specific concerning statements made by SMITH and advised that SMITH'S conduct at the Hotel was above reproach. b7c b7d

[redacted] of the Hotel Warwick, advised that he had ascertained from other members of his staff that SMITH had been at the Hotel a number of years ago but he was unable to furnish any pertinent information.

It was ascertained at the office of Cravath, De Gersdorff, Swaine and Wood, 15 Broad Street, that the attorney who handled the suit which SMITH brought against Time magazine is JOHN HARDING and that HARDING has been engaged for some weeks in the conduction of an important trial which precluded his reviewing the file on SMITH. HARDING'S secretary advised that while HARDING is of the opinion that his files contain little information of evidentiary value in this case, he will be willing to make that information available as soon as the trial in which he is engaged is concluded.

ENCLOSURES TO THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION (3)

1 photostatic copy of letter from [redacted]
1 photostatic copy of extracts from SMITH'S letters and telegrams
1 photostatic copy of envelope in which letter with sent to [redacted] b7c

- P E N D I N G -

NY 100-19707

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION:

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK:

Will interview JOHN HARDING, member of the firm Cravath, De Gersdorff, Swaine and Wood, 15 Broad Street, for pertinent information in their files concerning GERALD L. K. SMITH.

JPHarWill
6-16-43
62-43818-269

RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information, I am transmitting with this memorandum copies of the following material recently received in connection with the investigation of subject Smith:

1. Report submitted in connection with this case by Special Agent [redacted] at New York, New York, on May 31, 1943.

2. Report submitted in connection with this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on May 5, 1943.

3. Photostatic copies of two statements filed by Smith with the Wayne County, Michigan, Clerk's Office, mentioned at several points in the report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on May 5, 1943, in connection with this matter.

4. A photostatic copy of a statement made by one [redacted] referred to in the report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at New York, New York, on May 31, 1943.

Additional investigation in this matter is being carried out and endeavors are being made to locate [redacted] all of whom are mentioned in Special Agent [redacted] report.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Enclosure

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
JUN 17 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-FBI/DOJ

61 JUN 21 1943

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 100-6699 d1

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
HOUSTON, TEXAS	6/12/43	6/4/43	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH with aliases THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY - G CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted] not registered at Lamar Hotel, Houston, Texas. b7c

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] Washington D.C., 5/15/43. b7c

DETAILS: AT HOUSTON, TEXAS:

On June 4, 1943, [redacted] of the Lamar Hotel at Houston, advised the writer after referring to the records of the hotel that [redacted] had been a guest of the hotel on three different occasions, having last registered on August 16, 1942, at which time his home address was shown to be [redacted]. This previous address was that of his office as indicated in the referenced report in Washington, D. C. [redacted] stated that there was no indication that [redacted] had been a recent guest of the hotel or that he was expected to register in the near future. b7c b7D

In view of the above, this case is being referred upon completion to the office of origin.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/92 BY SE-8BTI/Atm

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: R J Abbaticchio SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES: 62-43818-270 D41

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COPIES OF THIS REPORT
5-Bureau
2-Detroit
2-Houston

COPIES DESTROYED
83 OCT 13 1964

16 JUN 15 1943

23 JUN 22 1943

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b1 with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

_____

_____

☐ For your information: _____

_____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-270

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
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FBI/DOJ

10-10-44
62-43818

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

With further reference to our previous correspondence concerning subject Smith there is attached a copy of an additional report prepared by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on September 27, 1944. Also transmitted with this memorandum are photostatic copies of exhibits to the report which are listed on pages 36 and 37:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8675

1. Booklet entitled, "Forty Years of Roosevelt."

2. Form letter dated August 2, 1944, written on the stationery of the America First Party and headed, "Board of Election Commissioners."

3. The August, 1944, edition of "The Cross and the Flag."

4. Pamphlet entitled, "Pattern for Revolution."

5. A circular dated "August - 1944" at Detroit, Michigan, headed, "The Hour for Action — A Personal Message."

6. A circular entitled, "A Personal Message — Blood, Sweat, Tears, Persecution — The Price of Victory," dated at Detroit, Michigan, "September — 1944."

7. A flier reading, "Gerald L. K. Smith will speak in Minneapolis....."

8. A card entitled, "Whose War Is It? — "Will They Rule The World?", which is attached under obscene cover.

Also transmitted with this memorandum are copies of four clippings which have appeared in the public press on October 4 and 5, 1944, relative to subject Smith's appearance on October 3, 1944, at Washington, D. C., before the House Campaign Expenditures Committee. Your attention is particularly invited to the clipping from the Washington Post for October 5, 1944, which is headed, "Bennett Admits Giving $2000 to Gerald L. K. Smith." As you will observe, this particular article indicates that Smith testified to the receipt of a donation of $2000 from Mr. Bennett. It would appear that Bennett, when later interviewed relative to the matter, confirmed this statement.

RECORDED 62-43818-27

In this connection you will recall that some months ago the Bureau, at the request of the Department, secured copies of statements which Smith filed as required by law with reference to his candidacy for the United States Senate, both in the primary election and in the general election. Although these statements reflected that Smith listed a $1500 contribution as having been received from an undisclosed source, it is noted that no reference was made in these statements

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Dumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
OCT 13 1944
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COURIER SECTION

any contributions from Mr. Bennett. It is possible, of course, that such contribution, if actually made, might have been made at some other time or for some purpose other than Smith's candidacy for the Senate. Although the substance of Smith's recent testimony might be of pertinence to your past inquiries relative to Smith's activities and their possible significance under the Federal Corrupt Practices Act, the Bureau does not contemplate any further investigation with reference to this particular phase of the matter unless you so request.

As a review of your file will show, considerable investigation has been conducted with reference to this subject during the past two years, consistin primarily of a coverage of Smith's publications and speaking activities. Althougt you have from time to time indicated an interest in having the inquiry continued, I shall appreciate your advice at this time as to whether any prosecutive action is contemplated against Smith and as to whether you are desirous of having the investigation continued in the future along the lines it has followed in the past. In the event you do desire continued investigation, I shall be pleased to receive any specific suggestions you may care to advance as to any particular type or types of information you are interested in at this time.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8 Brotherton

[redacted]
6/25/43

JUN 26

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH

Reference is made to your recent request that you be advised as to the status of the investigation conducted by the Treasury Department concerning subject Smith.

I have been informed that this investigation has been carried out by the Intelligence Unit of the Bureau of Internal Revenue and has recently been completed. The investigation reportedly included examination of Smith's personal and organizational finances during the past several years and a Treasury Department official has advised that no recommendation has been made to proceed against Smith for the collection of additional income taxes. I have also ascertained that recently an official of the Treasury Department contacted [redacted] of the Special War Policies Unit of the Department concerning this case, advising that the investigation had failed to reveal evidence of a criminal violation.

By memorandum dated May 11, 1943, Mr. C. E. Rhetts, Special Assistant to the Attorney General, advised me that the Treasury's investigation was instituted at your request and that the general results of the investigation would be made available to the Department and the Bureau. Mr. Rhetts further indicated that he would discuss this matter with [redacted] of the Bureau of Internal Revenue and attempt to make arrangements whereby the reports submitted on the investigation would be made available to the Department.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Helm
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME 5:25 pm
DATE 6/26/43
BY

RECORDED
62-43818-272

Information set forth herein obtained from [redacted] of the Treasury Department by Supervisor [redacted] and from [redacted] Special War Policies Unit, by Supervisor [redacted]

JUN 29 1943

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F B I
DEPT OF JUSTICE
JUN 26 10 38 AM '43

b7c

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
June 24, 1943

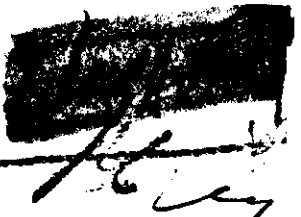
DECLASSIFIED BY SP-RBTJ/MG
ON 10/4/82

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
File

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,
with aliases,
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000 -
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION



Dear Sir:

There is being set forth below the gist of the information received from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau. This information was received by the Detroit Office during the period from May 20, 1943 through June 20, 1943:

Information was received from Informant to the effect that SMITH is apparently very suspicious of the activities of the lady whom he refers to as "Mrs. D." from Chicago. Undoubtedly SMITH is referring to Mrs. ELIZABETH DILLING of Chicago, well known to the Bureau. SMITH apparently suspects Mrs. DILLING of trying to interfere with various meetings held in Chicago, sponsored by Captain SOUTHARD, also well known to the Bureau. SOUTHARD also has expressed his opinion to SMITH that Mrs. DILLING is unquestionably trying to interfere with their work.

Along these same lines Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that SMITH was likewise suspicious of a man referred to by him as [redacted] (phonetic) of New York. According to SMITH, [redacted] is a spy on the staff of [redacted] (phonetic) who is supposed to be financed by the B'nai B'rith organization in publishing material under the caption "Friends of Democracy." In a conversation with a female, believed to be Mrs. KNOWLES of Detroit, SMITH was advised that this female person had shadowed [redacted] to an office located at 137 East 57th Street, New York City, and that [redacted] was found to be working with [redacted]

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-435

SMITH expressed the opinion also that he was suspicious that the National Workers League was kept alive by operators of B'Nai B'Rith and the Anti-Defamation League. SMITH stated that he has been observing the National Workers League and has made it a point never to allow himself to become

FOR DEFENSE
BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

affiliated with it inasmuch as he is suspicious that it is merely a front for some group of operators trying to "get him." (The National Workers League is a League well known to the Detroit Office as being sponsored by PARKER SAGE, known to the Bureau as the founder of the League, and who is presently under indictment for his alleged participation in the Sojourner Truth Housing dispute in Detroit, Michigan some time back.)

Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had telephonically contacted Senator NYE at his office in Washington, D. C., and at that time SMITH discussed with NYE the possibility of NYE making a speech at one of SMITH's meetings either in Chicago, Detroit, or Cleveland. SMITH expressed the opinion that they wanted NYE to come to Michigan for the purpose of combating the Republican politicians who are backing WENDELL WILLKIE. NYE, on May 26, 1943, addressed a letter to SMITH introducing an individual to SMITH whom NYE claimed was anxious to do work in the Detroit Area. At the present time the name of this individual is not known to the Detroit Office.

SMITH has also telephonically contacted Representative CLARE HOFFMAN of Michigan at his Washington office, at which time he endeavored to have HOFFMAN promise to address a SMITH meeting. It is believed that HOFFMAN promised to speak for SMITH at some future date in Chicago.

On May 31, 1943, information was received from Informant indicating that Mrs. LUNDEEN was in the City of Detroit for the evident purpose of conferring with SMITH.

On June 12, 1943, Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that SMITH telephonically contacted Representative HOFFMAN at which time arrangements were made with HOFFMAN for HOFFMAN to be in Cleveland, Ohio, June 13th. HOFFMAN apparently was to address a meeting in Ohio on that date.

On June 18, 1943, Informant advised the Detroit Office that he had received information to the effect that SMITH was leaving on that same day for Denver, Colorado, at which place he was to visit [redacted] According to the best of information available at this time, SMITH was to stay in Denver with [redacted] until the evening of June 21, 1943.

b 7c

On May 27, 1943, Informant related that he had received some information to the effect that a man by the name o[redacted] phonetic), who claimed to

be a friend of [redacted] (phonetic), a New York lawyer, advised SMITH that he was referred to SMITH by Senator NYE. (This individual might be the same individual referred to in the letter sent by NYE to SMITH.)

During the time WILLKIE was in Detroit a semi-picket line was set up by the SMITH group for the purpose of passing out pamphlets, but, as they expressed it, "definitely not to picket WILLKIE."

Informant stated that employees in the SMITH office have been kept quite busy of late apparently sending out copies of the book entitled "Red Decade." These books have apparently been purchased through the Bobbs-Merrill Company, New York City, through one [redacted] (phonetic).

There has been some indication that SMITH is contemplating a meeting in Detroit either on June 28 or 29, 1943, and efforts have been made by SMITH to rent a hall for that particular meeting. This meeting is being closely followed by the Detroit Office. There is also a possibility that this meeting will be held in Pontiac, Michigan, where [redacted] has apparently been conducting some negotiations with a view to obtaining a hall.

Very truly yours,

JOHN S. BUGAS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted] jah
62-1126

ALL
b2c

RATES

to

June 25, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Apropos of the interest which you expressed to Mr. Tamm last evening concerning the cases of Gerald L. K. Smith and [redacted] I arranged the first thing this morning to have the Bureau supervisor who is intimately acquainted with these cases contact the Criminal Division for the purpose of determining what, if any, additional investigative activities on the part of the Bureau are desired. You will recall that the Bureau has over a long period of time kept a close observation upon the activities of these two individuals and has submitted complete reports upon their activities to the Criminal Division. The Bureau supervisor has been advised by the Criminal Division that these cases are being handled by a Mr. McInerney who is absent from Washington today but who will probably return tomorrow.

The matter will be followed up with the Criminal Division tomorrow in order that its advice may be received as to what additional investigative operations the Criminal Division desires from the Bureau.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-3 BTS/mlh

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME 11:45 am
DATE 6/25/43
BY

RECORDED 62-43818-274
E B I
21 JUN 26 1943

24 JUN 28 1943

CC-287a

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

LBN:GDC

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
June 23, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

While discussing other matters with [redacted] today, he advised that [redacted] became friends with Gerald L. K. Smith up in Detroit and spent several days at Smith's home there. At that time Smith boasted to [redacted] of stirring up trouble with the Negroes in Detroit of the contracts with the KKK and of anti-semitic stuff. Smith further boasted that he would get into power in 1948, that the Republicans would take over in 1944 but they would not do a good job of cleaning up, that he was going to keep after the Republicans after they get in power and then in 1948 they would be ready for him.

Respectfully,

[redacted]

RECORDED & INDEXED

L. B. Nichols

162-43816-2

29 JUN 26 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SO-8B1J/mlw

55 JUL 3 1943

[redacted]

62-43818
June 29, 1943

SAC, Washington

0

GERALD L. K. SMITH, was;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

Reference is made to the report submitted in connection with this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Buffalo, New York, on June 16, 1943.

The Bureau desires that the undeveloped lead designated in reference report for the Washington Field Division be disregarded at this time.

cc - Detroit

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8BTJ

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 2
★ JUN 29 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

62-43818-276
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 30 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

JUL 3 1943

ALL 302C

[redacted]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 14-7 DMC

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	6/16/43	5/24-26/43	[redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases, THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject spoke at meeting 5/24/43 in Eagles Auditorium, Buffalo, New York, under auspices of the Economics League of Buffalo. JOSEPH H. STOFFEL presided. Approximately 300 in attendance. In speech subject referred to certain governmental officials as Bureaucratic Fascists; asserted that some officials possess ambition to impose dictatorship in peace time; cited use of ration book as possible means of accomplishment; compared OPA to Gestapo; criticized United States allies, Australia and Canada for no conscription laws; asserted United Nations Food Conference is peace conference; declared opposition to conscription of manpower and of women for service with armed forces; referring to burdens of United States after the war and referring to war casualties, SMITH stated: "We will have one million injured or killed, or captured this year, one out of every two men serving overseas, according to reports from Washington." Information concerning display of International Propagandist Flag and witnesses set forth.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Letter from Detroit Field Division to Buffalo Field Division dated May 11, 1943.

INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/4/92 BY

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: John B. Little SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-297 RECORDED & INDEXED

32 JUN 9 1943

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83 OCT 13 1964

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14-7

DETAILS: AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK

The reporting Agent was present at a meeting at which the subject spoke on May 24, 1943 at 8:P.M. in the Eagles Auditorium, at the corner of Tupper and Pearl Streets, Buffalo, New York. Approximately 300 person were in attendance. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Economics League of Buffalo. JOSEPH H. STOFFEL, President of the latter organization, presided.

The following individuals seated on the stage, in addition to the subject and his wife, were introduced by STOFFEL as being: Right Reverend RICHARD O'BRIEN, Pastor of Annunciation Church, and the Reverend MICHAEL A. ANSTETT, Pastor of St. Agnes Church, both of Buffalo, New York.

Mr. STOFFEL presented Reverend ANSTETT as being an adherent of Father COUGHLIN and a former leader in the Buffalo area for the National Union for Social Justice. Reverend ANSTETT delivered the invocation.

GERALD L. K. SMITH was introduced by STOFFEL. After speaking words of praise for Father COUGHLIN, he, the subject, incited the audience to make a resolution calling for Father COUGHLIN to break his silence and speak at Buffalo at an unspecified future date. A motion was made to this effect by WALTER SREDZINSKI, a local labor leader in Buffalo.

It would appear that the making of this motion was prearranged, for, according to [redacted] reporter for the Buffalo Evening News, the subject had stated to him prior to the meeting that such a motion would be made. b2c

The subject began his speech by stating the fact that, although the present war has to be won, it is an issue of the past and the efforts of the America First Party are dedicated to the America of tomorrow. In this respect he declared himself opposed to a fourth term for the President of the United States and advocated a constitutional amendment to restrict his tenure of office.

The subject criticized the present Federal Government officials, referring to them as Bureaucratic Fascists, asserting that some of them possessed an ambition to take the United States into a peace time dictatorship after the war, citing the continuation of the war time powers

during peace time and the use of the ration book as possible means of accomplishing their ambition. He stated that the newspapers have already published statements of officials that rationing might be continued after the present war. As further support to the ability of inflicting control over the American people through the ration book, SMITH cited the testimony of BERNARD BARUCH before a congressional committee in 1936, at which time, according to the subject, BARUCH testified that people in time of war could be controlled by the ration book.

GERALD L. K. SMITH, in speaking further on the rationing problem, stated that it was un-American and quoted from a purported Washington, D. C., newspaper article concerning a party given by BERNARD BARUCH for HARRY HOPKINS at $110.00 per person for food and drinks, and referred to an article by a Chicago Tribune reporter that CLAUDE WICKARD, prior to rationing, had purchased for his father on his Indiana farm a huge icebox, which, upon inspection, contained 600 pounds of meat, 1,200 pounds of lard, and 500 pounds of butter, which would keep from three to five years. The subject then stated: "A man like that should be in a Federal Penitentiary". He compared the Office of Price Administration to the Gestapo for encouraging neighbors to squeal on one another.

The subject, in discussing the plot to enslave the United States, quoted at length the article entitled "Gestapo" in the April 1943 issue of "The Cross and The Flag", a magazine reportedly founded by the subject.

The present allies of the United States - England, Russia, etc. - SMITH stated should be used for military reasons only. He criticized Australia and Canada for not having conscription for the armed forces and stated: "Under the laws of those countries, unless the members of the armed forces volunteer, they can only be sent so far in battle; then, our boys have to continue on."

SMITH stated that an article had appeared in the Chicago Tribune concerning information to the effect that a certain United States Senator had endeavored to visit the United Nations Food Conference, held in Virginia, but that he had not been admitted. The subject stated that this conference is really a peace conference, guarded by American soldiers — "forty-three nations planning things you are paying for. Just think of this unholy spectacle - 200 soldiers to see that no American gets in..... Unless, of course, it is a military secret."

SMITH declared his opposition to conscription of manpower, asserting that under the proposed law a person could be sent to any part of the country, that it would amount to involuntary servitude, and could be used as a weapon against the people. The subject then stated: "If you want to join the WAACS, etc., do so", but further stated: "I am opposed to the conscription of women for services with the armed forces."

The article entitled "Sir WALTER VENNING'S PLAN" appeared in the October - November issue, 1942, of "The Cross and The Flag" and was quoted at great length by the subject.

In discussing the burdens the American people will have following the war and referring to the casualties following the war, SMITH stated: "There will be plenty. We will have one million injured or killed or captured this year..... This is one out of every two men serving overseas..... according to reports from Washington."

On the invitations for the meeting there was printed the following: "A silk flag which the international propagandists would substitute for the Stars and Stripes will be exhibited." In this connection the subject displayed to the audience for an instant before dropping it upon the floor and stamping on it, a flag approximately 18" x 24" in size, and designed in a manner similar to the flag of the United States with approximately thirteen alternating red and white stripes with a design of the British flag in place of the stars and the field of blue. A yellow star or similar figure was embossed in the center of the section resembling the British flag.

According to THOMAS BROWN, editorial writer for the Courier-Express, who examined the flag personally on the following day, the flag with the exception of the yellow star or figure was identical in design to the Cambridge flag, which was raised by George Washington at Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1776. The Cambridge flag, according to BROWN, is composed of thirteen alternating red and white stripes with the combined cross of St. Andrew and St. George in the Canton.

GERALD L. K. SMITH announced at this meeting that he was to speak in the Elks Auditorium at Erie, Pa., on May 25, 1943. This information was conveyed to Detroit, Michigan, by teletype dated May 24, 1943.

This meeting was also attended by the following individuals: Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted]. PAUL HAMSLEY, Principal of Buffalo Public School No. 51 and Chairman of the Americanism Committee of the American Legion, Erie County [redacted] and [redacted] who is a reporter for the Buffalo Evening News, age, twenty-eight, [redacted] Buffalo, New York, and has [redacted]. All of these individuals, with the exception of [redacted] were willing to testify to all statements made by the subject. [redacted] was not present for the entire meeting, but is able to testify to the statement made by GERALD L. K. SMITH concerning casualties this year in the armed forces.

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It is the opinion of these individuals that, with the exception of the quotations made by the subject direct from the magazine, "The Cross and The Flag", his speech was extemporaneous and directed to all persons present.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

14-7

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Will endeavor to ascertain from the OWI office if any Washington reports have been released to the effect that war casualties for this year will amount to one million or a ratio of one out of every two men serving overseas.

147

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT

b2c

Re: Report of Special Agent [redacted]
dated June 16, 1943 at Buffalo, New York,
entitled: "GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases,
THE COMMITTE OF ONE MILLION; INTERNAL SECURITY,
SEDITION."

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[redacted]. The identity of [redacted]
was not disclosed in instant report as the possibility
exists of having to use this individual as an infor-
mant for future meetings.

[redacted]

6-28-43

62-43818-277

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your information, there is transmitted herewith a copy of a report submitted in connection with the investigation of this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Buffalo, New York, on June 16, 1943.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure Bw

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP8B75/mc

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 1
JUN 29 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUN 29 3 00 PM '43
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58 JUL 3 1943

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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

FLN:TD
9:40 AM

CC-287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

June 25, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith;
Internal Security - G,
Sedition

[redacted]
Sedition

Pursuant to your instructions, I contacted the office of Mr. James McInerney in the Criminal Division for the purpose of making arrangements whereby Supervisor [redacted] could confer on the morning of June 25th relative to the future investigative steps in both of the captioned cases. You will recall it was suggested that the Supervisor handling these cases should confer with the appropriate representatives in the Criminal Division on these cases during the conversation which Mr. Tamm had with the Attorney General.

It was learned that Mr. McInerney is presently out of the city and will not return until the morning of June 26th. I talked to Mr. Edmond Doyle of the Criminal Division in view of Mr. McInerney's absence and he stated that he would be greatly appreciative if the Bureau would wait until the morning of June 26 in order that Agent [redacted] could discuss both of these cases personally with Mr. McInerney. He made this request in view of the fact that both cases are under the personal supervision of Mr. McInerney.

Mr. Doyle was advised that Mr. McInerney would be contacted on the morning of June 26th in order that arrangements could be made for Agent Hanratty to confer with Mr. McInerney and any other Departmental representatives concerning these cases.

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DATE 10/04/82 BY SP8B5/MC

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch

F. L. Welch

All b7c

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62-43818-278

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20 JUN 26 1943

57 JUL 6 1943

L-80

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

CONFIDENTIAL

F.B.I. TELETYPE

[redacted] c b1

FBI DETROIT [redacted] c 6.13 PM EWT EWW b1

DIRECTOR

UMBO

CONF. INFT.

GERALD L.K. SMITH, WAS, ETAL. INTERNAL SECURITY G. INFORMATION RECEIVED TODAY FROM [redacted] THAT SMITH IS TO ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON ON FRIDAY NEXT FOR PURPOSE OF MEETING WITH DIES COMMITTEE. SMITH TO REGISTER AT STATLER HOTEL AND INTENDS TO MEET WITH SENATOR REYNOLDS FRIDAY AFTERNOON. PURPOSE OF TRIP APPARENTLY IN CONNECTION WITH RECENT RACE RIOT HERE. b7D

Detroit

BUGAS

END

6-14 PM OK FBI WASH DC F

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NOTE: THE UNDERLINED PORTION OBTAINED FROM GARBLE

RECEIVED [redacted] c 7:21 PM EWT BW b1

Memo Atty Gen re: Rowe [redacted] c

CLASS. BY SP-8 BTJ/mh

DATE OF REVIEW: DATE 10/4/82

Recd 9:35 pm no action mrd

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CONFIDENTIAL

File
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DATE 10/4/82 BY

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH

Further reference is made to your recent inquiries and our late correspondence concerning this individual.

For your further information, I wish to advise that it has been learned from a highly confidential source of information that Smith plans to come to Washington, D. C., on Friday, July 2, 1943, reportedly for the purpose of meeting with the Dies Committee. According to this source of information, Smith will register at the Statler Hotel, and intends to meet with Senator Robert Reynolds sometime Friday afternoon prior to his contact with the Dies Committee.

Smith's purpose in connection with his reported intention to meet with the Dies Committee and Senator Reynolds is not known, but it is possible that it may have some connection with or bearing on the recent race riot at Detroit. The Bureau has previously been advised by a highly confidential source of information that on June 25 last, Smith, at Detroit, contacted Senator Reynolds at Washington, suggesting that it might be well for Congressman Dies to cause an investigation to be conducted of the race riot at Detroit. On this occasion Smith reportedly requested that Dies be contacted and told that Communists in Detroit were "scared to death" for fear Dies would proceed to Detroit for an investigation of the riot. Smith allegedly commented that "Reds" in Detroit were trying to blame the riot on good people such as Henry Ford and himself.

You will recall that data concerning this reported contact between Smith and Senator Reynolds was set forth on page 25 of a memorandum recently furnished you concerning the background of the race riot situation at Detroit.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Gurley

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME 10:25 AM
DATE JUL 2 1943
BY

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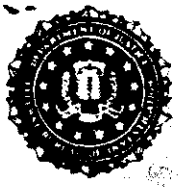
FBI
JUL 2 1943
10 11 AM '43

cc - Mr. James Rowe, Jr.
The Assistant to the Attorney General

Mr. Wendell Berge
Assistant Attorney General

17 JUL 5 1943

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

MAY 31 1943

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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-1875

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Reference is made to your memorandum of May 28, 1943, concerning Gerald Smith of Detroit and one [redacted] described as being thirty-three years of age and a resident of either Detroit or Cleveland. You will recall you stated that the President telephoned you on May 27, 1943, requesting that the Bureau make an investigation of Smith and that he be informed as to the draft status of [redacted]

b7c

Smith is usually referred to as Gerald L. K. Smith and for several years has been a resident of Detroit where he has been active in connection with an organization known as "The Committee of One Million." Last fall he was an unsuccessful candidate for the United States Senate and since December, 1942, he has been principally concerned with an effort to establish a third political party known as the America First Party.

During recent months Smith has made a number of public speeches, attempting to gain support for this Party and during the course of these speeches has frequently attacked the Administration, alleging that it has seized on the emergency created by the war in an effort to develop a dictatorial form of Government. He has also criticized what he is disposed to characterize as the Government's efforts to reduce the United States to a mere entity in a great international state dominated by Great Britain. Despite such assertions, he has been careful to profess loyalty to the war effort and has urged his following to give loyal support to the war effort.

Since the early part of 1942, the activities of Smith have received very close and continuous investigative attention by the Bureau. His background, resources and associates have been closely examined and all of his public speeches since the fall of 1942 have been covered. As a supplement to such investigative attention a technical surveillance has been in effect since May, 1942.

All of the information developed has been referred to the Criminal Division and to Mr. James Rowe, Jr., but Mr. Rowe's office has stated that Smith's activities and statements to date are not sufficient to justify prosecution. However, the investigation is being continued unabated, according to certain suggestions advanced by Mr. Rowe, and reports and other information, as received, are being referred to him.

RECORDED 125 62-43818-28

With reference to the report that Smith has made statements suggesting that people not pay their income taxes, you are advised that no information has been received indicating that Smith has made such statements either

JUL 9 1943

"Keep in FBI file 6/24/43 C.T.S."

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

during the course of personal conversations or during his public speeches. It is known that the Treasury Department is investigating the income tax returns made by Smith during 1938, 1939 and 1940, but nothing has been developed to suggest that Smith has attempted to counsel evasion of the income tax laws.

On March 25, 1943, an inquiry was received from the President concerning Smith and subsequently, on March 31, 1943, a summary memorandum setting forth pertinent data as to Smith's background and the results of the investigation as to him was referred to the office of the President. For your information I am attaching copies of that memorandum.

Concerning the individual designated as [redacted], it is believed that the reference is to [redacted] formerly active in Christian Front activities at New York and now a resident of Chicago, Illinois. [redacted] has been under investigation by the Bureau for more than two years and for your information, I am transmitting herewith copies of a memorandum concerning his background and activities.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

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b7c

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

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June 2, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

You telephoned me on May 27th, suggesting that I investigate GERALD L. K. SMITH, of Detroit, who is alleged to have been telling people not to pay their income taxes; and [redacted] now a resident of Chicago, as to the latter's draft status.

Smith, during recent months, has made speeches to gain support of his party, the America First Party, and has attacked the administration. He is careful to profess loyalty to the war effort at the same time. Since the early part of 1942his activities have received continued investigative attention by the F. B. I. The Treasury Department is investigating his income tax returns from 1938 to 1940 inclusive; but nothing has been developed to suggest that Smith has attempted to counsel an evasion of the income tax laws.

On March 31, 1943, an answer to an inquiry from you, a summary memorandum was sent to you with respect to Smith's background and the results of the investigation. A copy of that memorandum is enclosed.

[redacted] has been under investigation for more than two years. I enclose a memorandum with respect to his background and activities. [redacted]

[redacted]

62-43818-280

ENCLS.

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FBI/DOJ

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

EAT:KLW

June 28, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

For record purposes it may be noted that on June 25, 1943, the Attorney General requested I call at his office at which time he indicated that the President was most anxious to have some prompt and vigorous action taken against Gerald L. K. Smith and [redacted]

I pointed out to the Attorney General that the Bureau had been [redacted] covering Smith's activities for a period of several years and had [redacted] submitted voluminous reports to the Criminal Division in the Department which had not taken any action thereupon. I pointed out that the same situation existed with reference to [redacted]

The Attorney General inquired about [redacted]

I told the Attorney General that I thought someone in the Department should review all of the reports which the Bureau has heretofore submitted upon these individuals and determine whether some action could not be taken. Mr. Berge in the Criminal Division stated that he would reassign these cases in the Criminal Division at once for this purpose.

The Attorney General requested that the Bureau:

1. Determine the status of the Internal Revenue investigation of Gerald L. K. Smith's income tax returns.

2. Determine what connection, if any, [redacted] had with the Ku Klux Klan.

3. Determine what, if any, connection [redacted] had with the recent race riots in Detroit.

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS

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4. Determine whether the Governor of Michigan intended to initiate Grand Jury proceedings for the purpose of determining the facts with reference to the race riots in Detroit.

handled 6/25/43 mc 0-B

Very truly yours,

Edward A. Tamm.

281

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

JPHa:MMJ

June 26, 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-3BTJ/MC

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

[redacted]

INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

[redacted]

Pursuant to your instructions and the request recently made of Mr. Tamm by the Attorney General, Supervisor [redacted] of this section has conferred with Mr. J. M. McInerney of the Criminal Division of the Department concerning these two cases. This conference began today at 1:30 P.M. and extended for an hour and forty-five minutes. During this period Mr. Hanratty, at Mr. McInerney's request, furnished the latter with detailed information concerning the results of the recent investigation in these cases.

Concerning the Smith case, Mr. McInerney stated that the Criminal Division has not been following the case accurately since the first of the present year inasmuch as beginning about January 1, 1943, Mr. Rhetts of Mr. Rowe's office assumed supervision of the case. However, Mr. McInerney was generally familiar with the nature of the investigation and during the course of his conversation referred specifically to the three phases of the case: that is, the sedition phase, the possible OPA regulation violation phase, and the Federal Corrupt Practices Act angle.

With regard to the sedition phase of the case, Mr. McInerney asked Supervisor [redacted] the nature of the information which additional investigation has developed. He was informed in detail of Smith's speech-making activities and his publication efforts in connection with his magazine "The Cross and the Flag." All of this data has, of course, been set forth in reports which have been furnished to Mr. Rowe. On appraising Smith's activities in this regard and at the conclusion of this portion of the conversation Mr. McInerney expressed the opinion, in conformity with memoranda which have previously been received from Mr. Rowe, that Smith appears to be well advised as to how far he can go under the Sedition Statutes and that he has apparently avoided making any actionable statements, either written or oral.

FOR DEFENSE BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

DEFERRED RECORDING

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With reference to the possible OPA regulation violation, you will recall that in October, 1942, Smith openly boasted that a short time previously he had wilfully and purposefully violated the 35 miles per hour speed regulation by motoring from Pontiac to Detroit at varying speeds approaching 60 miles per hour on certain occasions. Smith openly bragged about this accomplishment, defied authorities to proceed against him, and stated that he had taken the action to show that "bureaucratic regulations" could not be imposed on the American people. Pertinent information in this regard was at the time furnished to the Criminal Division which advised that no Federal violation had been incurred inasmuch as at the time of Smith's trip no Federal Statute enforcing the speed regulation was in effect. During the conference Mr. McInerney referred to this angle of the case and stated that the Criminal Division had recently re-examined it but again concluded that no action could be taken against Smith.

Concerning the Federal Corrupt Practices Act phase of the case, you will recall that several months ago the Special War Policies Unit of the Department requested the Bureau to investigate Smith's activities in connection with his candidacy last summer for United States Senator. The Special War Policies Unit particularly requested that the statements filed by Smith, showing his contributors, with the local election commission be secured and that it be otherwise determined whether Smith has complied with the provisions of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act and the Michigan General Election Law in connection with his campaign. The statements and data requested by the Special War Policies Unit has been secured and sent to the Department, and in this regard Mr. McInerney stated that he was not familiar with this angle of the case or the possibilities involved inasmuch as this particular matter is under consideration by the Special War Policies Unit. However, when [redacted] pointed out that in one of his statements Smith has refused to identify the source of a $1500 contribution as required by the Michigan General Election Law, Mr. McInerney expressed considerable interest and stated that he would take up this phase of the case in detail with the Special War Policies Unit.

[redacted] further pointed out that according to information received by the Bureau the Treasury Department has completed its investigation of Smith's financial activities. Mr. McInerney stated that he was aware of this and had further been informed that the Treasury Department's investigation had failed to show any irregularities. He stated that the Department expected a complete report on this investigation in the near future and that the Criminal Division might request the Bureau to make some inquiries if it appears that some of Smith's contributions may have emanated directly or indirectly from Axis-inspired or influenced individuals or organizations.

Mr. McInerney stated that he intended to secure the file concerning Smith which is presently in Mr. Rhetts' possession, and after conferring with the War Policies Unit concerning the Federal Corrupt Practices Act phase of the case would probably communicate with the Bureau requesting additional investigation which the Criminal Division may, on the basis of the file review, deem necessary. [redacted] told Mr. McInerney that these additional requests will be acted on promptly as soon as a memorandum is received.

ALV
b7c

Concerning the [redacted] case, Mr. McInerney commented that he is fairly familiar with [redacted] activities inasmuch as he has personally followed this case in the Criminal Division. He stated that he knows that [redacted] activities have been very carefully followed by the Bureau but that in his opinion [redacted] has to date failed to engage in any activities which would justify his prosecution. He indicated, however, that he intended to give this case further consideration and that he contemplates corresponding with the Bureau further as to certain other investigation which may be deemed necessary. [redacted] of course, informed Mr. McInerney that the Bureau will be glad to receive any additional suggestions as to investigation deemed necessary and that such suggestions will be promptly carried out.

It is of interest to note that at the conclusion of the interview Mr. McInerney told [redacted] that he intends to write a memorandum for the Attorney General concerning the Smith case pointing out that although the Bureau has devoted this matter exhaustive investigative attention, nothing has been developed to date on which to predicate prosecutive action against Smith. Mr. McInerney stated that in his memorandum he would inform the Attorney General that the case will continue to receive close attention by the Criminal Division and the Bureau and that if anything significant is developed, consideration will be given to immediate prosecution. Mr. McInerney did not indicate that he was preparing a memorandum for the Attorney General on the [redacted] case.

Action:

As soon as additional memoranda concerning these cases are received from the Criminal Division, the suggestions set forth therein will be given immediate investigative attention and both of these cases will in the future as in the past several months be followed very closely.

Respectfully,

F. L. W.

F. L. Welch

ALL
bx

[redacted]

62-43818

Date: July 5, 1943

To: SAC, New York

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8BD/ml

9

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - G
SEDITION

The Bureau is in receipt of a recent memorandum from the Criminal Division of the Department concerning this case, which in its pertinent portions reads as follows:

"It has been noted that among Smith's financial backers there is listed one [redacted]. It is desired that the Bureau ascertain whether this individual is identical with [redacted] who has an office in [redacted] New York City. The latter [redacted] is described as a [redacted] who was engaged in the investment security business. [redacted] (See p. 34, Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at New York, December 23, 1942, in the case entitled [redacted])."

In addition to the report referred to in the Criminal Division's memorandum, a review of the Bureau's files reflects that the name [redacted] is mentioned incidentally in the report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at New York City, on February 19, 1942, in the matter entitled, [redacted]; Internal Security - G." On page three of Special Agent [redacted] report [redacted] is described as an individual of "rather strong Nazi sympathies" who, several years ago, frequented a country home near Ridgefield, Connecticut, operated by a [redacted]

The Bureau's files further reflect that the name [redacted] mentioned on page two of the report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Washington, D. C., on April 6, 1943, in the matter entitled [redacted] was: Internal Security - X; Custodial Detention. A copy of Special Agent [redacted] report was designated for your office and as you will observe, the information set forth therein is merely to the effect that subject [redacted] allegedly made reservations at Washington, D. C., for one [redacted]

MAILED 15 JUL 12 1943

RECORDED 62-43818-283

FBI - JUSTICE

Mr. Ford
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

435

635 JUL 12 1943

ALL FBI DOC

It is further noted that one [redacted] was mentioned in a teletype emanating from your office in the matter entitled, [redacted] Misconduct in Office," under date of March 30, 1939. In answer to this teletype the Washington Field Division advised by teletype dated March 31, 1939, that it had been determined that one [redacted] had put up at the Shoreham Hotel at Washington, D. C., on a number of occasions during 1938.

Pursuant to the request of the Criminal Division, it is desired that your office immediately institute inquiries for the purpose of determining whether [redacted] is identical with [redacted] In the event these two names do not represent the same individual, you should identify [redacted] and develop a limited amount of pertinent background data concerning him.

Both the Bureau and the Criminal Division are extremely interested in the investigation of all phases of this case and, accordingly, these inquiries as well as the other investigation outstanding in your district in this matter should be afforded immediate investigative attention.

cc - Detroit

ALL
b7C

GERALD L. K. SMITH

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8BJ/mc

New York, N. Y.

June 9, 1943

There is something about the cynicism of New York labor leaders which turns them into sophisticated provincials who believe that their strength in the big city makes them immune to the campaigns which have been crippling unions in outlying stat

They have paid scant notice to the spread of Christian American Association laws which have placed unions under the control of many states. They have virtually ignored Gerald K. Smith, self-appointed successor to Charles Coughlin, despite Smith' success among the hundreds of thousands of Southerners who flocked to Detroit war jo

The New Yorkers have skimmed through boring reports of the progress of the Connally-Smith bill, though Rep. Howard Smith said at Town Hall two weeks ago that h colleagues hoped to make this bill permanent postwar legislation.

Now the bill has been passed by the Senate and the House and is in conference. We wonder how many New York labor leaders have read through the proposed law. How many know, for example, that it prohibits unions from making political contributions elections for federal offices? This would virtually keep the American Labor Party ou of the 1944 presidential campaign.

How many know that they would be required to make public an audited list of their members; that no strike could be called until 30 days' notice was given and a secret ballot of workers was taken; and that one clause in effect suspends the Nation Labor Relations Act and the Norris-LaGuardia anti-injunction law in the event of a spontaneous strike.

RECORDED & INDEXED
62-43815-28
B I
14 JUL 3 1943

* * * *

Wartime is proving a Roman holiday for the professional and amateur opponents of Labor. For example, in recent weeks a series of disturbances have spread through some war plants in protest against the hiring and upgrading of Negroes. Production

57 JUN 14 1943 295

of Rolls-Royce aircraft engines was stopped at Packard last week when Ku Klux Klan elements provoked a walkout after three Negroes were given machinists' jobs.

This is skilled provocation designed to stall war production and feed enemy propagandists. News of anti-Negro strikes is played by Berlin and Tokio broadcasts as demonstrations by American workers against all colored races. This does the Allied cause little good in North Africa and the Orient.

* * * *

In the meantime, Gerlad Smith, long a professional enemy of the CIO, has been building the America First Party. Late in May some of his agents arranged a mass meeting of war workers for him in Buffalo.

Mention of Coughlin, Senators Nye and Wheeler, Rep. Fish and Charles A. Lindbe drew stormy applause, whistles and footstamping. A resolution was unanimously adopte to urge Coughlin to come to Buffalo to speak. Smith boasted that he had meetings scheduled for Chicago, Ft. Wayne, Indianapolis, Detroit and other mid-western cities.

The offensive of Smith and his colleagues in high places has started. The lab men are still paying little attention. They might learn what every American kid pick up on the nation's sandlots--you cannot beat the other team without organizing a bett ball club of your own.

* * * *

There is a dismaying lack of curiosity among labor men over the growing strengt of the America First Party which was started by a man who for a while made a specialt of attempting to smash the CIO in the automobile and rubber centers.

This man Gerald L. K. Smith, is being dismissed by cynics as one of the many would-be men on horseback who should be laughed at instead of worried over. Maybe. But Smith has carefully brought into his America First Party many of the British-haters, isolationists and disappointed politicos who have little use for the New Deal and less ofr labor.

* * * *

For example, Martin L. Sweeney was an isolationist Congressman from Cleveland Last year he was defeated. On May 11 he spoke at an America First Party rally in Detroit.

On May 24 Smith harangued a crowd in Buffalo's Eagle Hall. "If the two old parties continue to give us Roosevelt and Wilkie, then we shall be forced to put a m in the field such as Lindbergh," he shouted.

The highlight of that meeting came when Smith tore from his pocket a red and White striped flag. In the spot where the blue starry field is on the present Americ flag, it had the Union Jack. Waving the banner, Smith insinuated that the New York firm was already prepared for the internationalists' merger of the U. S. and Britain. New York, to Smith's followers generally, is synonymous to "Jews".

Smith then threw it to the floor and jumped wildly up and down on it while the audience, which had previously cheered Charles Coughlin, stamped and whistled its approval. They believed Smith's statement that the flag was the New Dealers' and British "imperialists" substitute for the Stars and Stripes.

However, the flag which Smith was pouncing upon was replica of the flag which first was raised over General George Washington's headquarters at Cambridge, Mass., in January 1776; the flag which Washington's troops carried when they marched into Boston after the British evacuated in March 1776; the flag which the Continental Army used until the adoption of the Stars and Stripes a year after the Declaration of Independence.

The Head of the Americanism Committee of the Buffalo American Legion, one Paul Wamsley, arose in the midst of Smith's mob and challenged Smith's wild attacks on the government and our allies. Smith threatened to have Wamsley thrown out of the hall.

There were no others there to protest Smith's attack on our history, tradition and war effort. Yet Buffalo is the center of intense war production. There are many strong CIO and AFL unions there. The CIO United Automobile Workers, which has its

national headquarters in Smith's home city of Detroit, has a young and militant leade ship in Buffalo.

Yet few are challenging Smith's statements in Buffalo, or the score of other war industry cities where he and his lieutenants are attacking our war leaders.

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

WB:ESL:SH

146- 28-43

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

July 1, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith

Reference is made to our previous correspondence on this subject.

It has been noted that among Smith's financial backers there is listed one [redacted] It is desired that the Bureau ascertain whether this individual is identical with [redacted], who has an office in [redacted] The latter [redacted] is described as [redacted] who was engaged in the investment security business. [redacted] (See p. 34, Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at New York, December 23, 1942, in the case entitled [redacted]

In the Criminal Division's memorandum dated December 9, 1942, it was requested that you attempt to ascertain the identity of one [redacted] and the nature of her connection with Smith during the time he was established in New York. This lead appears not to have been covered to date. The Criminal Division now has information that this woman's given name was [redacted] that she contributed financially to Smith, and that she was a contact between him and some of the Axis embassies. It is requested that an endeavor be made to ascertain whether this information is based on fact.

Respectfully,

RECORDED & INDEXED

Wendell Berge

WENDELL BERGE
Assistant Attorney General

62-43818-285

JUL 8 1943

FOR DEFENSE
BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

Memo to Berge
cc Detroit
7/5/43

FIVE

ALL

[redacted]
7-5-43
62-43818-285
RECORDED

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Reference is made to your memorandum of July 1, 1943, requesting that investigation be made for the purpose of determining whether [redacted], who has been listed among Smith's financial backers, is identical with [redacted], also of [redacted]. This request is receiving attention and as soon as further information is available, I shall communicate with you further.

Pursuant to your request that [redacted] be interviewed as to the nature of her connection and association with Smith, I invite your attention to the report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at New York, New York, on May 31, 1943. You will note that on pages eleven and twelve of Special Agent [redacted] report the result of an interview with [redacted], who is apparently identical with the person referred to as [redacted]" is set forth.

A copy of Special Agent [redacted] report is forwarded with this memorandum for your information.

Enclosure

DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FBI
RECEIVED-MAIL ROOM
JUL 1 5 PM '43

JUL 6 12 48 PM
RECEIVED READING ROOM
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JUL - 6 1943
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8BW

15 JUL 16 1943

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
June 30, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-8 BTJ/ml
ON 10/4/82

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, With Aliases
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-entitled case, arrangements were made a few weeks ago, as I advised the Bureau telephonically, to have an individual known to the Detroit Office attempt to obtain employment in the office of the above-captioned Subject. [redacted] This individual has been emphatically advised of the necessity for complete secrecy relative to this arrangement and plans have also been made for contacts to be maintained [redacted] outside the the Detroit Field Office.

The name of this individual is [redacted]

In the future, all information received from this Informant will be designated as having been received from [redacted]

I wish to point out at this time that this Informant is [redacted]

FOR DEFENSE
BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

Ltr-Detroit 7-10-43

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43815-286
F B I
15 JUL 2 1943

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83 OCT 13 1964

53 AUG 5 1943

Letter to the Director
Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, Was

June 30, 1943

[redacted]

b2D

Unless advised to the contrary, information received from this Informant will be set forth in report form as having been received from [redacted]

Very truly yours,

John S Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted]
62-1126

b2

[redacted] mmh b7D

RECORDED 62-43818-286

[redacted]

July 10, 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP8BTJ/mkm

SAC, Detroit

RE: [redacted] b7D

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lad
Mr. Nic
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Ace
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated June 30, 1943, captioned "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, was. Committee of 1,000,000, Internal Security - G, Custodial Detention, Sedition" advising that the above named individual [redacted] b7D

You are requested to furnish the Bureau with background information regarding [redacted] and with additional information regarding her relationships and contacts with your office. b7D

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
JUL 12 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

53 AUG 5 1943

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

[redacted] b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-3636 JSP

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CHARLOTTE, N. C.	7-7-43	6-28-43	[redacted] b1

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	CUSTODIAL DETENTION - G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Camp Butner, North Carolina, military authorities advised that [redacted] left that base April 1, 1943, for the Army Air Base, Lake Charles, Louisiana. b1

- RUC - ~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted], Washington, D. C., dated May 6, 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-PBTJ/mh

DETAILS:

AT DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA:

[redacted] Camp Butner, North Carolina, advised that [redacted] of the 925th Air Base Security Unit, left there April 1, 1943, for the Army Air Base, Lake Charles, Louisiana. Referenced report set out a lead to contact [redacted] to ascertain whether he had any knowledge concerning the subject and his background. b7

Inasmuch as referenced report indicates that the New Orleans Field Division received copies of the report, it is not deemed necessary to restate further any facts in this case.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: Edward Scheidt SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-287

RECORDED

JUL 9 1943

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2 - New Orleans
2 - Charlotte

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5 JUL 17 1943

Charlotte 100-3636

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

The NEW ORLEANS FIELD DIVISION at Lake Charles, Louisiana, will contact [redacted], 925th Air Base Security Unit, and ascertain whether he has any knowledge concerning the subject and his background. b2c

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-6577

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Baltimore, Maryland	6-30-43	5-5,19,20-43	[redacted] BA b2

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was. THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	CUSTODIAL DETENTION - G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Article by HENRY L. MENCKEN concerning subject appeared in Baltimore Sun July 16, 1936 on occasion of speech at Townsend Convention in Cleveland. Subject also mentioned in MR. MENCKEN's recent book entitled, " Heathen Days "

DEFERRED RECORDING

- R U C -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 6, 1943 at Washington, D. C. b2

DETAILS: [redacted], Information Bureau, Sun Newspaper, Baltimore, Maryland, made available the files of MR. HENRY L. MENCKEN's articles in the Library of the paper. It was found that no index reference was made to the subject and that the articles were so numerous that it was impracticable to search all of them without some information as to the possible date of the article referred to in the reference report.

At the Enoch Pratt Public Library, Baltimore, Maryland, a copy of HENRY L. MENCKEN's recent book " Heathen Days " was secured. This was published by ALFRED A. KNOPF at New York 1943 and contains a chapter entitled, " Beatters of Breasts ". At Pages 294-98 MR. MENCKEN writes of GERALD L. K. SMITH as follows;

He first heard of him at the Townsend Convention at Cleveland in 1936 and at that time wrote the Sun Paper at Baltimore, " His speech was a magnificent amalgam of each and every American species of rabble-rousing with embellishments."

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: E. A. Dority SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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2 - Baltimore

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83 OCT 13 1964

100-6577

Word from the Algonquin Indians and the Cossacks of the Don. " It ran the keyboard fromthe sofest sobs and gurgles to the most earsplitting hoops and howls and when it was over the 9000 Delgates simply laid back in their pews and yelled. "

MR. MENCKEN says " Never in my life in truth have I ever heard a more effective speech. "

A few weeks later he writes that he heard SMITH give an even more impressive exhibition of his powers at the convention of REVEREND CHARLES E. COUGHLIN in Cleveland.

MR. MENCKEN states " When GERALD came to Cleveland it was in the humble role of a follower of the late HUEY LONG, jobless since HUEY'S murder on September 10, 1935 but when he cleared out after his two speeches it was in the lofty character of the greatest rabble-rouser since Peter The Hermit. "

In the Library of the Sun Paper in Baltimore, Maryland, the files of HENRY L. MENCKEN's articles were again examined and the article referred to in the reference report was found to have been published on July 16, 1936. The headlines of this article were: " REVEREND GERALD SMITH STARS AT TOWNSEND CONVENTION IN RABBLE-ROUSING TALK ", " LATE HUEY LONGS LIEUTENANT EXCORIATES NEW DEAL, JIM FARLEY AND YOUNG PROFESSORS AS NINE THOUSAND DELEGATES YELL. " "ROOSEVELT MEN DEMAND CHANCE TO ANSWER TODAY. "

This article states that the theme of SMITH'S talk was not the virtue of the Townsend Plan but the villanies of the New Deal.

A description of SMITH and his abilities as a speaker are set out in the article and these are similar to those comments made in MR. MENCKEN'S book. The article further described SMITH as Chief of Staff to the late HUEY LONG and now holding the same position under DR. FRANCIS E. TOWNSEND.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP4B23/pwc

July 3, 1943

THE DIRECTOR

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith, The
Committee of One Million;
Internal Security - Sedition

You will recall that both the President and the Attorney General have in recent weeks evidenced a continuing interest in this case.

On March 25, 1943 the President addressed a memorandum to you requesting information concerning the subject's background and the nature of any investigation conducted as to Smith. In reply to this, on March 31, 1943, Mr. McIntyre was furnished with a detailed memorandum concerning Smith's background and current activities. In a cover letter it was pointed out to Mr. McIntyre that although Smith has been under careful investigation for more than a year and all of his speeches and writings, as well as his activities, have been covered during this period, the Department on consideration of the evidence developed has stated that this individual's activities to date do not appear to warrant prosecution under any Federal statute. Mr. McIntyre was further informed that the case would continue to receive vigorous investigative attention and that all information developed would be appropriately furnished to the Department for an opinion as to possible prosecutive action. For your information a copy of the summary memorandum furnished Mr. McIntyre, which is fully reflective of Smith's activities to March 31, 1943 and is representative of activity engaged in by Smith since that date, is attached.

1 ENCLO. 12

Subsequently, on May 28 last, the Attorney General addressed a memorandum to the Bureau stating that he had received a telephone call from the President on the previous day concerning Smith and [redacted] of Chicago, Illinois, who, you will recall, is the subject of another very active sedition investigation. The President was apparently interested in the status of these two investigations in the Department and particularly requested information as to [redacted]. Pursuant to the Attorney General's request, detailed memoranda concerning both cases were immediately forwarded to the Attorney General and, of course, he was advised that Mr. Rowe's office, which at the time was handling the Smith case, and the Criminal Division, handling the [redacted] case, had indicated that the activities of these subjects are not sufficient to [redacted] (A separate memorandum concerning the status of the [redacted] case has been prepared for you under today's date.)

Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lester
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coyne
Mr. Hoover
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mr. Quinn Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Jones
Mr. Leach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Nease
Mr.

Later, on June 24 last, the Attorney General telephonically contacted Mr. E. A. Tamm, advising that the President had again communicated with him requesting that these cases be given close attention, with the view of early instituting any prosecutive action possible under existent statutes. The Attorney General stated he thought it would be helpful to arrange a conference between the attorney in the Criminal Division handling these cases, and the Bureau supervisor intimately acquainted with the investigations. He indicated he felt that as a result of such a conference the Criminal Division could perhaps become more accurately acquainted with factual data and would be in a better position to analyse the cases and perhaps to make further requests of the Bureau for additional investigation.

Pursuant to this request, the conference was held on June 26 last between Mr. James McInerney, Chief of the National Defense Unit of the Criminal Division, and the Bureau supervisor handling these cases. With reference to the Smith case, Mr. McInerney pointed out that the Criminal Division was not conversant with all of the late developments, inasmuch as until recently the case has been followed in the Department by an attorney assigned to Mr. Rowe's office. He therefore requested detailed information concerning investigation carried out during the last eight or nine months. In view of the ramifications of the case, the discussion with reference to factual data resolved itself around the three principal phases of the investigation: the sedition phase, the Federal Corrupt Practices Act angle, and the phase involving a possible violation by Smith of the National Speed Regulation.

Concerning the sedition phase, Mr. McInerney was informed in detail of Smith's speech-making activities and his publication efforts in connection with his magazine, "The Cross and the Flag." It was pointed out that Smith has been primarily concerned with attributing "dictatorial trends" to the Government and has frequently charged the Government with conspiring with Great Britain and other countries in an effort to set up a "super world state" after the war. These have been his most frequent themes and have been repeated numerous times during the course of Smith's many public speeches in connection with his "America First Party", the principal tenet of which is the "guarding of America against the dictatorial trends and Bureaucracy of the present administration." It was pointed out to Mr. McInerney that since the first of the year all of Smith's public speeches have been covered and that the reports on this investigation, as well as copies of all his publications, have been sent to Mr. Rowe. Mr. McInerney stated that he would secure these reports and carefully review them, and expressed the opinion that Smith appears to be well advised as to how far he can go under the Sedition Statutes and has

950

apparently avoided making any actionable statements, either oral or written. In this connection it will be recalled that in all of his statements, both written and oral, Smith has always been careful to profess loyalty to the war effort and has even exhorted his followers to cooperate "in every way" with the war effort. Mr. McInerney further observed that the Bureau's investigation has been very adequate and quite exhaustive, pointing out that the only logical way of proving a sedition case is by covering the subject's statements and writings.

With regard to the Federal Corrupt Practices Act phase of the case, you will recall that several months ago the Special War Policies Unit of the Department requested that Smith's activities in connection with his candidacy last summer for United States Senator be investigated. The Special War Policies Unit particularly requested that the statements filed by Smith, showing his contributors, with the local Election Commission be secured and that it be otherwise determined whether Smith has complied with the provisions of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act and the Michigan General Election Law in connection with his campaign. All of this data has been secured and sent to the Department, but in this regard Mr. McInerney stated that he was not familiar with this angle of the case, inasmuch as this particular matter has been under the purview of the Special War Policies Unit. When the Bureau supervisor pointed out that in one of his statements Smith has refused to identify the source of a $1,500 contribution as required by the Michigan General Election Law (which according to the Special War Policies Unit may have significance under the Federal Corrupt Practices Act), Mr. McInerney expressed considerable interest and stated he would take up this phase of the investigation with the Special War Policies Unit. He indicated that this phase of the case would probably be handled by the Criminal Division in the future and if it appears that Smith's omission amounts to a violation of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act, the Bureau will propably be requested to conduct further investigation concerning this phase of the case.

Concerning the possible violation of the National Speed Regulation by Smith, it will be recalled that in October, 1942 Smith openly boasted that a short time previously he had wilfully and purposely violated the 35-mile-per-hour speed regulation by motoring from Pontiac to Detroit at varying speeds approaching 60 miles-per-hour on certain occasions. Smith made this boast while attacking the OPA regulations as "bureaucratic and dictatorial" and stated that he had taken this action to show that "bureaucratic regulations" could not be imposed on American people. Pertinent information concerning Smith's use of excessive speed, as well as his public statements

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in connection therewith, was at the time the information was developed referred to the Criminal Division, which advised that no Federal violation had been incurred, inasmuch as at the time of Smith's trip no Federal statute enforcing the speed regulation was in effect. During the conference, Mr. McInerney referred to this angle of the case by stating that although the Criminal Division had recently reexamined it, the conclusion was again reached that no action could be taken against Smith either for his speeding or for his public statements in connection with the incident.

Mr. McInerney further pointed out that according to information he has received the Treasury Department has recently completed its investigation of Smith's financial activities. You will recall that this investigation was requested by the Attorney General and was conducted primarily for the purpose of determining whether Smith has made false income tax returns. According to information received, both by the Bureau and the Department, the Treasury Department's investigation has failed to show any irregularities. However, Mr. McInerney stated that as soon as the Treasury Department makes its report available to the Department it is possible that the Bureau may be asked make some additional inquiries if it appears that any of Smith's contributions may have emanated from Axis-inspired or influenced individuals or organizations. In this regard he commented that although the evidence developed to date does not suggest that Smith has been under the guidance of foreign sources, and it is not contemplated to proceed against him under the theory of the Registration Acts, it would be helpful on the question of intent in any sedition prosecution to show a relationship between Smith's background and German sponsorship or sympathetic forces.

It is of interest to note that at the conclusion of the conference, Mr. McInerney stated that he intended to write a memorandum for the Attorney General concerning the Smith case, pointing out that although the Bureau has devoted the case exhaustive attention, nothing has been developed to date on which prosecutive action against Smith can be successfully predicated at this time. He stated that in his memorandum he would inform the Attorney General that the case will continue to receive close attention by the Criminal Division, and in this connection he commented that as soon as he is able to adequately review his file, further requests will be made of the Bureau for additional investigation. He was, of course, informed that the Bureau will be glad to receive these requests and that they will be given immediate investigative attention as soon as they are received in memorandum form. Yesterday a memorandum of this type was received from the Criminal Division, requesting inquiries concerning a possible associate of Smith's in the New York area. This request is being covered and, of course, the case will in the future continue to receive the careful and continuous attention which has been devoted to it during recent months.

It is of interest to note that a certain segment of the public press, particularly the newspapers PM and the Daily Worker, as well as other special interests, have recently sought to convey the impression that Smith, the Ku Klux Klan, and other allegedly Fascist individuals and organizations, fomented the recent race riot in Detroit. The Bureau's investigation of Smith, as well as its technical surveillance, fails to show that there are any grounds whatsoever for this allegation. On the contrary, Smith seems to have been somewhat concerned about the race riot and through the service of a highly confidential source it was learned that on June 25 last he contacted Senator Reynolds in Washington, requesting the latter to cause Congressman Dies to investigate the riot. Smith indicated that he believed the Communists in the Detroit area were primarily responsible. In this connection it was further learned from this same source that Smith intended to come to Washington on July 1, 1943 for the purpose of conferring with the Dies Committee and Senator Reynolds, apparently with reference to this matter. This data was, of course, furnished to the Attorney General and the Criminal Division, but no request has been received for further inquiry in connection with Smith's interest in the race riot situation.

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

Enclosure

RECORDED

62-43818-288

[redacted]

7-8-43

Jo

X

en-5

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information, there is transmitted herewith a copy of an additional report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Baltimore, Maryland, on June 30, 1943.

b7c

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc - Assistant Attorney General
Randell Berge

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

Tamm
Mohr
Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Clegg
Coffey
Gurnea
Harbo
Hoover
Jones
Leach
Lester
Lupke
Nease
Parsons
Quinn
Schilder
Schoeneman
Scott
Slosson
Stanley
Stephens
Walters
Wilson

[redacted]:elc

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-[illegible]

Date: July 9, 1943

To: SAC, Detroit

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

Transmitted herewith is a photographic copy of a column captioned "Labor News and Comment," written by one Victor Riesel, which appeared in the June 21, 1943, edition of the New York Post.

As you will note, this column sets forth comments concerning Gerald L. K. Smith, and at one point advances a statement to the effect that "Smith's crowd have hired detectives to 'get something' on David Niles and Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter."

If during the course of your investigation and coverage of the activities of the subject, you secure information indicating that Smith or his associates have taken such action you should immediately advise the Bureau.

Enclosure

(Material handed Mr. E.A. Tamm 6/23/43 by Mr. D.K. Niles of White House. See Mr. Tamm's memo to Director dated 6/24/43. [redacted])

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 1
JUL 10 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

24 JUL 18 1943

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 11 1943

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GERALD L. K. SMITH

PERSONAL HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, better known as Gerald L. K. Smith, was born during February, 1896, at Pardeeville, Wisconsin. He attended Butler Seminary at Indianapolis, Indiana, and later was graduated from Valparaiso University (Indiana) where he pursued a course in theology. Smith's antecedents and early life were in no way unusual and are of no particular interest.

After leaving college, Smith took up active duty as a minister and successively held pastorates at Footville, Wisconsin, at the Seventh Street Christian Church of Indianapolis and at the King's Highway Church of Shreveport, Louisiana.

Prior to assuming his ministerial duties at Shreveport, Smith's activities were rather conservative and of a type characteristically befitting one in the ministerial profession. However, while in Louisiana, he became interested in the late Huey Long's "Share the Wealth" movement and eventually extended this interest to the point of actively and openly participating in politics as an adherent of Long. Attendant publicity evoked the displeasure of the Elders of his church, eventually resulting in Smith's dismissal during 1934. Following Long's death, Smith attempted to identify himself with the remnants of the Long machine but being unsuccessful in this left Louisiana in 1937 and came to New York where he attempted to organize an association called "The Committee of One Million." This effort was unfruitful. During the following year he moved to Detroit where he has since been located.

At Detroit, Smith reorganized "The Committee of One Million" as an organization "founded for the purpose of combatting the menace of Communism." During 1939, Smith shifted his policy, advocating the isolationist viewpoint, and since the involvement of the United States in war he has busied himself principally in directing criticism to the Government's war effort and what he is pleased to characterize as the Government's efforts to enslave the United States as an entity in an International State dominated by Great Britain.

More detailed comments are set forth subsequently as to Smith's connection with Huey Long and his activities as the organizer of "The Committee of One Million," but it is of significance to observe that it appears that the turning point of Smith's life dates from his association with Huey Long. Prior to that time he was the usual type of minister concerned with problems incidental to his calling. However, it seems that his participation in the "Share the Wealth" movement fired his ambition to the extent of self visualization of himself as a dominant political figure. Being unsuccessful in associating himself with Long's

Mr. Tolson
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Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
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Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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DATE 10/4 /82 BY SP3 BTS/Lm

ENCLOSURE

62-43818-290

[redacted]

successors, he has apparently continued his dream of political prominence through his efforts in connection with his so-called "Committee of One Million." The fact that he still evaluates himself as an individual of at least potential political significance, is attested to by the fact that he has sometimes described himself in confidential conversations as being likely "Presidential timber." In an effort to further augment his political background and potentialities, Smith sought nomination as Republican candidate for United States Senator from the State of Michigan during the summer of 1942. This campaign was unsuccessful.

Smith's personal life appears to be normal. He is married, lives with his wife, and has one son, about twenty years of age. His wife is said to be a distant relative of a Mr. Sorensen, described as an official of the Ford Motor Company. From time to time stories have been circulated attributing improprieties to Smith in connection with his associations with women other than his wife. However, nothing factual is known to substantiate these stories.

ACTIVITIES PRIOR TO 1938

While serving as pastor at the King's Highway Church, Shreveport, Louisiana, Smith became interested in Huey Long's "Share the Wealth" plan. He eventually met Long and shortly thereafter there developed, according to Smith's description, "a close and fast friendship" between the two. It is definitely known that shortly thereafter, and lasting for a period of several years: Smith assumed the position of one of Long's chief lieutenants. Although Smith is prone to describe this relationship as a personal one, several persons who were close to Long at the time, state that Long had little personal regard for Smith and apparently evaluated him as being untrustworthy and dishonest. These persons state that Long was merely utilizing Smith's services, and in this connection it is known that Long, as well as others associated with him, regarded Smith as a very dynamic and powerful public speaker. It appears that Smith was widely used by the Long organization in the role of a public speaker for the "Share the Wealth" movement. It is said that Smith, at one time, received as much as $650 per week from the Long organization as reimbursement for expenses and as salary.

Information has been received that while associated with the Long movement, Smith joined William Dudley Pelley's Silver Shirt organization. Nothing in the way of documentary evidence is available to prove this membership, but in recent years, Smith has, on several occasions, admitted membership in the Pelley movement. He states, however, that he joined Pelley's organization merely for the purpose of securing information in connection with his work in behalf of Huey Long.

Although during Huey Long's lifetime Smith was an outstanding personage in the Long machine, he rapidly lost his position after the death of Long. It appears that his services were continued for a short period of time by Long's

successors, but that he eventually was displaced due, allegedly, to his untoward efforts to attain personal power. By 1937, any influence which he previously had was completely dissipated and it was during that year that he left Louisiana for New York.

On arriving at New York Smith attempted to organize a group known as "The Committee of One Million." According to the self announced purposes of this organization its primary concern was that of combating the forces of Communism. However, Smith's efforts in New York met with little success, and reportedly he was disheartened to the extent of ceasing his activities and removing to Detroit, Michigan, early in 1938.

Toward the end of his stay in Louisiana, Smith's personal reputation apparently suffered to some extent. On November 3, 1936, he was arrested by the New Orleans Police Department on a charge of having disturbed the peace in the using of obscene language in a public place. Reportedly, this arrest resulted in his receiving a suspended sentence of $10.00 and ten days.

During 1936 and 1937, Smith was also involved as a plaintiff in several libel and slander cases. These cases were apparently of minor importance, but the consensus of opinion appears to be that Smith's reputation suffered more than did the reputation of those whom he sought to sue.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

On arriving in Detroit in 1938, Smith almost immediately set out to reorganize the defunct "Committee of One Million." In this connection he distributed a considerable amount of literature designating the purposes of "The Committee of One Million" as follows:

1. To rebuild the spirit of America.

2. To wipe out the last vestiges of Communism, Nazism and Fascism in all forms.

3. The redefinition of the American National character.

4. The installation of a new spirit in American youth, dedicated to the maintenance of American institutions.

5. To issue a call to farmers and laborers to resist what is now known as an international plot to involve them in a world revolution.

6. To rededicate the citizenry of America to the family altar and to the spirit of the church.

7. To secure the maintenance of a well defined standard of American living.

Other literature of "The Committee of One Million," sought particularly to stress the activities of this organization in combating Communist influences.

With the coming of the European war in 1939, Smith shifted the policy of "The Committee of One Million" to that of promoting the cause of isolationism. In various pieces of literature distributed during 1939, 1940 and 1941, he was especially critical of the Government's policy of rendering assistance to the allied Governments.

Since the involvement of the United States in the war, Smith has again shifted his policy as well as that of "The Committee of One Million" to the direction of criticism against the Government's efforts in prosecuting the war. He has not questioned the necessity of winning the war, but on the other hand, in various of his publications, as well as his public utterances, has been careful to lay stress on the necessity of the people's aiding and assisting in every way in defeating America's foes.

However, he has advanced contentions that the Government is using the war as an excuse for depriving the public of its just liberties. He has also freely voiced criticism against what he has been disposed to characterize as the Government's efforts to reduce the United States to a mere entity in a great international state dominated by Great Britain.

Smith carries on the work of "The Committee of One Million" through radio broadcasts over Station WJR at Detroit, the distribution of literature, and through the publication of a monthly magazine known as "The Cross and the Flag." Although Smith claims that "The Committee of One Million" has a following of three million persons, it appears that "The Committee of One Million" is really not an organization as such, and is merely a name used by Smith. Smith, of course, does have a rather large mailing list, and it seems that the persons who receive his literature and make occasional financial donations to him are considered by Smith as being members of the Committee. Available information indicates that Smith's claim of three million followers is grossly exaggerated.

Early in 1942, Smith sought to establish another organization known as "The Inner Circle." As suggested by its name, this group was described by Smith as consisting of the more prominent and trustworthy members of "The Committee of One Million." He announced the foundation of this group through the distribution of literature calling for the donation of additional funds, and it appears that its purposes were the same as those of "The Committee of One Million." According to information received, "The Inner Circle" is no more of a real organization than "The Committee of One Million" and was conceived and used by Smith merely for the purpose of collecting additional money from persons on his mailing list.

During the summer of 1942, Smith sought the Republican nomination for the position of United States Senator from the State of Michigan. He made a number of speeches and conducted quite an active campaign and in the primary

election received approximately 120,000 votes. Although this was not sufficient for nomination, political observers were of the opinion that Smith had made an unusually good showing. Even after this defeat, Smith continued his candidacy in the general election in November, 1942, when he projected himself as a write-in candidate. He was badly defeated in the general election, his following being less than that in the primary campaign.

Late in 1942, Smith publicly announced the intention of forming a third political party on a national scale. The proposed platform for this Party, as announced, was similar to that advanced by Smith in connection with his work as leader of "The Committee of One Million" and it is understood that Smith hopes to gain support from members of the now defunct "America First Committee." In recent months, Smith has toured the Middle West and has made a number of speeches in various cities, outlining his plan for a third political party. Recently, he has indicated that it may not be necessary to form this party if the Republican and Democratic Parties "present a real issue" for the 1944 Presidential Election.

At various times within recent years it has been reported that certain officials at the Ford Motor Company are interested in Smith and have collaborated with him to the extent of furnishing him information used in some of his speeches and his publication "The Cross and the Flag."

In connection with his various appearances as a public speaker Smith has attained the reputation of being a very effective and forceful speaker. Although he is somewhat bombastic, and at times given too freely to overemphasis, it does appear that he is an unusually good speaker and that he is effective in influencing audiences. Some persons have described him as among the foremost public speakers of the day.

It is of interest to note that Smith's publication "The Cross and the Flag" was named, along with a number of other publications, in indictments returned in the District of Columbia on July 21, 1942, and January 4, 1943, charging twenty-eight and thirty-four defendants respectively with having engaged in a conspiracy to violate the Sedition Statutes. These indictments have pertinence to the case popularly referred to as United States vs. Gerald B. Winrod, et al. Although Smith's publication was mentioned in the indictment, as being one of a number of publications throughout the country which has contributed to undermining the loyalty and morale of the Armed Forces, neither Smith nor the publication was named as a defendant.

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Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

San Antonio, Texas

June 26, 1943

for

Director, FBI

Attention: Technical Laboratory

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,
with aliases;
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000;
Internal Security - G;
Custodial Detention;
Sedition

D4073

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Laboratory report dated June 8, 1943, Bureau File 65-43818, in which it is suggested that the San Antonio Field Division forward the original letter to the Bureau in order that a more thorough search may be made of the Bureau's files, and photographic copies made for inclusion in the Bureau's files.

In accordance with the Bureau's suggestion, the original letter is being enclosed herewith.

It is requested that upon the completion of the examination desired by the Bureau that this letter be returned to the San Antonio Field Division for inclusion in the file in the case entitled, [redacted]; Custodial Detention - G". b7c

Very truly yours,

R. C. Suran

R. C. SURAN
SAC

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DATE 10/4/82 BY

cc Detroit

JFG/jo

COPY AND SPECIMENS RETAINED IN L

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

62-43818-291

Laboratory Report

RECORDED

July 20, 1943
File # 62-43818
Lab # D6073

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,
with aliases;
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000;
Internal Security - C
Custodial Detention;
Sedition

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-3BU/MC

Examination requested by: San Antonio

Reference: Letter 6-26-43

Examination requested: Document

Specimens: [redacted] b7c

Q1 Typewritten letter dated July 8, 1933 beginning "I write to you concerning....." (Original of QC1)
Q2 Second page of typewritten letter beginning "anti-German propaganda being....." (Original of QC2)

RESULT OF EXAMINATION:

It has been concluded that specimens Q1 and Q2 were prepared on a typewriter equipped with Underwood pica style of type which is spaced ten letters to the inch. This typewriting was compared with the material contained in the file of writings pertaining to National Security without effecting an identification. An appropriate photographic copy is being added to the file for future reference and comparison.

In accordance with your request specimens Q1 and Q2 are being returned herewith, photographic copies having been retained for the completion of the Laboratory's file.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Nathanson
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 1
JUL 23 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

2-San Antonio (Enclosure - Registered Mail)
1-Detroit
1-Laboratory

JUL 21 1943

b7c

[redacted]

62-43818

July 15, 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/92 BY SP-8070/ug

SAC, Pittsburgh

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the reports submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on July 2, 1943, and Special Agent [redacted] dated at Chicago, Illinois, on July 5, 1943.

In connection with the submission of reference reports it is noted that there were lapses of considerable periods of time between the dates of the last reported action and the dates the reports were prepared. As you have previously been advised by the Detroit office, the Bureau is very much interested in the investigation of this subject and equally as well in the receipt of prompt and complete reports reflective of his activities and appearances as a public speaker.

In complying with any future requests which may be made of you or the Chicago office by the Detroit office to cover the meetings of this individual which may be held in your cities in the future, reports should be submitted promptly.

It is further noted that Smith's meeting held at Erie, Pennsylvania on May 25, 1943, was apparently covered by the Office of Naval Intelligence but was not covered by your office. It would appear that the Office of Naval Intelligence would have no legitimate continued interest in investigating Smith's activities and in connection with all future meetings it is desired that the same be covered by Agents or informants of your office.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Very truly yours,

RECORDED 62-43818-292

John Edgar Hoover
Director

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
JUL 16 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 19 1943
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

cc - Chicago
Detroit

35 JUL 20 1943

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-5778

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
PITTSBURGH, PA.	7/2/43	5/25;6/1,5/43	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY - G Custodial Detention SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: SMITH spoke to a crowd of 500 at America First Party rally, Erie, Pa., 5-25-43, where he criticized Administration policies. At meeting sponsored by the Defenders of the Principles of George Washington, held at Carnegie Free Library, North Side, Pittsburgh, on behalf of the America First Party, 6-1-43, SMITH and wife of former Senator LUNDEEN of Michigan spoke to crowd of about 600. SMITH covered practically same material as in previous addresses. Mrs. LUNDEEN defended her late husband's stand on Isolationism and attacked those who criticized him.

DEFERRED RECORDING

- RUC -

REFERENCES: Letter from Detroit Field Division to this Division dated May 21, 1943.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10-19-81 BY SP7MAC

DETAILS: AT ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA

A meeting was held by the America First Party at Erie, Pennsylvania, on May 25, 1943. This meeting was covered by [redacted] who reported the following information. #88.44 b2D

The meeting was held at the Elks Auditorium, 8th and Peach Streets, Erie, Pennsylvania, and an address was given by GERALD L. K. SMITH. Between 400 and 500 people attended, all of whom had cards which had been distributed through the city prior to the meeting. The announcements stated

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: W. K. Johnson SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

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2 - Pittsburgh

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that SMITH would speak under the auspices of the America First Party now being organized nationally. There was no indication that any local committee of the America First Party was active prior to the meeting, and no local delegates or members were identified as being active during the course of the meeting. SMITH spoke, and after that a collection was taken from the audience. SMITH ballyhooed for subscriptions to "The Cross and Flag", a publication which is edited by him. At the end of the meeting a poll was taken of those present to ascertain the relative popularity of various candidates for the presidency in 1944. The results were as follows:

DEMOCRATS ---	Roosevelt	7
	Farley	33
REPUBLICANS --	Dewey	153
	Taft	81
	Willkie	6

SMITH stated that the results were indicative of strong isolationist feeling and said that Senators WHEELER and NYE were not offered as candidates because he was convinced that they would have won overwhelmingly the poll in both parties.

SMITH introduced Monsignor O'BRIEN and a Mr. STOUFFEL, who had accompanied him from a meeting held in Buffalo, New York, on the previous evening, May 24. STOUFFEL was announced as being the head of the Buffalo Economic League.

SMITH opened the meeting with a strong attack on the New Deal and the gasoline rationing, mentioning that thousands of gallons of gasoline have been dumped on the ground at Oil City, Pennsylvania. He called this an example of bureaucratic stupidity which would lose the war. He claimed that WALTER WINCHELL and members of the Administration hated him and wanted him in a concentration camp because he would not cooperate. He claimed to be a patriotic American who wished to promote prosecution of the war, but who insisted on putting "America First".

He referred to the America First Party as the "spare tire party", and stated that men like CHARLES LINDBERG and GERALD NYE should be nominated for president. He denounced the campaign for a fourth term for ROOSEVELT. He stated

> "This year one million of our boys will be killed or captured in this war. Next year, one million and a

half will be killed or captured. The manpower outside of the Russian Front is being furnished by the United States. Outside of England, in Canada and Australia, it is not possible to take a boy into the armed forces by conscription, he must enlist voluntarily.

"Now we must yet taste of the horrors of war. When Christmas dawns this year it will be upon the most horrible tragedy America has ever seen."

SMITH attacked waste on WPA and the destruction of food which is now rationed. He attacked BERNARD BARUCH and his rationing plans. He stated, "With present conditions growing more firm, Gestapo and bureaucratic dictatorship is what the country is coming to." He referred to the incident of CLAUDE WICKARD's father "spilling the beans" regarding storing of meat on the WICKARD farm, which has been reported in previous reports.

He denounced WILLKIE, saying

"Beware of the World Government Drive. Willkie's backing it. Willkie's book 'One World' tells us what a wonderful guy Stalin is and what a wonderful system of government they have in Russia. I don't want any one to run for president of these United States who writes a book that is approved by Russia. Americans only should preach politics in the United States of America."

SMITH denounced internationalism after the war. He criticized Russia's trading with both Japan and the United States while the United States was at war with Japan. He denounced HENRY WALLACE as being Communistic.

SMITH discussed the rubber crisis. He claimed HENRY FORD and CHARLES SORENSEN of the Ford Motor Company stated they could make enough rubber for everyone if the government would allow it and that Dr. HALE of the Dow Chemical Company had found 30,000 small rubber factories in Poland and 36,000 in Germany which were operating under patents belonging to the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey and that said company had refused to release these patents to the Dow Company for use in this country. He stated, "Henry Wallace said that if we make our own rubber we will become nationalists and we will then be like Hitler and we don't want to be like Hitler."

Pgh. Field Division
100-5778

AT PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with his party, which included his wife and the wife of the late Senator LUNDEEN of Michigan, arrived at Pittsburgh on the morning of June 1, 1943, from Detroit. They stayed at the William Penn Hotel, Room 1497 being occupied by Mr. and Mrs. SMITH, and Room 1492 being occupied by Mrs. LUNDEEN.

That evening shortly after 8:00 p.m. they appeared at the Carnegie Free Library, North Side, Pittsburgh, where a meeting sponsored by the Defenders of the Principles of George Washington on behalf of the America First Party was being held.

The meeting was opened by Mrs. MARIE LOHLE, who has been mentioned in previous reports from the Pittsburgh Office. Mr. CHARLES MADDEN, also mentioned in previous reports, spoke briefly, giving a report of the appearance before the Senate Military Affairs Committee of Mr. MADDEN, Mrs. LOHLE, and Mrs. COLLIGAN. These three persons were a committee representing the Defenders of the Principles of George Washington in Pittsburgh who appeared before the Senate committee which had before it for consideration Senate Bill #666, known as the Manpower Conscription Bill, and sometimes referred to as the Gestapo Bill. MADDEN, who opposed this bill, was of the opinion that the testimony given by his committee before the Senate body was well received and had a very definite material effect on the Senators.

SMITH introduced Mrs. LUNDEEN, who read a prepared speech. According to SMITH and Mrs. LUNDEEN, she was giving this speech in defense of her deceased husband, the late Senator LUNDEEN of Michigan, who had, according to them, been criticized unfairly by WINCHELL and others for his stand on isolationism. Mrs. LUNDEEN stated that in the recent trial of GEORGE VIEREK by the department of Justice, the United States Attorney MALONE had in the course of his prosecution unjustly criticized the former Senator LUNDEEN to the point where it became almost a trial of Senator LUNDEEN rather than VIEREK. LUNDEEN was supposed to have had some correspondence with VIEREK, and LUNDEEN was supposed to possess a certain book on propaganda which was written by VIEREK. Mrs. LUNDEEN claimed that although MALONE made a most vituperative attack on the book, that Admiral SIMS, who was a good friend of Senator LUNDEEN, had once referred to the book as the most vehement and most accurate expose of propaganda which had been published. Mrs. LUNDEEN criticized the action taken by the Department of Justice against VIEREK.

Mrs. LUNDEEN told of how her husband had wanted to take over the islands in the Western Hemisphere in 1919 for our war debts and to

fortify them. She quoted from the New York State Economic Bureau that last year America spent three times as much as Germany, five times as much as England, six and a half times as much as Russia, over ten times as much as Italy, and over ten times as much as Japan on the war. She attacked STOKES, WINCHELL, the Merry-Go-Round boys, and MALONE for their slander campaign. It was suggested that members of the audience read the Congressional Record as an answer to their insinuations.

In his talk SMITH stated that there are three issues of the hour: (1) "We must be sure the Communist Party in America does not take advantage of our military alliance with Russia, to put over their lying propaganda (watch those on the Roosevelt payroll). We'll be told that if we attack Communism we attack Russia." Regarding the Communists growth in the United States he stated that recently in Detroit EARL BROWDER made a speech in which he endorsed ROOSEVELT for a 4th term and said that WENDELL WILLKIE's new book is the best to be found in America. SMITH attacked the movie, "Mission to Moscow" as the worse piece of propaganda that he knew of.

(2) "Our boys must be brought home the day the war is over, and not left to police the world. Our slogan should be "Billions for victory, but not one penny for Internationalist propaganda'".

(3) Watch out for bureaucratic dictatorships in Washington. "Run the rascals out". He discussed the Gestapo bill, the rationing of food, gasoline, etc. He referred to CLAUDE WICKARD and the above mentioned incident of WICKARD's reported storage of meat on his farm, stating that "Claude Wickard should be in the penitentiary."

SMITH mentioned Father COUGLIN's name, at which point a great ovation was given by the audience. When he asked if the audience would like to have him as a speaker sometime, the audience stood up, waved their hands, and yelled.

SMITH derided the situation wherein American boys are conscripted into the army, whereas in Canada there is no conscription, and in Australia the boys can not be conscripted to fight away from the Australian area.

SMITH scornfully referred to the campaign to smear certain congressmen while their sons are fighting for the "Four freedoms for Foreigners".

He referred to WINCHELL's services in the Navy and his recent deferment from active duty, insinuating it was underhanded work.

He stated that he is "God's man", and that he is for America first.

He stated that England knows what she is fighting for -- England; Russia knows what she is fighting for -- Russia; everybody knows what they are fighting for except the United States.

He referred to WILLKIE's appearance in a large industrial city in the middle west recently, at which time WILLKIE was picketed at the hotel at which he was staying and driven to ridicule. He said that WILLKIE was "a dead duck, a gone goose -- done."

Announcement was made of the coming scheduled meeting of Rev. BROPHY of New York City at Pittsburgh on June 15, 1943.

[redacted] advised that during the subject's stay at the William Penn Hotel the following calls were made by Room 1497: b7D

6-1-43, 5:12 p.m. -- called Room 1492, asked if she wanted to iron, and said they would see each other at 7:00 p.m.

5:30 p.m. -- called Pennsylvania Railroad, asked for information, and asked if Vanport, Ohio, had a parlor car on the train. The answer was negative; however, would have sleeper on train all the way to Lima, Ohio. He said, "All right, we will leave at 9:30 in the morning for Vanport, Ohio.

6:25 p.m. -- man called from Grill Dating, "I will be up in a few minutes. Call Jackson 0601 and ask her about the flag." (It is noted that Jackson 0601 is the telephone of Mrs. LOHLE.)

6:45 p.m. -- called Jackson 0601, said to tell Mrs. LOHLE to get all the stuff and the flag and make double sure it's all right, as they had to leave their's in Buffalo, and also to make a double check on everything as her voice isn't very strong, and to be sure to bring a flag along.

6:50 p.m. -- man called from lobby. Party in Room 1497 said she would bring the flag. Man asked her if she made out a check for the rent. She answered in the affirmative.

6-2-43, 12:15 a.m. -- Room 1497 placed a long distance call to Detroit, collect, call for a Mr. Doman at Lennox 8920. Mr. SMITH asked about mail, and Detroit said biggest they ever had. SMITH said they did not sell many magazines, but got 110 new subscriptions. Then Detroit talked about WILLKIE's nomination. Detroit said they had 405 pieces of mail, pretty good after a holiday. Detroit said he had a letter for SMITH from that crazy woman. SMITH wanted to know if she made any threats; party said no. SMITH said to subtract from account Mrs. LOHLE's railroad fare and everything. SMITH said he would call from St. Henry's tomorrow night, everything o.k. Conversation ended at 12:17 a.m.

7:15 a.m. -- SMITH called St. Henry's, Ohio, called party named [redacted] said he was leaving on Pennsylvania Railroad at 8:40 a.m. for Lima, Ohio, and would get there about 2:00 p.m. that afternoon. b7C

On June 1, 1943, the following calls were made or received at Room 1492 in the William Penn Hotel:

6-1-43, 6:37 p.m. -- Mrs. LUNDEEN called [redacted] 10th Street, was not in, would call later. b7C

6-2-43, 12:19 a.m. -- called Room 1497, saying they would go out to eat as there was nothing open at the hotel.

7:00 a.m. -- party called Room 1492, said "Hello, Mary, how are you. Didn't get back to hotel till about 2:00." Talked to Mary about aviation and dresses.

Pgh. Field Division
100-5778

The parties in Rooms 1497 and 1492 checked out at 7:30 a. m.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

Pgh. Field Division
100-5778

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted] is the Office of Naval Intelligence, Fourth Naval District.

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-7744

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	7/5/43	5/27,6/2/43	[redacted] [redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases; THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY - C CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject SMITH introduced principal speaker, MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN at rally sponsored by Citizens' U.S. A. Committee held at Kimball Hall, 306 South Wabash Avenue, night of May 28, 1943. Subject also spoke briefly. Details of rally and speeches set out.

EUC ~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

REFERENCES : Copy of letter of 5/21/43 from Detroit Field Division to SAC Pittsburgh

DETAILS: At Chicago, Illinois

This investigation was made upon the request of the Detroit Field Division by letter of May 21, 1943 setting forth information that the subject was to speak in Chicago on May 28, 1943 and in other cities. They requested that in accordance with Bureau instructions offices receiving copies of this communication should make appropriate arrangements so that the above described meetings would be appropriately covered by the respective offices.

The Citizens' U.S.A. Committee whose address is given as 82 West Washington in Chicago, sent out postcard announcements as of May 22, 1943, advising that at their rally May 28, 1943, held at Kimball Hall at 306 South Wabash, MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN, widow of late Senator Lundeen, would discuss the mysterious death of her husband and answer his critics. The

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: S. J. Dougherty SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-294

RECORDED & INDEXED

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3-Detroit (file 62-1126 - Enc)
(1-USA,Detroit)
3-Chicago

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5 JUL 9 1943

[redacted] ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED [redacted] HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/14/82 BY SP-8BR

~~34 JUL 22 1943~~

postcard announcement also stated "your old friend and favorite MR. G. L. SMITH will introduce MRS. LUNDEEN. Bring your friends to this great rally". A specimen of this postcard announcement is being enclosed for the Office of Origin.

The rally was covered by [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. [redacted] reported the events which took place at the rally as follows:

"MRS. NORMA LUNDEEN, widow of the late U.S. Senator Ernest Lundeen, was guest speaker on May 28, 1943 at one of the weekly lecture and discussion meetings of the Citizens' U.S.A. Committee. This meeting was held on the 2nd floor concert hall located in the Kimball Hall Bldg. This theater has a seating capacity of approximately 500, and every seat, including balcony, was filled before starting time; late-comers had to remain standing. A larger hall would have been needed, as at least twice that number of people were very eager to hear MRS. LUNDEEN and GERALD L. K. SMITH, - who spoke on the same platform with her, - had it not been for the circumstance that Congressman Clare E. Hoffman was also speaking a block away in Orchestra Hall that same evening. And, just for good measure, Senator Burton K. Wheeler made an address in the Palmer House at the same time. All of them denouncing the New Deal Administration for "the horrible mess it has forced this once Free Republic into". Much as they wanted to hear MRS. LUNDEEN and GERALD SMITH, most of the Citizens' Committee members went to hear Hoffman, whom, they felt, they could not possibly afford to miss. But there was much angry grumbling over not making it possible to hear both speakers, due to evident mismanagement. Capt. WM. GRACE, Chairman of the Citizens' Committee, put the blame for such lack of co-operation on the Institute of American Economics, which sponsored the Hoffman rally, and visa versa.

"I had heard some rumors shortly before this meeting that, in her address, MRS. LUNDEEN was to reveal the unknown facts concerning her husband's mysterious death; things to the effect that the airplane in which Senator Lundeen was flying toward his home state to address an Isolationist Rally was deliberately tampered with, in order to bring about that plane crash; that it was plainly a case of political murder; like the sudden death by poisoning of Lord Lothian, W. R. Davis, and others who became too troublesome in their opposition and dared to "unmask the secret schemes of the New Deal Administration". Plenty of talk of this nature travels around.

"The cards announcing MRS. LUNDEEN'S speech, which came through the mail also state that she would discuss "the mysterious death" of the senator. However, in her entire speech she made not a single reference to, nor did she even drop a vague hint, anything that might suggest that there was room for

suspicion as to circumstances under which her husband met his death. Her speech was merely a review of the senator's political career and accomplishments, how completely loyal he was to his America First and Only principle, and how viciously he has been lied about since his death. She read her speech from a manuscript which is reporduced, without the change of one word, in GERALD L.K. SMITH'S magazine "The Cross and the Flag".

"SMITH and his wife are accompanying MRS. LUNDEEN on an extended lecture tour. He asked us to be generous with out donations; we were all handed envelopes to enclose two dollars for a year's subscription to his magazine; he donated the receipts for this to MRS. LUNDEEN, who, he said, is without funds and has even lost her home. SMITH was not up to his usual dynamic spellbinding, and kept insulting the reporters."

The May 1943 issue of the Cross and the Flag carries the speech of MRS. LUNDEEN under the title "MRS. LUNDEEN Breaks Silence" and it, according to [redacted], is identical with the speech delivered by MRS. LUNDEEN at the rally on May 28, 1943. A copy of this issue of the "Cross and the Flag" is enclosed for the Office of Origin. b7

According to comments in the Chicago newspapers the following day, SMITH confined himself mainly to introducing MRS. LUNDEEN and to a brief speech in which he was concerned mainly with insulting the various reporters from Chicago papers who were present. He did say, however, or infer, that President Roosevelt would resign after a fourth term and become President of the world. By inference, also, he suggested that Vice President Wallace should be impeached because if Roosevelt were elected for a fourth term he would resign and Wallace would become President of the United States. The speech was covered by the Chicago Sun. A copy of their report of Saturday, May 29, 1943 is enclosed for the Office of Origin.

The other Chicago newspapers, the Tribune and the Herald-American did not cover this rally so completely a s they were more interested in the speech made by Representative Clare Hoffman, sponsored by the Institute of American Economics on the same night.

Inasmuch as there are no further investigative leads to be covered at the present time in the Chicago area, this case is being referred upon completion to the Office of Origin.

ENCLOSURES TO DETROIT:

1 - postcard announcement of speech of MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN, Kimball Hall, 306 S. Wabash, Chicago, Illinois, 5/28/43
1 - issue of May 1943, The Cross and the Flag
1 - newspaper clipping, Chicago Sun, 5/29/43, headline, "GERALD L.K. SMITH Fears Roosevelt May Rule World".

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

[redacted]
7-15-43
62-43818-294
RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your information there are transmitted with this memorandum copies of additional reports submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Chicago, Illinois, on July 5, 1943, and Special Agent [redacted] dated at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on July 2, 1943.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc - Assistant Attorney General
Wendell Berge (with enclosures)

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/92 BY SP-8BTJ/MC

JUL 15 5 24 PM '43
RECEIVED READING ROOM
F B I
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
JUL 16 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

34 JUL 22 1943

ALL
b7c

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit - Michigan
July 13, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8BT/ml

[redacted]

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G.
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - SEDITION.

DEFINED RECORDING

Dear Sir:

There is set forth below the gist of information obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, said information having been received by the Detroit Office during the period From May 10, 1943 through July 10, 1943. b7D

Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had been contacting Captain SOUTHARD of Chicago in an effort to obtain copies of the book entitled "The Bible in the Hands of Its Creators." SMITH apparently wanted to use the statements made in this book in his speeches.

It was ascertained through [redacted] that during this period of time, SMITH had contacted numerous individuals in an attempt to explain to them that neither he nor his organization had anything whatsoever to do with the recent race riots which occurred in Detroit. SMITH stated that the Communist Party was attempting to blacken his name by accusing him of having participated or even started the riots. Informant advised that during the pertinent period of the riots, namely over the weekend of June 21, 1943, SMITH was in Denver, Colorado visiting [redacted] b7D

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818-295

Along these same lines, SMITH contacted [redacted] at Flint, Michigan at which time [redacted] stated that he was on both sides of the riots. Arrangements were made by these two for SMITH to meet [redacted] on about June 27, 1943. SMITH made a trip to Washington, D. C. for the alleged purpose of contacting the Dies Committee and presenting his evidence indicating that the Communists b7c

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Op. 2 JUL 23 1943

were the instigators of the race riots in Detroit, Michigan.

SMITH is apparently engaged in a feud with one CLAUDE WILLIAMS who claims to be a minister in Detroit. WILLIAMS apparently has written an article in the magazine "The Protestant" which tends to involve SMITH in the race riots in this city. SMITH has expressed the opinion that WILLIAMS is on the payroll of KENNETH LESLIE, who apparently has something to do with the magazine "The Protestant."

It is being noted at this time that SMITH in his press releases has referred to a prominent colored Communist as having furnished him information indicating that the Communist Party is behind the recent race riots. In this connection Informant stated that he was of the opinion that SMITH was referring to WILLIAM NOWELL, former member of the Communist Party, presently employed by the Ford Service Department. SMITH apparently contacted Senator RAYNOLDS while he was in Washington, D. C. relative to presenting his facts before the Dies Committee.

SMITH has also contacted Senator NYE along the same lines. NYE apparently was to contact the Dies Committee in an effort to obtain photostatic copies of the records the Dies Committee had relative to CLAUDE WILLIAMS indicating that WILLIAMS was a member of the Communist Party.

Informant stated further that he had received information on July 10, 1943 to the effect that SMITH had contacted [redacted] a Lutheran preacher in Detroit for the purpose of attending the Lutheran Conference on July 10, 1943. SMITH has made the claim that [redacted] has expressed great admiration for SMITH'S work. b7c

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted]
62-1126 b7c

[redacted]

7-14-43

62-43818-296

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your information there is transmitted herewith a copy of a circular letter reportedly issued by subject Smith during May, 1943.

The book, "The Red Decade," referred to in the attached letter was reportedly written by Eugene Lyons who for a number of years served as a United Press reporter in Moscow. The book was published about two years ago and purports to be an analysis of Communist activities in the United States.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc - Assistant Attorney General
Wendell Berge

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-5 SJ/MLC

RE-INDEXED DATE 10/21/57

4

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
JUL 15 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED READING ROOM
JUL 14 7 21 PM '43
F.B.I.
DEPT. OF JUSTICE

22 JUL 24 1943

6-10-43

G. L. K. Smith,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY

Detroit, Michigan
May, 1943

My dear patriotic fri

"Why doesn't Roosevelt shoot United States Senator Burton K. Wheeler?" According to Rev. Fulton J. Sheen of Washington, D. C., those words were spoken by Joseph Stalin.

Rev. Sheen, according to a recent news dispatch out of Washington, told of a conversation between an American diplomat and Stalin. The interview is supposed to have taken place before the attack on Pearl Harbor put an end to a debate over America's participation in the war. Stalin, in his conversation with this American, could not understand why Senator Wheeler of Montana was allowed to express his America First views. "Why Doesn't Roosevelt shoot him?" - Stalin inquired.

This gives you some idea of how little foreign dictators know about American liberty. I don't think I need to tell you that there are plenty of bureaucratic politicians in America who would like to see those of us who put America first shot down.

Following are the words contained in a letter I have just received through the mail which gives you some idea of what we have to pass through in order to carry on this hard fight against subversive activity and alienisms.

> "Personally, I think the whole damn, filthy crowd of you (referring to the America First people) should be either hung or shot. The Russians, who so far have saved your gangrenous skin, have the right idea. They take 'em down cellar and put a bullet in the back of their necks. Nice and neat and they get rid of them quickly."

The letter containing these words was mailed on May 15, 1943 and is postmarked Cleveland, Ohio. It is signed and I have it in my files. The only reason I am not giving you the name of the man is that the letter is so vicious that I do not want to run the risk of inciting the anger of some loyal friend against the writer of the letter. The part I have quoted is not half as violent as two other paragraphs.

Furthermore, the letter has a printed letterhead and is well and neatly typed. The signature and quality of the stationery would suggest that the man is of some prominence.

RECORDED & INDEXED

As you know, I very seldom recommend to you a book, because so few books have been written which really cover the penetration of world conspirators into American life. I have in my hand, as I write you this letter, the most sensational book I have ever read on the subject of Stalinism, Communism, and the attempt on the part of the international revolutionists to take over our nation.

12-43 17-R9
17th 1943

The title of this book is "THE RED DECADE." It contains 423 pages. It deals with over 2000 individuals and organizations which are promoting revolutionary conspiracy in the United States.

It names hundreds of college professors, so-called liberal clergymen, political jobholders and professional propagandists.

It names magazines and newspapers devoted to the promotion of the international conspiracy to overthrow America by revolution. It demonstrates that there are in America several million citizens who always put Stalin first and, no matter what the policy of our national government may be, they follow the orders of Joseph Stalin as brought to them through specially-picked leaders in the United States.

I wish I could get to you the message this book contains through the pages of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG, but if I devoted one-half of the magazine each month quoting from this book, it would take me five years to get this material to you. Frequently, I have seen books that contained not one-tenth the important material this book contains sell for $5.00.

As the war proceeds, it is the patriotic duty of every loyal American to support the war effort 100%. We are aware of the pagan tyranny of Naziism and the imperialistic ambitions of the Japanese.

We must, however, safeguard ourselves against the atheistic and international conspirators who are eating at the vitals of our American way of life by their merciless propaganda.

Do you know the story behind the treaty that Hitler signed with Stalin? The answer is in this book.

Do you know what the word "Comintern" means? That's the name of the organization which has its agents in every nation on earth with headquarters in Moscow. This diabolical instrument of world revolution is discussed at length in this book.

Do you know that the Comintern has a complete cell of organized leadership in the Hollywood movie colony? This is discussed in detail in "THE RED DECADE."

Do you know that more than one thousand newspaper writers, editors, etc. have bound themselves together in an organization for the purpose of promoting the revolution? These writers are employed in every type of literary activity, including magazines, daily newspapers, etc.

This book reveals that the Comintern has its secret organization among writers and workers employed by such great newspapers as the NEW YORK TIMES, the TIME magazine and many outstanding journals. Even though these newspapers and magazines are loyal to America, the author of this sensational book has revealed how they have crept secretly into the publishing staffs of the magazines and newspapers that we read every day.

Do you know that the Comintern is organizing the American Negro into a tremendous and bloody instrument? Their purpose in organizing the American Negroes is to turn them against their white borthers in an attempt

to use Negroes for riot mobs when the revolution comes. This book names the Negro leaders who are a part of this conspiracy.

Do you know that a certain Methodist bishop works hand in hand with this Comintern, addressing their meetings? This bishop is named and identified in "THE RED DECADE."

Do you know that in 1935 the Comintern with headquarters in Moscow gave orders to their agents in America to take over the New Deal and, today, over 2000 of their agents and tools are in the Government in Washington.

Fortunately, the material I am discussing in this letter is indexed in the back of the book, so that many of the names and subjects in which the reader is interested can be rea ily located by turning to the index and finding the exact page number.

When you have read this book, you will understand why the leaders of the Comintern shoot all opponents. Then you will understand why people like myself are so anxious to warn America and awaken America to her enemies within our gates before it is everlastingly too late.

My purpose in writing you is that I am anxious to get the truth contained in this book to the largest number of people in the shortest possible time. It is practically impossible to find this book on any book stand. Fortunately, the book is well-made and bound in durable cloth with a stiff back. The paper is the best book paper and the type is just the right size for easy reading.

Now here is the plan I have worked out whereby you can help me distribute these books to the largest number of people in the shortest possible time. They may be obtained at the following rates:

50	books	$100	4	books	$10
25	books	$ 55	2	books	$ 5
10	books	$ 25	1	book	$ 3

You may send the money with the order or order the books c. o. d. and you can pay the postman when he delivers your copy or copies.

If upon receiving this book it does not satisfy you and does not meet with your approval, all you need to do is return it and I will refund your money.

I am sorry to inform you that the supply is limited and if your order reaches me after the supply is exhausted, then I have no alternative except to return your money. My advise is that you rush your order. If you live some distance from Detroit, it might be well for you to use an airmail stamp.

The enemies will do everything in their power to prevent me from mailing you this book. My advise to you is to place your order quickly and avoid the risk of any interference with deliveries. Please use the cupon

in placing your orders.

Sincerely yours,

GLKS:U

GERALD L. K. SMITH

P. S. The current issue of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG, in which I discuss 35 sensational subjects, is on the press and should reach you about the time of this letter.

If the enclosed self-addressed envelope is used, no postage is necessary. Just fill out the coupon, insert it in the envelope and drop it in the mail. The main point is to get the truth contained in this book to the largest number of people immediately. Please help me to carry on this fight.

TEAR HERE (COUPON)

Gerald L. K. Smith (AMERICA FIRST PARTY)
P. O. Box 459
Detroit, Michigan

Please rush to me copy or copies of the book "THE RED DECADE." I am placing a cross in the square which expresses my desires.

☐ I desire---------number of copies at the rate specified in your letter

☐ I enclose $----------.

☐ I am not enclosing money but will pay the postman when he delivers the package c.o.d.

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____

[redacted] 670

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 16

PAGES REVIEWED: 94

PAGES RELEASED: 50

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

7 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) DEPT OF THE ARMY, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-297

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

Detroit - Michigan
July 24, 1943

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP2 [illegible]

Director, FBI

Re: [redacted]

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated July 10, 1943, Bureau file 62-43818, in which letter the Bureau requested information relative to the above individual, [redacted] Subject GERALD L. K. SMITH, subject of an "INTERNAL SECURITY - G, CUSTODIAL DETENTION, SEDITION" case.

This is to advise that [redacted]

INDEXED
D163

ALL b7c, b7D

62-43818-298
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 27 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

Letter to the Director (STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL) July 24, 1943

[redacted]

b7
b7

Inasmuch as [redacted]

It is being respectfully requested that the Detroit Office be notified as soon as possible if this arrangement meets the approval of the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

[redacted] b7c

66-1345

John S. Bugas, SAC

RECORDED

(9 -43818 -298

[redacted]:mah b2

~~66-2542-3-15-1-8~~

August 4, 1943

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/92 BY SP-9805/LC

SAC, Detroit

RE: [redacted]

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated July 24, 1943, submitting background information concerning the above named individual and requesting [redacted] b2 b7D

You are advised that it is not necessary to obtain Bureau authorization to [redacted]

You must exercise caution in your dealings and contacts with this informant to avoid any incidents which might possibly embarrass the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc: [redacted] (sent direct)

b2

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 11
AUG 5 1943 P. M.

173

20 AUG 16 1943

ORIGINAL COPY FILED

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
July 8 - 1943

Director, FBI

Re: FOREIGN INSPIRED AGITATION AMONG NEGROES IN THE DETROIT AREA

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

Dear Sir:

On July 1, 1943, Gerald L. K. Smith telephoned the writer and asked if he could come to this office relative to the above. I advised him I would be glad to see him. He called at approximately 12 Noon and handed me a memorandum entitled "Gerald L. K. Smith Makes Statement Concerning Race Riots", copies of which are attached.

This is forwarded for the Bureau's information.

Yours very truly,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

JSB:CBL
Enclosures (3)
cc - 62-1126

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DATE 10/4/82 BY [illegible]

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818-299
D 99 26 JUL 10 1943

~~34 AUG 2 1943~~

Press Release
From: AMERICA FIRST PARTY
Detroit, Michigan

Detroit, Michigan
July 1, 1943
For Immediate Release

GERALD L. K. SMITH MAKES STATEMENT CONCERNING RACE RIOT

The thought that I had anything to do with the Detroit race riot is almost too ridiculous to entertain, and the accusation is almost too extreme to answer. However, I am happy to point out some interesting sidelights in connection with these accusations.

Mr. Adler, in one of his articles concerning the background of the race riots, referred to the time the America First Party picketed Mr. Langston Hughes, a poet. My followers picketed Langston Hughes because he is a Communist, an atheistic Communist. Among his poems is one entitled "Goodbye Christ." Typical of the poem is the following stanza:

"Goodbye — Christ Jesus Lord God Jehovah,
Beat it on away from here now.
Make way for a new guy with no religion at all—
A real guy named
Marx Communist Lenin Peasant Stalin Worker ME—
I said, ME!"

At the time our people picketed Mr. Hughes, I wrote a letter to all the colored preachers in the city commending their leadership and urging the colored churches to guard their people against such revolutionists as Langston Hughes. Hughes has been so much a part of the Communist movement that he was one of 29 to sign a messange of congratulation to Stalin following the Russian purges.

I invite the press and the Christian leaders of the City of Detroit to investigate Rev. Claude Williams.

The article which Mr. Williams wrote, and which has been quoted by Mr. Adler, appeared in a magazine that has no official recognition among Protestants. The magazine is bigoted and anti-Catholic in the extreme. In the same article in which Mr. Williams attacks me, as quoted by Mr. Adler, he also attacks the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Trade Union League. The magazine itself has an editorial policy which attacks the Catholic Church in every issue, not a branch of the Catholic Church, but the official Hierarchy as such.

Claude Williams is full of misstatements and I invitate the opportunity to meet his accusations before any one of the following groups or agencies:

1. The Department of Justice.
2. A Committee made up of ten pastors of ten of the largest negro churches in Detroit.
3. The Naval Intelligence.
4. The Military Intelligence.
5. The Dies Committee.
6. The Mayor's Committee.
7. The Attorney General of Michigan.
8. Any one or all three managing editors of the 3 Detroit newspapers.
9. Archbishop Mooney.
10. The official Board of the Presbyterian Church of Michigan.

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DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-8005/aC

ENCLOSURE 62-43812-299

Furthermore, I will meet any accuser who points a finger at me in the presence of any one of the above listed individuals or groups. The more this thing is investigated, the better it will suit me.

Gerald L. K. Smith (siggned)

[redacted]
7/23/43

RECORDED 2-43818-299

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8BTJ

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your information, there is transmitted herewith a copy of a statement dated July 1, 1943, entitled, "Gerald L. K. Smith Makes Statement Concerning Race Riot," which was referred to the Bureau's Detroit Office on July 1, 1943, by subject Smith. Smith voluntarily contacted the Bureau's Detroit Office advising he wished to make available this statement which he considers summarizes his position in connection with the recent disturbances at Detroit.

The "Mr. Adler" mentioned in Smith's statement is undoubtedly Mr. Philip A. Adler who recently wrote a series of articles for the Detroit News, purportedly on the causes and factors contributing to the Detroit race riot. In one of his articles Mr. Adler made reference to an article entitled, "Hell Brewers of Detroit," written by Reverend Claude Williams and featured in the April, 1943, issue of the publication known as "The Protestant." In this article Williams accused Smith, among others, of fomenting racial prejudice in Detroit, and you will observe that in his statement Smith makes reference to Reverend Williams and this article.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Assistant Attorney General
Kendell Berge
Enclosure

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
FILED
JUL 24 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUL 24 2 04 PM '43
RECEIVED READING ROOM
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

34 AUG 2 1943

LE [redacted]

b7c

Gerald L. K. Smith Offers 'Bargain Rates' On 'Wonderful Book' by Anti-Sovieteer

By Tom Dombrowski
(Special to the Daily Worker)

DETROIT, July 22.—Gerald L. K. Smith, Number 1 fascist demagogue in Detroit, introduced a novelty at his rally, Tuesday, July 20, at the Maccabees Building Auditorium. In addition to the usual fanfare and the same old cliches which characterize every meeting, he offered a bargain to his listeners.

Everyone who offered five dollars or more would get absolutely free, that "wonderful book, 'The Red Decade' written by Eugene Lyons." This offer came after the audience had sneered and jeered at every mention of the word "Jew" and booed every mention of Communism and socialism fervently. However, Gerald L. K. Smith suffered no qualms of conscience as he peddled the poison written by a Jewish "Socialist."

[The Daily Worker made public on Tuesday the fact that Eugene Lyons, whose book is being spread by Gerald L. K. Smith, has been designated by the Dubinsky-Rose clique in control of the American Labor Party as delegate to its Judicial Convention as well as member of its county committee.]

During his long harangue, Smith charged the Communist Party with the diabolical plot to incite "ignorant Negroes" to kill him and placed full responsibility upon the "Reds" for the riots. The subject of his speech was, "The Reds Tried to Kill Me June 21." In hysterical tones he announced that a complete report of the part played by the Communists was turned over to the proper authorities in Washington and that the "sensational story" would be published in the July issue of the "Cross and Flag."

He attacked the proposed visit of Vice-President Wallace, calling him a "screwball" and a "Communist bootlicker" and demanding that he stay out of Detroit.

He announced that the America First Party would circulate petitions to get on the Michigan ballot, and if Willkie and Roosevelt were nominated for presidency,

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DATE 10/4/82 BY [illegible]

62-[illegible]
34-NOT RECORDED

This is a clipping from page 3 of the DAILY WORKER
Date 7-23-43
Clipped at the Seat of Government

FIVE [redacted]

b1c

own candidate. He offered Reynolds, Nye or Wheeler as candidates who would get his support.

He predicted that Charles Coughlin would some day break his silence and announced that the next issue of the "Cross and Flag" would carry a full page eulogy of Coughlin, suitable for framing.

He spent most of the time denouncing Claude Williams of the People's Institute of Applied Religion, who had exposed his activities in an article entitled "Hell-Brewers of Detroit" which appeared in a recent issue of the "Protestant."

DIES' STOOGE HARANGUES

In an attempt to build up the meeting, Smith had sent out announcements stating that Communism would be exposed by a "former intimate of Earl Browder" and the "head of the Young Communist League," Kenneth Goff, Dies Committee stoolpigeon.

In a stupid and dull repetition of all the Dies canards with heavy emphasis on free love and immorality, Goff attacked the New Deal and charged the United States Government with the responsibility for the death of his brother reported to have died of malnutrition in a Japanese internment camp. He charged that the government was more interested in sending planes to Russia than in feeding its soldiers interned in Japan.

He also accused the government of failing in its responsibilities to the boys who fought in Bataan by leaving them to their fate.

Goff also reiterated Smith's statements that the Communists were responsible for the anti-Negro riots by encouraging hatred of the white by the Negro and urging intimacy and familiarity between Negro and white. He referred twice to Jews in his speech, which became a cue for hisses and insulting remarks.

LINK TO SEDITIONISTS

The close link between the fascist Smith America First Party and the other seditious organizations in America under Federal indictment is obvious by the profuseness of the literature distributed after the rally. The special defense number of "America Speaks," edited by William Kullgren, one of the 28 charged with sedition by the Washington Grand Jury, was distributed free. It was entirely devoted to the defense of all 28 indicted and all the organizations and publications pronounced as seditious. Among the publications listed as seditious is Smith's "Cross and Flag."

The Detroit Chapter of "American Mothers," also named in the indictment passed out leaflets entitled: "Don't stab our boys in the back" opposing any international cooperation under the guise of an attack on the "Union Now" movement.

Also distributed free was the former "American Vindicator," published by Senator Reynolds, now known as the "National Record," which among other vicious articles, included an attack on Mrs. Roosevelt, charging her with the anti-Negro riots and the speech by Congressman Rankin breathing hate to the Negro people and encouraging attacks on them.

But the place of honor was reserved to the "Red Decade," which was sold after the meeting together with the "Cross and the Flag."

Another item distributed was the reprint of the speech by Jeannette Rankin on Dec. 8, 1942, the burden of which was to blame the government for forcing Japan to defend herself. Rep. Rankin was the only Congressman to vote against the declaration of war against Japan.

In addition, other materials were passed out surreptitiously to certain picked people.

Before the meeting had closed, Smith announced that he was planning to get Congressman Clare Hoffman to be the guest speaker at the next rally. The audience cheered this announcement. During the meeting, Smith called for a show of hands of Catholics, Presbyterians, Baptists and Lutherans. The largest group was composed of Catholics bearing out the fact that he had taken the Coughlin supporters to his bosom. He expressed pleasure that there were so many Baptists from Frank Norris' church where the Klan elements are strong.

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
July 24, 1943

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-5 [illegible]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
[redacted]
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth below the substance of information obtained from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, which information was received by the Detroit Office during the period from July 10, 1943, through July 22, 1943. b7D

Informant stated that during this entire period of time SMITH has more or less busied himself in contacting individuals in an attempt to obtain further information relative to the Communistic activities of one Reverend CLAUDE WILLIAMS. It is being noted that SMITH has openly accused WILLIAMS of being a Communist and has also stated that WILLIAMS was unjustly accusing him of inciting the recent race riot in Detroit; that in fact it was WILLIAMS and the Communist Party who had actually instigated the recent race riot.

Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that SMITH was making definite efforts to have the America First Party placed on the official ballot in the State of Michigan in the next election, and that in fact SMITH, at a recent meeting, had proposed to his audience that his business manager, BERNARD DOMAN, be selected as their candidate for mayor.

Informant stated further that he had received information to the effect that Mrs. ERNST LUNDEEN had arrived in Detroit on July 22 for the purpose of visiting Mr. and Mrs. SMITH.

RECORDED & INDEXED 100-43415-3
B I
AUG 26 1943

Informant advised that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had written a letter to United States Senator REYNOLDS requesting information contained in the files of the Dies Committee relative to WILLIAMS. REYNOLDS is alleged to have [redacted] b2D

14 AUG 10 1943 477 COPIES DESTROYED

83 OCT 13 1964

Op. 7

telephonically contacted SMITH that he had been successful in securing a copy of the Dies Committee information and was mailing the same on July 15, 1943. Informant stated that he happened to be in SMITH's office when this conversation took place.

Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had contacted an attorney in Detroit, Michigan, with the idea in mind of possibly instituting libel proceedings against WALTER WINCHELL, radio announcer, for alleged libelous statements made by WINCHELL in one of his broadcasts. The particular broadcast which SMITH was referring to was the broadcast made by WINCHELL in which WINCHELL made the remark that SMITH had stamped on the American Flag in front of an audience in Buffalo, New York, at the time of one of his speeches in that city.

Under date of July 20, 1943, Informant stated that SMITH, in a conversation with Mrs. KNOWLES, had stated that in SMITH's opinion Mrs. KNOWLES should sponsor a meeting and invite Reverend CLARE HOFFMAN to attend said meeting; that SMITH would see to it that Mrs. KNOWLES would be properly compensated for any expenses incurred by her organization.

On July 17, SMITH's office was contacted by an individual who stated his name was BREEN (phonetic) from the New York Times and this individual was apparently interrogating DOMAN as to some meeting to be held in New York at the Carnegie Hall on August 6. No other information was available relative to this particular incident.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas.

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted] jt
62-1126 b2c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 62-1194

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW ORLEANS, LA.	7/23/43	7/13/43	[redacted]:hs b2

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY - G CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted], stated he was not responsible for bringing Subject and HUEY LONG together, could not furnish information concerning SMITH'S background and associates. b2c b2D

RUC.

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] Washington, D.C., dated May 6, 1943. b2c

DETAILS: AT SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA: ~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

[redacted], [redacted] advised he met SMITH when he, [redacted] SMITH was a member of these committees, which were supposed to alleviate the unemployment conditions in the vicinity. [redacted] advised that he was not responsible for bringing SMITH and LONG together, but that LONG some years ago in New Orleans asked [redacted] what he knew about SMITH. [redacted] told LONG he only knew SMITH was good at making speeches and LONG thereupon requested SMITH to make one. [redacted] said he could not furnish the writer with any background information on subject nor state who subject's associates were. [redacted] only vaguely remembers SMITH was involved in some trouble with his Church in Shreveport. b2c b2D

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43218-301

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2 - New Orleans

b2c

35 JUL 26 1943

AUG 4 1943

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/5/82 BY [illegible]

[redacted]
100-8486

United States Department of Justice
1435 K Street, Northwest
Washington, D. C.

July 30, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was
THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - G.
SEDITION
(Bureau File #62-43818)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated July 20, 1943 at Detroit, Michigan, which resets an undeveloped lead for this office to ascertain from the Office of War Information if reports had been released to the effect that war casualties for this year will amount to one million or a ratio of one out of every two men serving overseas, which lead was originally set forth in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 16, 1943 at Buffalo, New York.

In this connection, attention is directed to Bureau letter dated June 29, 1943, a copy of which was furnished the Detroit Field Division and which instructed that the undeveloped lead quoted above, set forth in the report of agent [redacted] be disregarded at this time.

Pursuant thereto, the lead contained in the report of Special Agent [redacted] is not being covered, in the absence of specific instructions thereto by the Bureau.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mlw

Very truly yours,

GUY HOTTEL
Special Agent in Charge

cc - Detroit (62-1126)

RECORDED 162-43818-30
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32 AUG 3 1943

4 AUG 13 1943

FINE

ALL b2c

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

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☐ For your information: _____

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This Case Originated At DETROIT, MICHIGAN DETROIT File No. 62-1126

Report Made At	Date Made	Period Made	Report Made By
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	7/20/43	5/11,14,15,19, 6/26/43	[redacted] b7c

Title	Character
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, With Aliases, Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY - C CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

Synopsis of Facts: [redacted]

[redacted] states that SMITH went on a speaking tour from May 25, 1943 through June 5, 1943, SMITH to speak in Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois. SMITH is apparently engaged in somewhat of a feud with ELIZABETH DILLING at the present time although the exact cause is not yet known. Informant states further that he has received information to the effect that SMITH has been in telephonic contact with Congressman NYE and Congressman HOFFMAN. Informant of Detroit Office attended two meetings held by SMITH in Detroit and states that no remarks of a seditious nature were made at these meetings. SMITH visited [redacted], in Denver, from June 18, 1943 through June 21, 1943, at which time he apparently discussed

b7D

PUBLICATION FILE

EXCL BEHIND FILE

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~~PERTINENT RECORDING~~

Approved and Forwarded	Special Agent in Charge			
	John L Burgess	62-	43818	307

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2 New Orleans (62-1194)
2 Charlotte (100-3636)
2 Baltimore
2 Chicago (100-7744)
2 Cleveland (100-7463)
~~1 USA Detroit~~
3 Detroit

cc Rowe
cc Berge
8/11/43

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41 JUL 28 1943

b7c

3 copies behind file D133

(Detroit File 62-1126)

with [redacted] his future plans. [redacted] b7c

received from a confidential source, are set forth herein. SMITH denies participation in race riot, which occurred in Detroit recently, and has written Dies Committee to that effect.

- P -

b7c

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 5, 1943, at Detroit, Michigan.

DETAILS: Reporting Agent has maintained close contact with [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, and Informant, since the submission of the last report, has submitted the following information to the Detroit Office at various times: b7D

Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that SMITH was to address meetings in the following places on the following-named dates:

Erie, Pennsylvania	May 25
Chicago, Illinois	May 28
Toledo, Ohio	May 30
Fort Wayne, Indiana	June 1
St. Henry, Ohio	June 6

At the time this information was originally received by the Detroit Office, Informant stated that there was a great possibility that these meetings would not be held inasmuch as he had noticed of late that SMITH apparently had had trouble in various towns in which he was to speak in securing appropriate meeting halls. In line with the information received from Informant, however, requests were made of the various Field Offices to conduct appropriate investigations at the time these meetings were supposed to be held.

Informant stated further that he had received information to the effect that Mr. and Mrs. GERALD WINROD, well known to the Bureau, were apparently in the vicinity of Detroit, Michigan, some time between May 10 and May 20, 1943, and it was Informant's impression that SMITH had had lunch with the WINROD's on several occasions.

Information was also received from this same Informant to the effect that SMITH is apparently engaged in somewhat of a feud with

(Detroit File 62-1126)

Mrs. ELIZABETH DILLING, of Chicago, who is well known to the Bureau. The exact cause of this feud is not known at the present time, however, Informant stated he would endeavor to ascertain the reason for the apparent falling-out between SMITH and DILLING.

Informant received information to the effect that on several occasions of late, when SMITH was attempting to negotiate for the rental of halls in Chicago through Captain SOUTHARD, also well known to the Bureau, DILLING apparently took some steps in an attempt to hinder the Southard Committee from renting the halls in Chicago.

SMITH allegedly has telephonically contacted Senator NYE at his office in Washington, D. C., at which time SMITH discussed with NYE the possibility of NYE's speaking at one of several meetings to be conducted by SMITH. SMITH is also alleged to have contacted Representative CLARE HOFFMAN, of Michigan, at his Washington Office with this same thought in mind.

Information was received from this same source to the effect that Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN was in Detroit, Michigan, May 31. for the apparent purpose of conferring with SMITH.

On June 18, 1943, Informant advised the Detroit Office that SMITH had left on that same date for Denver, Colorado, for the purpose of visiting with [redacted]. SMITH apparently was to confer with [redacted] relative to their future plans. It was ascertained that SMITH returned to the city of Detroit the evening of June 21 or the morning of June 22.

At the present time SMITH'S office force seems to be quite busy in distributing copies of the book "Red Decade". this book having apparently been purchased through the Bobbs Merrill, New York City, through one [redacted]

Information was also received from this same source to the effect that SMITH was to have a small gathering at the Book Cadillac Hotel on the evening of June 29, for the specific purpose of celebrating his wedding anniversary; that in all probability SMITH would also make some announcement relative to his attitude in the recent race riots which occurred in Detroit, Michigan, on June 20 and 21. Informant stated that this definitely was a closed meeting.

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, attended meetings sponsored by SMITH on May 11, 1943, and

(Detroit File 62-1126)

June 8, 1943. Informant submitted reports to this office, which reports are being set forth verbatim as follows:

"May 11, 1943

Meeting was held in the auditorium of Maccabees Bldg., lower lobby floor. Entrance was not denied to any person. About 1500 persons attended with every seat taken.

Smith: Stated that at this meeting any person signing a yearly pledge of $12 would receive a founders certificate and a copy of "Famine". Made plea for funds to carry on work. Stated he would speak later in Buffalo & Denver.

Smith asked if anyone was taking notes to identify themselves. One person stated he was employed by Acme Court Reporters. Smith then asked who employed that concern. When the individual stated that he did not know, Smith asked that he be escorted out of the meeting. The crowd then spotted another party who said "Guess I'll scram". He was also taking notes.

Mrs. Knowles of the Mothers of America told about her fights to gain free transportation for soldiers, using other countries as comparison. Stated that she is starting a campaign to eliminate Prof Ruggl textbook from Detroit schools.

Sweeney spent most of his time telling the audience how good Smith is and struck the idea of "Smith for President---or at least Senator". Stated that the A.F.P. will support any person against Roosevelt for President who has ideals similar to A.F.P. and will sponsor their own man if conditions are not favorable. Speech was anti-semetic stating in various ways that the Jews are now preparing for a financial coup after the war instead of supporting the war now.

Smith told that he purchased a can of salmon on the "black market" marked packed in Japan and was told that this merchandise was shipped to U.S. in Russian ships in exchange for our rubber factory.

Meeting attended by older persons from 30-70 years of age and apparently whole families or groups of friends, Men and women seem equally divided. Only one person recognized, TANNHEILER, a local real estate salesman employed by Max Ramm & Co. He is either on probation now or awaiting trial for embezzelment and fraud. Seems to be active and attended with four men & two women."

(Detroit File 62-1126)

"Tuesday evening 8:00 - 6/8/43 -

Meeting held at Maccabees Bldg. auditorium. Doors opened to admit one person at a time. Cards (as attached) were demanded from each person entering.

About 1600 persons attended.

Speakers: G. L. K. S.
Dr. L. L. Marion
Chas. A. Madden

Capt. Grace was not there. It was explained that his duties required his presence at another point.

Smith: Good portion of speech for funds. Told about picketing Wilkie speech. Told about Buffalo paper criticizing him and retraction statement.

Marion: Eulogy of Smith. Biblical phrases to show famine, etc. Recited Declaration of Independence from memory. Later stated he also knows Patrick Henry address. Seemed like a small boy "showing off".

There were no organized plans submitted other than publicity. Smith to go to Denver then to California to speak. Wanted an additional donation for trip. Will bring Hoffman & Fish here to speak.

Meeting adjourned with usual salute to flag and book & magazine salestalk."

Informant exhibited to Reporting Agent a Certificate of Membership, which informant received from The America First party upon payment of the fee. This certificate is printed on paper approximately 8½" and bears the following data:

"America First Party. This is to certify that _____ has been listed in the National Headquarters of the America First Party as one of the original supporters and aids in founding and extending the organization activities of the America First Party in preparation for entering the America First Party legally and officially on the ballots of the various states.

Signed Gerald L. K. Smith
Director of Organization."

Informant also turned over to the Detroit Office various pieces of literature which he had received from the America First Party in the past several weeks, which material is being enclosed in an envelope for the information of the Bureau.

Informant turned over to the Detroit Office copies of the bulletin entitled "The Cross and The Flag" for February, March and May, which copies are being enclosed for the information of the Bureau.

Informant stated that in his opinion during the time he was in attendance at the above-mentioned meetings no un-American statements were made which could possibly be construed as being seditious in nature.

[redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, stated he had been in a position whereby he had been able to secure copies of various [redacted] Inasmuch as these communications are more or less self-explanatory, they are being set forth verbatim hereinafter:

[redacted]

b7c
b7D

[redacted]

4-750 (2-7-79)

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☐ For your information: _____

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FBI/DOJ

[redacted]

At the Book Cadillac Hotel, it was ascertained that a Mr. and Mrs. A. W. DILLING registered in room 1647 of the Book Cadillac Hotel on March 6, 1943, and checked out on March 8, 1943. Upon registering, these individuals gave the address of 545 Essex Street, Kennelworth, Illinois. It was ascertained that during the time these individuals were at the hotel they made three calls to Subject SMITH and one call to MURRAY J. KNOWLES, 15500 Piedmont Street, Detroit, Michigan. This number was obtained through [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau. [redacted]

[redacted]

ALL
b7c, b7D

(Detroit File 62-1126)

[redacted] b7c b7D

ENCLOSURES

TO THE BUREAU

Copies of The Cross and the Flag for February, March and May, 1943, as well as for June, 1943.

Miscellaneous literature turned over to the Detroit Office by [redacted] b7D

(Detroit File 62-1126)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE BALTIMORE FIELD DIVISION

* AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

Will endeavor to identify the article written by HENRY L. MENKEN, which is referred to by [redacted], and in which MENKEN speaks of subject as the foremost "rabble-rouser" in America. If thought advisable, will interview HENRY L. MENKEN.

THE CHARLOTTE FIELD DIVISION

* AT CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Will contact [redacted] and ascertain whether he has any knowledge concerning subject and his background.

THE CHICAGO FIELD DIVISION

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Will advise in report form the results of the meeting addressed by SMITH on May 28, 1943.

THE CLEVELAND FIELD DIVISION

AT CLEVELAND, OHIO

Will advise in report form the results of meetings addressed by SMITH at Toledo, Ohio, on May 30, 1943, and in St. Henry, Ohio, on June 6, 1943.

THE HOUSTON FIELD DIVISION

* AT HOUSTON, TEXAS

Will endeavor to locate [redacted]

All b7c

(Detroit File 62-1126)

THE INDIANAPOLIS FIELD DIVISION

AT INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

Will report the result of the meeting addressed by SMITH at Fort Wayne, on June 1, 1943.

THE NEW ORLEANS FIELD DIVISION

* AT SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

Will contact [redacted] concerning his knowledge of subject, his background and associates.

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

*Will interview [redacted], for pertinent information in their files concerning GERALD L. K. SMITH.

In connection with the request of the Bureau, efforts should be made to locate and interview [redacted] Investigation should be conducted along the lines suggested in Bureau letter to the New York Field Office dated June 16, 1943.

THE PITTSBURGH FIELD DIVISION

AT ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA

Will report the results of the meeting addressed by SMITH at Erie, Pennsylvania, on May 25, 1943.

THE SAN ANTONIO FIELD DIVISION

AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Will, in accordance with the request of the Technical Laboratories, as noted in a letter from the Laboratory to the San Antonio Office, dated June 8, 1943, forward to the Bureau the original letter allegedly sent by Subject SMITH for the purpose of conducting an appropriate examination by the Technical Laboratory.

ALL
b2c

(Detroit File 62-1126)

THE WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

* AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Will endeavor to ascertain from the OWI office if any Washington reports have been released to the effect that war casualties for this year will amount to one million or a ratio of one out of every two men serving overseas.

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Will maintain contact with [redacted] and [redacted] and report any information furnished by them to the Bureau.

b7D

TITLE: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH

SPECIAL AGENT: [redacted] b7c

DATE: 7-20-43 VIOLATION: INTERNAL SECURITY

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b2c

4-750 (2-7-79)

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☒ For your information: Per your March 18, 1982 letter this enclosure was not xeroxed for release.

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FBI/DOJ

8-11-43
62-43818

RECORDED 62-43818-307

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

Reference is made to our previous correspondence and to the reports heretofore made available to you in connection with the investigation of this subject.

For your further information, there is transmitted with this memorandum a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on July 20, 1943. Also forwarded are photostatic copies of the February, March, May, and June, 1943, issues of subject's publication, "The Cross and the Flag."

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc - Assistant Attorney General
Wendell Berge

Enclosure

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DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]/MC

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DEPT OF JUSTICE
BI
RECEIVED
AUG 15 3 [illegible]

FOREIGN ASSOCIATES
W. M. DUCHÉ & SONS (U. S.) LTD.
LONDON · GLASGOW · MANCHESTER

BOSTON
CHICAGO
CLEVELAND

F.B.I. Washington, D.C.

[redacted]

b7c

You're probably [illegible] one, but
[illegible]

W. M. DUCHÉ & SONS, INC.
[illegible] HUDSON STREET

NEW YORK

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

8-14-43 EPB
[illegible]

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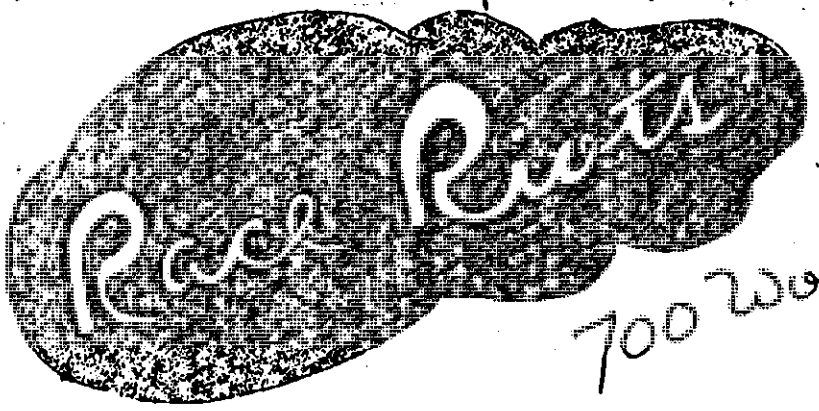
The CROSS and The FLAG

GERALD L. K. SMITH, *Editor*

P. O. BOX 459

DETROIT,-31-MICHIGAN

...31 to 300 Killed in Detroit



700 Wounded

What is the REAL Truth about these RIOTS?

Dear Fellow American:

You have been hearing about the race riots in Detroit, but you have not heard much. Most of the sensational truth has not been printed Among the rumors that have gone out, are the following:

1. Women raped at Belle Isle Park.
2. Sailors stabbed.
3. 200 stores demolished.
4. 700 wounded in race battle.
5. Negroes pulled out of street cars and busses and killed in the street.
6. High school graduates menaced at commencement exercises.
7. 6000 soldiers police the streets of Detroit.
8. Thousands of negroes afraid to go to work in war factories.
9. Thousands of whites refuse to work beside negroes in factories.
10. 10,000 machine gun bullets fired into negro hotel.

These and hundreds of other rumors and reports have gone out.

What is the Truth?

In the next issue of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG, the monthly magazine I edit, I shall discuss this sensational riot in detail, telling many facts which you have been unable to read.

IF you subscribe NOW for THE CROSS AND THE FLAG you will receive THE SPECIAL RACE RIOT EDITION.

Tear Off Here

Gerald L. K. Smith, Editor
THE CROSS AND THE FLAG
Post Office Box 459
Detroit (31) Michigan

I want to be sure to get the next issue of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG dealing with the sensational Detroit race riots. The square containing my cross (x) indicates my desire.

☐ I enclose $2.00 for 1 yr. subscription to THE CROSS AND THE FLAG.

☐ I enclose $1.00 for 6 mo. subscription to THE CROSS AND THE FLAG.

Name _____

Address _____

T. M. DUCHE & SONS, INC., NEW YORK #13
117 Hudson Street,

, #13

July 20, 1943

The Cross & Flag
P. O. Box 459
Detroit, Michigan

Attn: Mr. Gerald L. K. Smith, Editor

Gentlemen:

I have a circular from your office soliciting a subscription to some publication you have chosen to call "The Cross and the Flag". I have no idea how my name reached your mailing list, but it will serve no good purpose for you to keep it there, because I would not be the least bit interested in any line of activity with which Mr. Smith is connected.

Yours very truly,

[redacted] b7c

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[redacted] 62-43818 - 308

RECORDED

August 14, 1943

[redacted]

T. M. Duche and Sons, Incorporated
117-119 Hudson Street
New York, New York

Dear [redacted]

I have for acknowledgment your communication of recent date with enclosures.

Your thoughtfulness and interest in making this material available are indeed appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

173

AUG 19 1943

[redacted]

ALL DOC

July 30, 1943

FBI

Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

The enclosed is the fourth mailing of the same circular sent to this office, addressed to the executives.

Am sending it on to you, in the event you wish to investigate.

Very truly yours

WESTCHESTER SERVICE CORPORATION

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DEFERRED RECORDING

Ack Rec 8/10/43

1 ENCL

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FBI/DOJ

RECORD [redacted]

62-43818-309

August 10, 1943

Westchester Service Corporation
Foot of Ludlow Street
Yonkers, New York

Gentlemen:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 30, 1943, as well as its enclosure, certain mimeographed material received by [redacted] of your company from Detroit, Michigan. b7c

Your courtesy and interest in making this material available are much appreciated and you may be assured that the information furnished by you is being given appropriate attention.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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DATE 10/5/82 BY [illegible]

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8/12/43
WA Detroit

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AUG 10 1943 P.M.
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[redacted]

[redacted]

RECORDED 62-43818-309

Date: August 17, 1943

To: SAC, Detroit

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your information and assistance in connection with your investigation of this case, there are forwarded herewith photostatic copies of a circular entitled, "Race Riots," apparently being distributed by subject Smith.

The original of this circular was made available to the Bureau by the Westchester Service Corporation, Foot of Ludlow Street, Yonkers, New York, which, in its letter of transmittal, advised that the circular had been received in an envelope postmarked at Detroit, Michigan, and addressed to [redacted] who is apparently an officer of the Westchester Service Corporation.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Enclosures

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

40 AUG 20 1943

ALL b7c

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
August 12, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acors
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
[redacted] Mr. Stanford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-9870/MC

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION -- SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth below the substance of information received from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau. This information has been received by the Detroit Office during the period from July 22 through August 10, 1943. b7D

Informant stated he had received information to the effect that SMITH had telephonically contacted [redacted] (phonetic) at Barington, Illinois, in an attempt to locate a [redacted] who was supposed to be staying at this particular residence. SMITH was advised that he could contact [redacted] at the San Antonio Hotel in San Antonio, Texas. No further information has been received relative to this information, but informant stated he would endeavor to ascertain exactly who SMITH was referring to. b7c

On August 9, 1943, Informant stated he had received information to the effect that SMITH had been in contact with a [redacted] of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, apparently a friend of SMITH'S, and that [redacted] was to make arrangements for a meeting which SMITH was to address in Pittsburgh on August 17, 1943. Informant continued by relating he had received information to the effect that on August 9, 1943, SMITH had been in telephonic contact with the personal secretary of Senator NYE, and that at this time SMITH had advised the secretary that he, SMITH, had been approached by an individual giving his name as HENSHAW (phonetic) and that HENSHAW had represented himself as being a close friend of NYE, and that NYE had more or less told the individual to contact SMITH. SMITH was advised by the secretary that HENSHAW was OK to deal with, but that he was very stubborn. b7c

DEFERRED

SMITH, in a conversation with NYE's secretary, expressed some

FOR DEFENSE BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

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doubt as to the activities of one [redacted] SMITH, at that time, requested the secretary to attempt to ascertain the exact activities of [redacted] and suggested that probably MARTIN DIES' office might have some information concerning this individual. Informant stated that also during this conversation he happened to overhear SMITH commenting to the secretary concerning the book "Undercover" recently published by one JOHN ROY CARLSON, in which book SMITH is referred to in rather derogatory terms.

SMITH stated that he very definitely was of the opinion that the information set forth in the book should be made the Subject of a Senatorial investigation and that in all likelihood, the book was being backed by WALTER WINCHELL. SMITH suggested the NYE "and the rest of them" attempt to call for a full dress investigation into the facts surrounding the publication of the book.

Informant stated that he was under the impression that on August 9, Senator NYE had been in Detroit and at that time arrangements were being made to have lunch with [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company, and Mrs. LUNDEEN, well-known to the Bureau. These arrangements were apparently made through [redacted] personal secretary to HENRY FORD. During SMITH'S conversation with [redacted] SMITH made the remark that he hesitated to ask [redacted] to do anything for him inasmuch as he realized [redacted] position and he did not want to inspire any reactions; that [redacted] had a lot of peculiar ideas about the situation and that he, apparently referring to [redacted] was ashamed to have the world and his friends know that such a thing exists because FORD and all of them enjoyed such a fine reputation over the whole country.

This office has no definite information as to whether or not NYE did meet with FORD, SMITH, and [redacted]

Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that SMITH was to address a meeting at Buffalo, New York, on Monday, August 16, and that he was also to address a meeting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on August 17. The Buffalo and Pittsburgh Offices have been requested to appropriately cover these meetings.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS
SAC

[redacted]mam
62-1126

AW
b7c

JPM:MIP

RECORDED

62-43818-311

August 19, 1943

[redacted]

SAC, Detroit

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

[redacted]

INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

b7D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/92 BY SP-9875/

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of August 12, 1943, concerning subject Gerald L. K. Smith, summarizing information pertaining to subject recently made available to your office by [redacted] b7D

It is noted that in the second paragraph of your letter you state that the informant advised some time between July 22 and August 10, 1943, that he had received information to the effect that Smith had telephonically contacted a [redacted] (phonetic) at Barrington, Illinois, in an endeavor to locate a [redacted] who was supposed to be staying at this residence. The informant further advised that Smith was unable to contact [redacted] and that he was informed that [redacted] was then at San Antonio, Texas.

b7C

For your information the informant was undoubtedly referring [redacted] who, until several weeks ago, resided in the home of [redacted] who resides at Barrington, Illinois. During the past few years [redacted] has achieved a good bit of notoriety in connection with his alleged pro-Nazi activities at New York and Chicago, Illinois. While his activities appear to be somewhat dormant at the present time, he is under investigation by the Chicago Office and the Bureau is very much interested in following all of his pertinent activities.

For the information of the Chicago Office, Gerald L. K. Smith, a resident of Detroit, Michigan, is the founder and leader of an organization known as the America First Party, which reportedly is composed to a certain extent of remnants of the America First Committee. During recent months, Smith has been active as a public

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tam
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
AUG 19 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

12 AUG 25 1943

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speaker in a number of cities throughout the Midwest and his activities are, at the request of the Department, under investigation by the Detroit Office. This investigation is being carried out under the theory of the Sedition Statutes.

Both your Office and the Chicago Office should be on the alert for any future contacts between Smith and [redacted], and in the event such contacts are made the Bureau should be promptly advised as to their nature, etc. b7c

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

CC - Chicago

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

San Antonio, Texas
August 11, 1943

[redacted]

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was,
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] Detroit, Michigan, dated July 20, 1943, setting forth a lead for the San Antonio Field Division to forward to the Bureau an original letter allegedly written by the subject SMITH for the purpose of conducting an appropriate examination by the Technical Laboratory.

Reference is further made to my letter to the Bureau dated June 26, 1943 marked attention technical laboratory, transmitting to the Technical Laboratory the original letter for further examination.

Inasmuch as no further investigation remains to be done in the San Antonio Field Division, this case is being considered referred upon completion to the office of origin.

Very truly yours,

DEFERRED - PENDING

R. C. Suran

R. C. SURAN,
SAC

[redacted] jmp
cc - Detroit

ALL b7c

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-9BTJ/mc

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162-45318-315

F B I

31 AUG 18 1943

(8)

[redacted]

August 18, 1943

SAC, Detroit

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of August 12, 1943, setting forth the substance of information concerning this subject furnished your Office by [redacted] during the period from July 22 through August 10, 1943. b7D

The following paragraph appears in your letter:

"Informant stated that he was under the impression that on August 9, Senator NYE had been in Detroit and at that time arrangements were being made to have lunch with [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company, and Mrs. LUNDEEN, well-known to the Bureau. These arrangements were apparently made through [redacted] personal secretary to HENRY FORD. During SMITH'S conversation with [redacted] SMITH made the remark that he hesitated to ask [redacted] to do anything for him inasmuch as he realized [redacted] position and he did not want to inspire any reactions; that [redacted] had a lot of peculiar ideas about the situation and that he, apparently referring to [redacted] was ashamed to have the world and his friends know that such a thing exists because FORD and all of them enjoyed such a fine reputation over the whole country." b7c

Please immediately furnish the Bureau copies of that portion of the log pertaining to this informant, on which the above observations are based.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Lease

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
AUG 19 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
62-43818-313
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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN FILE NO. 100-7663

CLEVELAND, OHIO	REPORT MADE	PERIOD FOR 6/2,15 7/2/43	REPORT MADE BY
TITLE GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE of 1,000,000			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - G CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: On May 30, 1943, GERALD L. K. SMITH and Mrs. ERNEST LUNDIN spoke to approximately 350 people in the Ballroom of the Secora Hotel, Toledo, Ohio. On June 2, 1943, SMITH spoke at the high school, St. Henry, Ohio. On June 15, 1943, SMITH and Congressman CLARE E. HOFFMAN spoke at a "Special Flag Day Committee" meeting in the Public Auditorium Ballroom, Cleveland, Ohio. SMITH, LUNDIN and HOFFMAN expressed at length their anti-Communist, anti-New Deal and anti-Internationalists viewpoints. SMITH repeated many remarks previously made at meetings and published in his magazine "Cross and Flag". Collections and subscriptions were solicited.

- R U C -

Reference: Bureau File No. 62-43818
Letter from the Detroit Field Division dated May 21, 1943.

Details: AT TOLEDO, OHIO

Special Agent [redacted] advised that on May 30, 1943, GERALD L. K. SMITH spoke at a meeting in the Ballroom of the Secora Hotel in Toledo, Ohio. The meeting was attended by approximately 350 people and the majority of them were elderly people, with women being the most predominant. Not more than 10 people under forty years of age were observed in

b7c

DEFERRED PENDING

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: L. V. Boardman SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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100-7663-316

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2 - Cleveland

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the audience. The meeting was scheduled for 3:00 p.m. andit did not get a way until 3:30 p.m.

SMITH was the first speaker on the program. He made a verbal attack on President ROOSEVELT and the New Deal. He accused ROOSEVELT as striving to set himself up as a king of the United Nations and as striving to set Vice-President WALLACE up as the future president of the United States. He denounced any plans of the present government to set up any sort of world government. SMITH stated that the Bank of England was not anxious to get the war over and was making plans to assure its continuance. He also made statements to the effect that while there was a food shortage, Secretary WICKARD'S family had plenty, inasmuch as ROOSEVELT had warned them to store up for the rationing that was to come. He also verbally attacked the administration for mismanagement of the gasoline situation, stating that while no one had gasoline to ride around on it was being poured out on the ground in Pennsylvania. He also stated that while the farm situation was critical, there was in some parts of the west mules to plow with but no harnesses and in other sections there were harnesses but no mules to put them on.

SMITH also made a verbal attack on WENDELL WILLKIE, denouncing him bitterly as a New Dealer and autocrat. He stated that there was a wide spread move on to change this country into Communism. He advocated giving to American civilians and American soldiers all the food and supplies they need and then if there was anything left it should be turned over to the allies.

Mrs. ERNEST LUNDIN also spoke on the program following SMITH. She vigorously defended her late husband's record while he was in politics, then entered into a verbal attack on the present administration. She quoted from a letter that her husband had once received from Admiral SIMS in which SIMS recommended the book written by GEORGE SYLVESTER VIERICK on World War I propaganda. She denounced the methods used by the court in the trial of VIERICK calling them un-American.

Mrs. LUNDIN stated "our boys are fighting on the three fronts to preserve the four freedoms for foreigners".

After Mrs. LUNDIN spoke SMITH took up a collection and made a plea for subscriptions to the Cross and Flag. Apparently there was quite a response from the audience both for magazine subscriptions and to the collection.

The above related activities and statements were witnessed by Special Agent [redacted] b7c

AT ST. HENRY, OHIO

On the evening of June 2, 1943, GERALD L. K. SMITH delivered an address at the high school. SMITH was accompanied by his wife on the speakers platform. HARRY ROMAR, an undertaker and Commander of the American Legion Post at St. Henr

Ohio, previously interested in social justice, the Townsend plan and now the GERALD L. K. SMITH America First Committee introduced by SMITH.

At the outset of his speech SMITH stated that he intended to deal withthree points which were first. Communism, second, the use of the war by the New Dealers to perpetuate themselves in office and third, the creation of a vast international government which would subjugate this country.

Concerning Communism, SMITH asserted that the New Deal, under ROOSEVELT, has winked its eye at Communism and the various governmental bureaus have become filled up with Communists. He made reference to the speech of Vice-President WALLACE which SMITH claimed was delivered in New York City on the occasion of the 26th anniversary of the Russian revolution. SMITH read short excerpts of thespeech without completing the sentence or thought. He dwelt on the manner in which Russia has dealt with the churches and the Catholic Church in particular. He claimed to have information that Russia refused to allow a collection of holy objects, medals,etc, collected in this country by the Catholic Church, to be admitted into Russia. SMITH did not mention any date for this alleged transaction. Throughout his entire speech, he made frequent references to his magazine, the "Cross and Flag", and read from it occasionally. He condemned the freeing of EARL BROWDER from prison claiming that he, SMITH, was being persecuted by the Communists and the Government bureaucrats.

Relative to the second point, the New Deal's use of the war to perpetuate itself in office, he inferred that the use of the ration card was one of the means so thought up by the New Deal. He stated that BERNARD BARUCH in 1936 said that the way to control the people in war time was through the ration card, and not the concentration camp. He painted a picture of conditions on the east coast area where he stated that people could not have gas to go to church, inferring it was unnecessary since large supplies were dumped on the ground in western Pennsylvania for lack of storage space. He also alleged that gasoline had been poured on the icy roads last winter in the east and used to melt ice and snow. He commented on the current mine strike by saying that it is an example of the way the New Deal has built up its power to such an extent that they can now step in and take over private property, declaring it to be Government property. Addressing himself to the farmers at the meeting, he stated that things were now in such a state that if a period of bad crops or famine hit this country all the Government had to do was simply to come and declare that their farms belonged to the Government and from then on they would take orders from the Government. He referred to the proposed Labor Conscription Bill now before Congress, alleging that its passage was desired by the New Deal to get it further power over the lives of the ordinary citizen because then the citizen would have to move wherever the Government, meaning the New Deal, wanted him to move. He concluded this portion of his speech by stating that he had heard that ROOSEVELT was happy about the trouble and strife in the coal mines because it gave the Federal Government an excuse to take over the mines.

In an elaboration on the ration card remark, he stated that a reporter on the Chicago Tribune had visited the farm of CLAUDE E. WICKARD and had found enough food stored up in the deep freeze lockers to last an ordinary family on the current point set up for six or seven years. SMITH offered no explanation or date on which this occurred, but merely inferred that it was hoarding on the part of WICKARD and his father who managed the farm. He concluded this thought by stating that such a man as WICKARD should not be in the cabinet of the President of the United States, but in the federal penitentiary.

With regard to his third point, the idea of creating a vast international government which would supersede our own, SMITH spent most of his time pointing out the alleged disporportionate amount of the cost of the war which this country is bearing. He made particular reference to the speech of the acting head of the British lend-lease in this country, which was delivered before the Press Club. He read a portion of this speech which to him indicated that the British did not intend to pay for such lend-lease equipment because the British were not now keeping track of the cost of things. He inferred that this country was being takenfor another ride and that we should have received certain British islands as payment for the previous war debt and we should not now be forced to lease them. He stated that ROOSEVELT was now apparently trying to secure the position of the President of the International Government which the New Deal was helping to set up and added thatif ROOSEVELT ran for a fourth term and was elected he would resign the Presidency of the United States in favor of WALLACE,taking for himself the job of President of this International Government. At the conclusion, SMITH exhibited a flag which he alleged was probably the one meant to supersede the one of the United States. It contained thirteen stripes, but had a Unionjack with a Star of David superimposed on the place where the forty-eight stars are usually placed.

Throughout his speech SMITH made frequent references to the great work he was doing in saving the country from ruination by the New Deal. He made reference to his magazine, the "Cross and Flag" and sought subscriptions for it. He likewise sought donstions from the approximately 500 people present at the meeting and apparently the majority of them contributed. Evidentally, SMITH had expected many more people in attendance inasmuch as loud speakers had been set up to take care of an expected overflow crowd on the school yard lawn. SMITH mentioned that a large outdoor rally meeting be held at some fair grounds this summer in the general vicinity of St. Henry. HARRY ROMER, who had introduced SMITH,stated that he intended to bring GERALD NYE, Mrs. LUNDIN, MARTIN L. SWEENEY and CLARE HOFFMAN to St. Henry at some future date.

The above meeting was attended by Special Agent [redacted] who witnessed the above statements and activities. It has been reported to Special Agent [redacted] that the area around St. Henry has been regarded in the past as a rather radical community by residents in the surrounding area. The town of St. Henry and the surrounding rural area is almost entirely settled by persons of German descent and Catholic religion. At one time Father COUGHLIN had a fairly

b7c

strong following in this community. The Townsend plan has also fared rather well in the locality as has the Lawson "No Interest" plan.

AT CLEVELAND, OHIO

On the evening of June 15,1943, GERALD L. K. SMITH and Congressman CLARE E. HOFFMAN addressed an audience of approximately 400 people in the Cleveland Public Auditorium Ballroom. This meeting was attended by Special Agents [redacted] and the writer. Invitations mailed out to this meeting and also those distributed by the United Mothers of America, invited the bearer to hear an address by Congressman HOFFMAN, labeled the most fearless man in Washington, on the subject "How to Win the War and Save the Republic" under the auspices of the "Special Flag Day Committee". This address was scheduled to begin at 8:00 p.m. but it was approximately 8:35 p.m. when the speakers for the evening, SMITH and his wife andofficers of the United Mothers of America, appeared on the stage. Others on the stage with SMITH were introduced during the proceedings as a Mrs. (name not understood) of Buffalo, New York, a staunch supporter of the movement, a Mrs.BEATRICE KNOWLES of Detroit, Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, President of the United Mothers of America, Cleveland Branch, Mr. JOSEPH ANDERSON of Cleveland, referred to as the champion of free speech in Cleveland, and a person who had opposedthe Mayor of Cleveland in obtaining permission for the group to speak in the hall, and Mrs. PHYLLIS MONREAL, an officer of the United Mothers of America. Also on the platform was Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH and another woman who was not presented to the audience.

SMITH opened the meeting by calling on members of the audience to find out on what day they had received their cards of announcement. From the audience's response it appeared that none were received before Friday, June 11, 1943, and that a number of them were not received until the 15th. SMITH related that the sacks of mail had been tossed into a corner of the Post Office where they had remained for three or four days. SMITH remarked thatthe Cleveland Postmaster was not responsible for this delay, but alleged that approximately 3000 letters he had sent out from Detroit had been held up by a "diabolical set of persons in Cleveland who don't want you to hear the truth".

SMITH, in formally opening the meeting, at this point lead the audience in the Lord's Prayer. He then had BERNARD DOMAN and other helpers pass out blank cards to the audience. He announced that a vote would be had for one of the following possible Presidential candidates, TAFT, WILLKIE or BRICKER. SMITH stated he was limiting the voting to these individuals, not because possibly there were not more popular individuals with the audience, such as LINDBERG and NYE, but because he wanted a test on this particular set of possible candidates. Later in the meeting after the cards had been taken up and tabulated, SMITH announced that the count showed 194 votes for Ohio Senator ROBERT A. TAFT, 106 for Ohio Governor JOHN W. BRICKER, 96 for New YorkGovernor THOMAS E. DEWEY and one for WENDELL L. WILLKIE.

CV.F.O.
100-7463

SMITH stated it is estimated that one out of two boys who cross the ocean now will be either killed,wounded or made prisoner. SMITH stated that we are fighting "to elect FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT to a fourth term". He stated that we are not fighting for a political machine, especially one like the New Dealers have built. He referred to HARRY HOPKINS as being the power behind the President,and has added a "secret" cabinet composed of FELIX FRANKFURTER, BEN COHEN and SAMUEL ROSENMAN. At this point a woman listener shouted "We want no Jews", at which SMITH smiled. SMITH announced that there were three menaces confronting us today, Bureaucratic fascism in Washington, would-be patriots in public offices and the threat of internationalism affecting our national sovereignty. SMITH also at this meeting exhibited a flag which he said was probably the flag of the Internationalists. He threw this flag down and trampled on it and explained that his only flag was the flag of the United States.

SMITH read an article from the Detroit Press concerning an alleged plan by a Britisher to scrap the United States Constitution. SMITH stated that this same planner went into politics immediately on coming to this country and is at the present time serving on three United States bureaus and the Americans are paying his salary.

SMITH introduced Mrs. PHYLLIS MONREAL of the United Mothers of America who read to the audience a lengthy verse which was called "A Tribute to the United States Flag". This verse dealt withthe alleged serious threats to the flag by Internationalism, Communism and New Dealists.

SMITH then introduced Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN. HOFFMAN stated that the United States has spentmore on war in the past year than Britain and Russia combined. He advised the audience that we should look after our own and asked the question "Why strip ourselves of everything we have?" He quoted a remark of HENRY A. WALLACE allegedly made in 1933 to the effect that war was inevitable. He stated that he did not believe this, but it was possible that "HENRY" and others might want us to fight some battle for them. HOFFMAN stated that HITLER and HIROHITO spoke for their countries and STALIN speaks for his country, CHURCHILL speaks for his and the common people speak for our country. The audience was silent in regard to all the figures mentioned in this statement by HOFFMAN, except for CHURCHILL who they loudly booed. HOFFMAN ridiculed a request of the O.W.I. to make "Flag Day" a "United Nations Flag Day". He stated that his position was that he should think of the United States of America.

HOFFMAN stated that there is an unholy alliance between the present administration and gangster unionism. He stated that he was for the four freedoms but asked the question "How about some freedom here?" He stated that "if Christ and Christianity haven't brought peace in 2000 years, I don't think FRANKLIN and ELEANOR can do it". HOFFMAN charged that the New Dealers were causing food shortages and asked "Where are you going to get milk, food and butter next winter?" When he mentioned that HITLER is trying to destroy our form of government there was silence. When he mentioned that ROOSEVELT was also trying to do this there were boos from the crowd. HOFFMAN charged that those who did want war are safe in Government jobs. HOFFMAN quoted a representative of a chain store in the

Cincinnati area as saying "things are now so bad in this country that it is time for the mobs to descend on Washington".

The meeting was concluded by GERALD L. K. SMITH, at which time he announced the results of the presidential poll previously mentioned. SMITH lead the audience in a pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States. SMITH requested subscriptions to the Cross and Flag and also requested a collection. He stated that the collection should consist of "paper money" in the form of twenty, ten, five or one dollar bills. He added that even less would be accepted but that he did not want any "church money".

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

[redacted]
8/20/43
RECORDED

62-43818-316

Date:

To: Mr. [illegible]
The Assistant to the Attorney General

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhetts

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your further information in connection with your consideration of this case, there is transmitted herewith a copy of the report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] dated at Cleveland, Ohio, August 9, 1943, entitled "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, with aliases, Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; The Committee of 1,000,000; Internal Security - C; Custodial Detention; Sedition."

Attachment

Mr. Wendell Berge
Assistant Attorney General

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Walters
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Kingsley
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Candy

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AUG 20 1943 P.M.
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-8BTJ/MG

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DATE: 10/21/87

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27 AUG 30 1943 4

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 8 OF 18

FILE NUMBER : 62-43818

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 17

PAGES REVIEWED: 92

PAGES RELEASED: 57

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE:

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICH. FILE NO. 62-1194

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW ORLEANS, LA.	8-20-43	8-3-43	[redacted] b7c [redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, WAS The Committee of One Million	CUSTODIAL DETENTION - G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Military Authorities, Lake Charles Army Air Base, Lake Charles, La., advised [redacted], 925th Air Base Security Battalion was transferred from Lake Charles on May 13, 1943, and it was presumed that he was destined for oversea duty. [redacted] b7c immediate destination on leaving Lake Charles was Camp Stoneman, Pittsburg, Calif.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] b7c dated July 7, 1943, Charlotte, N.C.

DETAILS: AT LAKE CHARLES, LA.

[redacted] b7c b7d Lake Charles Army Air Base, advised that [redacted], Army Serial Number [redacted] 925th Air Base Security Battalion, was transferred from Lake Charles May 13, 1943 and he presumed that [redacted] was being transferred for overseas duty. He stated upon leaving Lake Charles that [redacted] immediate destination was Camp Stoneman, Pittsburg, Calif.

A review of the file of instant case at the New Orleans Field Division reveals that San Francisco Field Division has not received previous reports; therefore, a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] b7c dated May 6, 1943, Washington, D.C. is being forwarded to the San Francisco Field Division.

~~DEFERRED~~ RECORDING

Encl: to San Francisco: Report of Special Agent [redacted], dated May 6, 1943, at Washington, D.C.

b7c

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

APPROVED AND FORWARDED BY: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES: 62-1194318-317

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2 - San Francisco (encl)
2 - New Orleans

25 AUG 25 1943

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27 SEP 3 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/80 BY

7—2034

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

SAN FRANCISCO FIELD DIVISION:

AT CAMP STONEMAN, PITTSBURG, CALIF. will attempt to locate [redacted] US Serial Number [redacted] 925th Air Base Security Bn., and ascertain whether or not he has knowledge concerning the subject and his background. b7c

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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FBI/DOJ

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Post Office Box #2118
Detroit, Michigan
September 1, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
[redacted]
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 7/9/82 BY SP6 BJA/DMS
204,433

Director, FBI

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth herein the substance of information secured from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau. This information was received from Informant during the period from August 22, 1943 through August 30, 1943. b7D

[redacted] (Investigator at Ford Motor Company), talked with SMITH, advising that he had sent information to the Bank Building on the WARING woman. Shortly thereafter, Mrs. SMITH contacted PRICE stating that the material sent to the Bank had been sent out in care of [redacted] (Secretary to HARRY BENNETT). b7c

SMITH talked with a [redacted] Secretary to Congressman HOFFMAN and the latter advised SMITH that HOFFMAN had been very successful in his recent talks. SMITH stated that many people wanted HOFFMAN to speak in Buffalo and Pittsburgh. The Buffalo meeting, while definite date has not been set, will be about September 19, 1943.

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

On August 23, 1943, SMITH communicated with Mrs. KNOWLES, advising that he had a definite commitment from NYE for the 24th of September and he desired that she be on the Committee. At this particular meeting, Dr. MARION will be in charge.

Mrs. KNOWLES informed SMITH that she had just written a letter to J. Edgar Hoover in regard to the book, "Undercover," a party by the

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62-43918-319

43 SEP 1 1943

Op. 5

name of PEGNALLY (phonetic) and WALTER WINCHELL, a copy of which letter is to be given to Mr. Bugas.

SMITH stated that he thought FERGUSON had made a mess of himself because of the Aleutian affair. SMITH stated that under no circumstances would he support any form of a world government. He told Mrs. KNOWLES of a recent meeting he attended at Cleveland, Ohio, in behalf of [redacted] and he took up a collection and kept it for his expenses, which met with the extreme disapproval of [redacted]. SMITH announced that he would go on the Michigan ballot if there was a swing toward WILLKIE as a result of the Mackinac Convention. b7

A representative of Time magazine contacted SMITH'S office regarding a SMITH meeting which is proposed in Brooklyn, New York, and he was advised that the meeting had not yet been announced and it was highly confidential.

On August 25, 1943, Mrs. LUNDEEN talked with SMITH from Minneapolis, Minnesota. The SMITH meeting in Minneapolis is to be postponed until he returns from Salt Lake City and Denver, Colorado. Thereafter, he plans to hold conferences in Erie, Buffalo and possibly Philadelphia. SMITH told Mrs. LUNDEEN that the NYE'S were in Detroit and that they had some good conferences but "that stuff is slow."

Captain EARL SOUTHARD communicated with SMITH on August 26, 1943 from Chicago. SMITH told him that he was sending a list of names in order that SOUTHARD could weed out those who should not be invited to the Chicago meeting. SOUTHARD stated that a man by the name of DINEEN would also speak at this meeting. SOUTHARD brought out that there was a woman by the name of Dr. DUNCAN, who is connected with "a Jewish outfit" and is a friend of Father BROPHY who is very much against SMITH and he should beware of her.

R. T. Ross, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Detroit Field Division, was contacted by SMITH, the latter advising that publicity of radio and press were linking him with the DINEEN spy case as a result of pressure from the CIVIL RIGHTS FEDERATION and that these statements were libelous. SMITH brought out that he was available to the FBI at any time.

Letter to the Director
September 1, 1943

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

b7c

DOMAN communicated with a [redacted] and informed him that they were not only going to bring a suit against the "Free Press" but were going to sue all Stations at one time. SMITH immediately got in touch with the "Detroit Times" and told them that he had just filed suit against the WXYZ Radio Station over the WINCHELL program which it carried.

On August 27, 1943, SMITH got in touch with Mrs. LUNDEEN and requested that she secure a room for him under the name of Captain EARL SOUTHARD at the Nicolet Hotel (phonetic). Informant reported on August 30, 1943 that SMITH had made reservations to Denver, Colorado, rather than Salt Lake City, Utah, due to change of plans.

He later got in touch with a party by the name of GEORGE, the latter informing SMITH that there were 3500 delegates at the Cleveland Convention and they were on the verge of asking SMITH to speak. GEORGE informed SMITH that he talked with a newspaper man who was opposed to him, but he advised that he had made an investigation of the stories about SMITH and found none of them to be true. The newspaper man told GEORGE that SMITH was the smartest man in the United States and covers up very well or else he is innocent.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted] b7c

62-1126

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gluvin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
[redacted]
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Accrs
Mr. Carson
Mr. Rendon
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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
August 26, 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mc

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION
(Bureau File 62-43818)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of August 18, 1943 requesting copies of that portion of the log pertaining to information secured from [redacted] as contained in letter to you dated August 12, 1943 in the above-entitled matter.

[redacted] advised that SMITH communicated with [redacted] (personal secretary to HENRY FORD) August 9, 1943 at 7:50 p.m. and the following conversation transpired:

SMITH: "Say, I was talking where I could hardly talk to you....that it wasn't a good place to talk....I was downtown when I talked to you the last time. You didn't contact Mr. BENNETT himself did you?"

[redacted] "No, he is away."

SMITH: "Well, I had Mrs. SMITH call the house out there and his wife said that he wasn't at the house but he was in town, that he had called you and would be a little late. He had a hard day at the office."

[redacted] "Is that so. Well, they told me he wasn't there."

SMITH: "She said he had a hard day....at the office, see, and so I didn't know, maybe, of course, maybe he had a hard day out of town. Maybe I just got in on something. But I talked in line what I discussed with you this afternoon. Might be well for you to know just what he had done, don't you see. But Mrs. SMITH says she didn't say at the office that he had an awful hard day and maybe I just got in on something. But with me I wasn't in the mood to press it, but I know, absolutely know, that when Mrs. LUNDEEN talked to him he said, "Well, any time, I will be gone a week and

62-43818

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arrange for him to come here any time after the week and it will be alright." So I....he's coming all the way out here from North Dakota on that account. I guess it looks like....I mean it, a first class embarrassment, but still I think probably that maybe we can, you and I, work a way out of it, but I want....you know he is out there where there is tall grass and it is pretty hard for a man to carry on without some help and we are trying to get it together for him here and there over the country because he has fought such a hard battle on our side of the fight. Well, what would you advise me to do now? What steps did you think I should take from there on?"

[redacted]: "I would suggest that you let this office know tomorrow that he is here."

SMITH: "Yes!"

[redacted] "I don't know if I could get ahold of BENNETT or he was probably trying to sidestep me. Why, I could talk and tell you definitely."

SMITH: "Yes, I know what your problem is too. You understand and that's the reason why I hesitated to ask you to do anything about it because he has a lot of peculiar ideas about his things and so I didn't want to inspire any reactions that were unnecessary, don't you see. I am ashamed to have the world and my friends outside think that there is anything like that exists because Mr. FORD and everybody else out there enjoys such a fine reputation all over the country that they couldn't imagine that appointments were handled that way. Don't you see? So I'll tell you what I'll do, I'll contact that office in the morning and then I'll be in touch with you and we'll see what we could do to get him in and out of town without anything unpleasant happening or suffering any unpleasant embarrassment, you see, and he is an awful good friend of the Colonel's too, you know, and I want him to make that contact, that's why I sent (interrupted by [redacted]."

[redacted] "Did you ever find that he got his letter?"

SMITH: "I never got any response or anything. I'll tell you, you know, its amazing, these people....those of us who maintain, who keep

AL
b7C

up the fighting forces in this country, we go ahead and work in a furrow, you know, and if I handled my appointments and mail that way, what I am doing would fall apart pretty quick."

[redacted] "Oh, yes, sure!"

SMITH: "He would have somebody else around him looking after things more conscientiously. Well, I'll be in touch with you in the morning, [redacted]

b2D

[redacted] further advised that SMITH communicated with [redacted] and the Ford Motor Company on August 10, 1943 at 6:00 p.m. and the following conversation transpired:

SMITH: "Surely appreciate the courteous way you received our distinguished friend today. Senator NYE was very appreciative of the consideration shown him when he was at the Ford Motor Company. You know, there are only four or five of him....his kind in the country today. I was embarrassed over that other situation."

[redacted] "Yes, I suppose so."

SMITH: "Mrs. SMITH called up there, up to the last minute, and this fellow that's in the outer office there, you know, he said, "Well, Mrs. SMITH reminded him that she wanted him to know that there was nothing concerning anything that we were interested in other than just the welfare of our country and he said, "Well, it is no favor, thus, we are not particularly interested." And you know Mrs. LUNDEEN was out there and had a two-hour visit with that fellow and you would have thought that after going to such lengths that he would have at least proposed or implored that he stay over, which he couldn't have done. But there at least could have been a gesture, don't you see."

[redacted] "Well, its too bad. Has he left yet?"

SMITH: "Yes, he went on the 4:45. We put him right on a train. He has to get out to investigate the Public Lands Business."

AV b7C

Letter to Director
August 26, 1943

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

b7c

[redacted]: "No, I didn't say anything about that."

SMITH: "No, he is on a special committee and has to go way out to Idaho. ROCKEFELLERS had given several acres of land to the Government and they have to make a report on it, of course, the state is making a big kick because it takes it right off the tax rolls and so they have got to report back and he has to be out there."

It would, therefore, appear on the basis of supplemental information submitted by [redacted] that Senator NYE visited the Ford Motor Company on August 10, 1943.

b7D

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas.

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted] b7c

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670

The Cross and the Flag

August - 1943

Dear Subscriber:

On page 2 of the July issue of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG is a sensat article entitled THE BIBLE OF THE ANTI-CHRIST. This article has creat furor. The enemies of Christ and America even tried to prevent me fro putting the article into print. Many people, including preachers, are asking for reprints of this one article. A million copies should be d tributed.

If you desire to pass this truth along by distributing extra copi this article, I will send you reprints at the following rates:

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This, as you see, is very reasonable and we are reprinting them a this low rate in order that all our friends may be able to distribute everywhere.

Here is how you can get 100 copies of this sensational article fr

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Send in a subscription for a friend for six months at $1.00, and I will mail you 50 copies of the article entitled THE BIBLE OF THE ANTI-CHRIST free.

Use the attached coupon to express your wishes.

Sincerely yours for God and Count

Gerald L. K. Smith

GERALD L. K. SMITH

Tear Off Here

THE CROSS AND THE FLAG
Gerald L. K. Smith, Editor
Post Office Box 459
Detroit, 31, Michigan

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INDEXED 162-438

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
August 24, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

Director, FBI

[redacted]

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth below the substance of information received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. This information was received from Informant during the period from August 11, 1943 through August 21, 1943. b7D

Informant stated he had received information to the effect that SMITH had been contacted recently by a girl giving the name of [redacted] and at that time this individual stated that she was a member of SMITH'S organization in New York City and attempted to elicit information from SMITH relative to future activities. SMITH advised Informant that it was his opinion that this individual was employed as an informant for the ANTI-NAZI LEAGUE in New York City, and for that reason he did not intend to give her any information of value. b7C

DEFERRED RECORDING

Informant stated further that he had received information to the effect that SMITH was actually taking steps to institute a libel proceeding seeking $100,000.00 in damages from WALTER WINCHELL for an alleged libelous remark made by WINCHELL concerning SMITH'S trampling upon the American flag.

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62-43818-32

Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that SMITH was apparently encountering difficulty in Buffalo, New York and in Toledo, Ohio securing appropriate reservations for the meetings which he was supposed to have in those particular cities on August 16 and 17. Informant stated that it was quite possible that reservations which had previously been obtained by SMITH had been cancelled. Informant stated further that in view of the fact that SMITH had been out of the city for the greater part of a week conducting meetings in other cities, he would not be able to secure a great deal of information concerning SMITH'S activities other than that noted above.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

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[redacted] 10/5/82 BY SP-8BTJ/NCL

b7C

62-[illegible]

Op. 7

SEP 1 [illegible]

JFHa:WLJ

62-43818

Date: September 16, 1943

To: SAC, New York

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

Reference is made to the Bureau's letter of July 5, 1943, requesting your office to institute immediate inquiries for the purpose of determining whether [redacted] is identical with [redacted] You will recall that this investigation is predicated on a Departmental request and that both of these names were mentioned in the portion of the Department's memorandum quoted in reference letter.

b7c

Please afford this investigation as well as the other leads outstanding in your district in connection with this matter immediate investigative attention.

cc - Detroit

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY SP8BTJ/MLG

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
★ SEP 17 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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62-43818-
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 18 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-5778

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
PITTSBURGH, PA.	9/8/43	8/17/43	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: SMITH spoke to crowd of approximately 900 persons at meeting at Pittsburgh, Pa. 8/17/43 under sponsorship of Defenders of George Washington's Principles, held at Carnegie Lecture Hall, North Side, Pittsburgh. Captain EARL SOUTHARD scheduled to appear on program but did not appear. SMITH denounced Communists, New Dealers, the British and bureaucrats in U. S. Government; criticized lend lease program and present financial relations between U. S. and England; denounced post world war government and pledged America First Party to nominate candidate in 1944 election if Roosevelt, Willkie or men of their type should be nominated by major political parties.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/5/82 BY SP1 BTJ/kr

REFERENCE: Letter from Detroit dated 8/11/43

DETAILS: On Tuesday, August 17, 1943, GERALD L. K. SMITH spoke before a gathering of approximately 900 persons at the North Side Carnegie Lecture Hall, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The meeting was under the sponsorship of the Defenders of George Washington's Principles.

Circulars advertising the meeting, together with tickets thereto, were mailed to various persons in the city of Pittsburgh several days prior to August 17, 1943. These mimeographed circulars, as well as the tickets, announced that GERALD L. K. SMITH, Director of the America First Party, and Captain EARL SOUTHARD, "one of the top-notch leaders of the Veterans of Foreign Wars organization, a student of international conspiracies being attempted now against American

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: H. K. Johnson SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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sovereignty, lecturer for the America First Party, one of the leaders in the Republican National Revival Committee, a movement to prevent Willkie from seizing the Republican Party, and a personal friend of Colonel Lindbergh", would be the speakers at this meeting. The circular, which bore the mimeographed signature of SMITH, also contained the following message: "I do not need to tell you that I will have something to say. I will discuss the Detroit race riots and give you the low-down on how the Communists tried to use innocent negroes and innocent whites to carry out their Red flag aims. The people in Pittsburgh should be warned of the fact that the Communists right now are attempting to agitate a similar uprising in Pittsburgh.

Since I was in Pittsburgh the last time, I have been in Washington, D. C., for a lengthy visit with many of our good friends in Congress. I will give you the low-down on Washington at the Pittsburgh meeting."

The topic of SOUTHARD'S address was announced in this literature as "The Conspiracy Against Our Sovereignty", and SMITH'S topic was announced as "America, Today and Tomorrow". At the bottom of this mimeographed circular was a notation that additional invitations might be obtained from Mrs. MARIE LOHLE at Jackson 0601.

The meeting at North Side Carnegie Lecture Hall was attended by Special Agents ALEXANDER GANSKY and MYER A. LEWIS of the Pittsburgh Office.

At the entrance to the lecture hall various circulars and handbills were distributed to those attending. One of these entitled "The Anti-American Conspiracy" was a reprint of an article from the Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania of July 19, 1943, a story denouncing the idea of an international federation after the present war, stating that the "designs of the New Deal internationalists of the Wallace-Willkie-Hopkins-Frankfurter-Laski-Cripps stripe is something entirely different. Their blueprints for internationalism would make the U. S. A. a part of an INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION." This particular circular contains a statement to the effect that it is printed and distributed by the Defenders of George Washington's Principles and sets forth the names of the following officers of that organization: CHARLES A. MADDEN, President; Dr. W. T. BROWN, Vice President; Mrs. MARIE I. LOHLE, Secretary and Mrs. H. M. SWANSON, Treasurer. The address of the orgainzation is given as Post Office Box 227, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Prior to the opening of the meeting, SMITH and MADDEN were seen going about the hall greeting various persons in attendance. The audience was made up principally of middle class working people and it was noted that a great number of persons in attendance were elderly men and women.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 8:40 P. M. by Mrs. LOHIE. Seated on the speakers' platform were Mrs. LOHIE, MADDEN, Dr. W. T. BROWN and SMITH. Prominently displayed on the platform were two large American flags. The meeting was opened with an invocation by Father Aloysius, a Greek priest of a church located in Emsworth, Pennsylvania. This was followed by a pledge of allegiance to the flag and the singing of one verse of the Star Spangled Banner.

SMITH then welcomed the crowd with the following: "As time goes on more people come out of their shells. We have to fight bureaucrats down in Washington. We will defeat the Fourth Term and drive the New Dealers out of Washington." He then announced SOUTHARD'S absence due to circumstances beyond his control, stating that SOUTHARD would be present at some future meeting and read a letter from SOUTHARD expressing his regret and warning that the United States must keep out of entangling alliances with foreign nations after the war.

As a substitute for Captain SOUTHARD, SMITH presented MADDEN, praising his feat of memory in reciting the whole Declaration of Independence at a Detroit meeting, and then MADDEN recited Patrick Henry's "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death" speech, concluding with remarks attacking the Communists and warning that the United States must avoid entangling alliances in the post war peace. His final remark was: "When our boys come back from the battlefront, let us send the Reds back on the return boats."

SMITH began his address by attacking Hollywood and the motion picture industry, stating that present day motion pictures were the ruination of the youth of this country. He dwealt at length on CHARLIE CHAPLIN, stating that he was a "Rat, a Communist and not even a citizen of the United States." He said that in 1922, before J. EDGAR HOOVER became Director of the FBI, a raid was conducted by the FBI on a Communist hideout and meeting place in the Michigan woods, and that among the records of the Communist Party found buried beneath the ground in barrels was a list of the contributors to the Communist Party cause in this country. He stated that the name of CHARLIE CHAPLIN was right up at the top of this list.

At this point SMITH stopped his address and requested all of those persons in the audience taking notes to either present their press cards or to make known the name of the person or organization which had sent them to take notes on this speech. Several persons, chiefly newspaper representatives, identified themselves but several others in the audience refused to state their identity. When two men seated in the balcony who were taking notes refused to announce who had sent them and continued to take notes after SMITH had told them to put their notebooks away, SMITH called for volunteers to force ejectment. At this

point five or six uniformed policemen walked to the balcony and stood close to where these men were seated. SMITH then demanded that the officers escort these two men out of the lecture hall. When the officers merely continued to stand in the balcony without making any response, SMITH attempted to pass the incident off by stating, "I thought that these two persons might attempt to start some trouble but now that I see that we have police protection and order will be maintained, we will go ahead." (Subsequent to the meeting, Special Agent [redacted] of the Pittsburgh Office contacted [redacted] of the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police, who stated that he was one of the persons taking notes at the SMITH meeting and that the other man in the balcony was [redacted] also of the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police, and that they were retaining the shorthand notes made at the meeting, but that they did not intend to transcribe the same.) b7c

SMITH then continued to speak denouncing the Communists, New Dealers, the bureaucrats and the British. He told how on the preceding day in Buffalo, New York he had been denied the right to speak in two halls which previously had been reserved for him by persons in Buffalo, and how he had been forced to hold his meetings at a hotel after the halls had been cancelled. He then declared, "I am not going to name the interests that were influential enough to cancel the hall, but they are doing the wrong thing. I have no desire to harm the Jews, but for goodness sake tell them to quit persecuting us." He then referred to the effort of certain persons in Pittsburgh to halt his appearances in Pittsburgh without success. He did not mention any names in this connection.

SMITH denounced WALTER WINCHELL, stating that he had caused a great deal of embarrassment and humiliation to him and to his son who is in the United States Army by misrepresenting the facts in connection with a certain incident in Buffalo, New York when SMITH had stepped upon and spit upon a flag. He stated that a Buffalo newspaper had erroneously published an article following the incident in which it was stated that the flag was an American flag, where in fact, it was a flag composed of parts of the flags of various Europian nations as well as ours and was known as the "Union Now" flag. He stated that if the United States joined with Europe in the post war protection of the whole world, we would be living under such a flag and that the only flag he gave his allegiance to was the American flag which he pointed to on the rostrum. He stated that he was going to make WINCHELL and the various leaders who misrepresented the facts with reference to the flag pay dearly for their mistake. SMITH stated that he had been forced to take a great deal of abuses from the bureaucrats in Washington and that there was nothing he could do but continue to take such abuses until the war was won, because the winning of the war was a thing that all persons should be primarily interested in. However, he stated that after the war was won, the bureaucrats would hear from him.

He criticized the lend lease program and our present financial relations with England, stating that England was not keeping any account of the amount of money she was borrowing from the United States, and certain of our representatives in this country had gone so far as to suggest that no account should ever be made of our advances to England during the present war.

He dwealt at length upon the subject of world government after the war, stating that if such a plan were attempted we would owe allegiance not to the United States but some government of nations and that the United States would have no more voice in its own government than a state has in the government of the United States at the present time.

SMITH criticized the nation's rationing program and assailed Senate Bill #666 on man power conscription, again terming it the "Gestapo Bill", claiming that it was an effort to regiment the entire population and deprive the people of their constitutional rights.

SMITH stated that President Roosevelt should get down to the business of winning the war and forget about his political ambition for a fourth term. He stated that if in the 1944 elections such men as Roosevelt and Willkie were nominated by the major political parties in this country, the America First Party, the real Americans, would nominate a real candidate and save this country. He referred repeatedly to Father Coughlin and Huey Long, praising Coughlin and stating that at some future time he wanted to tell this audience the real story behind the murder of Long.

On more than one occasion during his speech SMITH stated that BURTON K. WHEELER and Senator NYE were the kind of men who should assume leadership in this country instead of New Deal candidates. He asked for a show of hands from the audience to see how many persons would like to have Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN address one of the meetings of the Defenders of George Washington's Principles, and when almost the entire audience signified a desire to have HOFFMAN speak, SMITH said that an effort would be made to have him attend one of the meetings to be held in the near future.

SMITH at this point mentioned the matter of traveling expenses for himself and his wife and passed out envelopes so that the persons present could make contributions to his expenses. These envelopes bore the heading "America First Party", and also had printed upon them a pledge for a subscription of a certain amount each month which SMITH asked the persons in the audience to fill out.

He also encouraged persons present to subscribe to his magazine, "The Cross and the Flag", exhibiting a copy, which he stated contained an enlightening article by himself with reference to the Detroit race riots and recommended that the back cover of the magazine containing Father CURRAN'S sermon celebrating the 27th aniversary of CURRAN'S ordination be framed. He next read a review of the "Bible of the Anti-Christ" which appeared on the inside cover of the copy of "The Cross and the Flag" which he had in his hand.

The meeting was concluded with the recitation of the Lord's Prayer by the audience at approximately 11:00 P. M.

It was noted that although the literature distributed prior to the time of the meeting stated that the race riots would be discussed, SMITH made no mention of the matter other than to state that his magazine, "The Cross and the Flag" contains an article with reference to it.

Copies of the various circulars distributed prior to the meeting advertising the same and at the meeting are being retained in the files of the Pittsburgh Field Division.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
September 18, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Clavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Accrs
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

[redacted]

DIRECTOR, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth herin the substance of information obtained from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau. This information was received from Informant during the period from September 8, 1943 through September 17, 1943. b7D

SMITH advised JERRY of the United Press that as director of the America First Party he was leaving on a western tour in order to give speeches and hold conferences with the leaders; the speeches will include a talk at Chicago, Illinois on September 8, 1943 to two hundred Illinois leaders, two hundred and fifty leaders in Minneapolis, Minnesota on September 10, 1943 after which he will proceed to Denver, Colorado where HARVEY SPRINGER will preside over a meeting of three thousand which SMITH will address.

Informant stated that on September 11, 1943 SMITH, from Minneapolis, got in touch with DOMAN who advised SMITH that a letter had come in from Senator NYE saying that he would not be able to make the Detroit meeting. SMITH told DOMAN to stop the publicity but not to cancel the meeting as they would get someone else, such as MRS. LUNDEEN or CLAIRE HOFFMAN. SMITH also told DOMAN that NYE was having a lot of trouble in North Dakota at this time and could not afford to leave.

On September 15, 1943, according to informant, DOMAN told PAUL that there would be a meeting at the Crystal Room of the Book Cadillac Hotel, Friday night, September 17, 1943. He later told a [redacted] (phonetic) that SMITH is going to file suit against all radio stations on the hookup which carried the WALTER WINCHELL speech. [redacted] b7c

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FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

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Op. 7

Letter to the Director
September 18, 1943

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SEDITION

commented that every "Red" in this country should be lined up and shot. She also added that she could not understand why such men as KAY KYSER and MICKEY ROONEY were not in the Army.

A [redacted] of Chicago made inquiry to determine where SMITH was presently speaking; [redacted] advised that on that day, September 14, 1943, he was addressing a large group in Denver, Colorado, however, he would return to Detroit, Michigan, on September 17, 1943. b7c

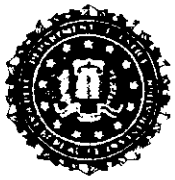
Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas
rls

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

JPH:cgb

July 19

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/5/82 BY

MEMORANDUM FOR ~~THE DIRECTOR~~

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith, The Committee of One Million; Internal Security - Sedition

You will recall that both the President and the Attorney General have in recent weeks evidenced a continuing interest in this case.

On March 25, 1943 the President addressed a memorandum to you requesting information concerning the subject's background and the nature of any investigation conducted as to Smith. In reply to this, on March 31, 1943, Mr. McIntyre was furnished with a detailed memorandum concerning Smith's background and current activities. In a cover letter it was pointed out to Mr. McIntyre that although Smith has been under careful investigation for more than a year and all of his speeches and writings, as well as his activities, have been covered during this period, the Department on consideration of the evidence developed has stated that this individual's activities to date do not appear to warrant prosecution under any Federal statute. Mr. McIntyre was further informed that the case would continue to receive vigorous investigative attention and that all information developed would be appropriately furnished to the Department for an opinion as to possible prosecutive action. For your information a copy of the summary memorandum furnished Mr. McIntyre, which is fully reflective of Smith's activities to March 31, 1943 and is representative of activity engaged in by Smith since that date, is attached.

1 ENCLO. 10

Subsequently, on May 28 last, the Attorney General addressed a memorandum to the Bureau stating that he had received a telephone call from the President on the previous day concerning Smith and [redacted] who, you will recall, is the subject of another very active sedition investigation. The President was apparently interested in the status of these two investigations in the Department and particularly requested information as to [redacted] Pursuant to the Attorney General's request, detailed memoranda concerning both cases were immediately forwarded to the Attorney General and, of course, he was advised that Mr. Rowe's office, which at the time was handling the Smith case, and the Criminal Division, handling the [redacted] case, had indicated that the activities of these subjects are not sufficient to justify prosecution. (A separate memorandum concerning the status of the [redacted] case has been prepared for you under today's date.)

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Later, on June 24 last, the Attorney General telephonically contacted Mr. E. A. Tamm, advising that the President had again communicated with him requesting that these cases be given close attention, with the view of early instituting any prosecutive action possible under existent statutes. The Attorney General stated he thought it would be helpful to arrange a conference between the attorney in the Criminal Division handling these cases, and the Bureau supervisor intimately acquainted with the investigations. He indicated he felt that as a result of such a conference the Criminal Division could perhaps become more accurately acquainted with factual data and would be in a better position to analyze the cases and perhaps to make further requests of the Bureau for additional investigation.

Pursuant to this request, the conference was held on June 26 last between Mr. James McInerney, Chief of the National Defense Unit of the Criminal Division, and the Bureau supervisor handling these cases. With reference to the Smith case, Mr. McInerney pointed out that the Criminal Division was not conversant with all of the late developments, inasmuch as until recently the case has been followed in the Department by an attorney assigned to Mr. Rowe's office. He therefore requested detailed information concerning investigation carried out during the last eight or nine months. In view of the ramifications of the case, the discussion with reference to factual data resolved itself around the three principal phases of the investigation: the sedition phase, the Federal Corrupt Practices Act angle, and the phase involving a possible violation by Smith of the National Speed Regulation.

Concerning the sedition phase, Mr. McInerney was informed in detail of Smith's speech-making activities and his publication efforts in connection with his magazine, "The Cross and the Flag." It was pointed out that Smith has been primarily concerned with attributing "dictatorial trends" to the Government and has frequently charged the Government with conspiring with Great Britain and other countries in an effort to set up a "super world state" after the war. These have been his most frequent themes and have been repeated numerous times during the course of Smith's many public speeches in connection with his "America First Party", the principal tenet of which is the "guarding of America against the dictatorial trends and Bureaucracy of the present administration." It was pointed out to Mr. McInerney that since the first of the year all of Smith's public speeches have been covered and that the reports on this investigation, as well as copies of all his publications, have been sent to Mr. Rowe. Mr. McInerney stated that he would secure these reports and carefully review them, and expressed the opinion that Smith appears to be well advised as to how far he can go under the Sedition Statutes and has

apparently avoided making any actionable statements, either oral or written. In this connection it will be recalled that in all of his statements, both written and oral, Smith has always been careful to profess loyalty to the war effort and has even exhorted his followers to cooperate "in every way" with the war effort. Mr. McInerney further observed that the Bureau's investigation has been very adequate and quite exhaustive, pointing out that the only logical way of proving a sedition case is by covering the subject's statements and writings.

With regard to the Federal Corrupt Practices Act phase of the case, you will recall that several months ago the Special War Policies Unit of the Department requested that Smith's activities in connection with his candidacy last summer for United States Senator be investigated. The Special War Policies Unit particularly requested that the statements filed by Smith, showing his contributors, with the local Election Commission be secured and that it be otherwise determined whether Smith has complied with the provisions of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act and the Michigan General Election Law in connection with his campaign. All of this data has been secured and sent to the Department, but in this regard Mr. McInerney stated that he was not familiar with this angle of the case, inasmuch as this particular matter has been under the purview of the Special War Policies Unit. When the Bureau supervisor pointed out that in one of his statements Smith has refused to identify the source of a $1,500 contribution as required by the Michigan General Election Law (which according to the Special War Policies Unit may have significance under the Federal Corrupt Practices Act), Mr. McInerney expressed considerable interest and stated he would take up this phase of the investigation with the Special War Policies Unit. He indicated that this phase of the case would probably be handled by the Criminal Division in the future and if it appears that Smith's omission amounts to a violation of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act, the Bureau will propably be requested to conduct further investigation concerning this phase of the case.

Concerning the possible violation of the National Speed Regulation by Smith, it will be recalled that in October, 1942 Smith openly boasted that a short time previously he had wilfully and purposely violated the 35-mile-per-hour speed regulation by motoring from Pontiac to Detroit at varying speeds approaching 60 miles-per-hour on certain occasions. Smith made this boast while attacking OPA regulations as "bureaucratic and dictatorial" and stated that he had taken this action to show that "bureaucratic regulations" could not be imposed on American people. Pertinent information concerning Smith's use of excessive speed, as well as his public statements

in connection therewith, was at the time the information was developed referred to the Criminal Division, which advised that no Federal violation had been incurred, inasmuch as at the time of Smith's trip no Federal statute enforcing the speed regulation was in effect. During the conference, Mr. McInerney referred to this angle of the case by stating that although the Criminal Division had recently reexamined it, the conclusion was again reached that no action could be taken against Smith either for his speeding or for his public statements in connection with the incident.

Mr. McInerney further pointed out that according to information he has received the Treasury Department has recently completed its investigation of Smith's financial activities. You will recall that this investigation was requested by the Attorney General and was conducted primarily for the purpose of determining whether Smith has made false income tax returns. According to information received, both by the Bureau and the Department, the Treasury Department's investigation has failed to show any irregularities. However, Mr. McInerney stated that as soon as the Treasury Department makes its report available to the Department it is possible that the Bureau may be asked t make some additional inquiries if it appears that any of Smith's contributions may have emanated from Axis-inspired or influenced individuals or organizations. In this regard he commented that although the evidence developed to date does not suggest that Smith has been under the guidance of foreign sources, and it is not contemplated to proceed against him under the theory of the Registration Acts, it would be helpful on the question of intent in any sedition prosecution to show a relationship between Smith's background and German sponsorship or sympathetic forces.

It is of interest to note that at the conclusion of the conference, Mr. McInerney stated that he intended to write a memorandum for the Attorney General concerning the Smith case, pointing out that although the Bureau has devoted the case exhaustive attention, nothing has been developed to date on which prosecutive action against Smith can be successfully predicated at this time. He stated that in his memorandum he would inform the Attorney General that the case will continue to receive close attention by the Criminal Division, and in this connection he commented that as soon as he is able to adequately review his file, further requests will be made of the Bureau for additional investigation. He was, of course, informed that the Bureau will be glad to receive these requests and that they will be given immediate investigative attention as soon as they are received in memorandum form. Yesterday a memorandum of this type was received from the Criminal Division, requesting inquiries concerning a possible associate of Smith's in the New York area. This request is being covered and, of course, the case will in the future continue to receive the careful and continuous attention which has been devoted to it during recent months.

It is of interest to note that a certain segment of the public press, particularly the newspapers PM and the Daily Worker, as well as other special interests, have recently sought to convey the impression that Smith, the Ku Klux Klan, and other allegedly Fascist individuals and organizations, fomented the recent race riot in Detroit. The Bureau's investigation of Smith, as well as its technical surveillance, fails to show that there are any grounds whatsoever for this allegation. On the contrary, Smith seems to have been somewhat concerned about the race riot and through the service of a highly confidential source it was learned that on June 25 last he contacted Senator Reynolds in Washington, requesting the latter to cause Congressman Dies to investigate the riot. Smith indicated that he believed the Communists in the Detroit area were primarily responsible. In this connection it was further learned from this same source that Smith intended to come to Washington on July 1, 1943 for the purpose of conferring with the Dies Committee and Senator Reynolds, apparently with reference to this matter. This data was, of course, furnished to the Attorney General and the Criminal Division, but no request has been received for further inquiry in connection with Smith's interest in the race riot situation.

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

Enclosure

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PERSONAL HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, better known as Gerald L. K. Smith, was born during February, 1898, at Pardeeville, Wisconsin. He attended Butler Seminary at Indianapolis, Indiana, and later was graduated from Valparaiso University (Indiana) where he pursued a course in theology. Smith's antecedents and early life were in no way unusual and are of no particular interest.

After leaving college, Smith took up active duty as a minister and successively held pastorates at Footville, Wisconsin, at the Seventh Street Christian Church of Indianapolis and at the King's Highway Church of Shreveport, Louisiana.

Prior to assuming his ministerial duties at Shreveport, Smith's activities were rather conservative and of a type characteristically befitting one in the ministerial profession. However, while in Louisiana, he became interested in the late Huey Long's "Share the Wealth" movement and eventually extended this interest to the point of actively and openly participating in politics as an adherent of Long. Attendant publicity evoked the displeasure of the Elders of his church, eventually resulting in Smith's dismissal during 1934. Following Long's death, Smith attempted to identify himself with the remnants of the Long machine but being unsuccessful in this left Louisiana in 1937 and came to New York where he attempted to organize an association called "The Committee of One Million." This effort was unfruitful. During the following year he moved to Detroit where he has since been located.

At Detroit, Smith reorganized "The Committee of One Million" as an organization "founded for the purpose of combatting the menace of Communism." During 1939, Smith shifted his policy, advocating the isolationist viewpoint, and since the involvement of the United States in war he has busied himself principally in directing criticism to the Government's war effort and what he is pleased to characterize as the Government's efforts to enslave the United States as an entity in an International State dominated by Great Britain.

More detailed comments are set forth subsequently as to Smith's connection with Huey Long and his activities as the organizer of "The Committee of One Million," but it is of significance to observe that it appears that the turning point of Smith's life dates from his association with Huey Long. Prior to that time he was the usual type of minister concerned with problems incidental to his calling. However, it seems that his participation in the "Share the Wealth" movement fired his ambition to the extent of self visualization of himself as a dominant political figure. Being unsuccessful in associating himself with Long's

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ENCLOSURE

successors, he has apparently continued his dream of political prominence through his efforts in connection with his so-called "Committee of One Million." The fact that he still evaluates himself as an individual of at least potential political significance, is attested to by the fact that he has sometimes described himself in confidential conversations as being likely "Presidential timber." In an effort to further augment his political background and potentialities, Smith sought nomination as Republican candidate for United States Senator from the State of Michigan during the summer of 1942. This campaign was unsuccessful.

Smith's personal life appears to be normal. He is married, lives with his wife, and has one son, about twenty years of age. His wife is said to be a distant relative of a Mr. Sorensen, described as an official of the Ford Motor Company. From time to time stories have been circulated attributing improprieties to Smith in connection with his associations with women other than his wife. However, nothing factual is known to substantiate these stories.

ACTIVITIES PRIOR TO 1938

While serving as pastor at the King's Highway Church, Shreveport, Louisiana, Smith became interested in Huey Long's "Share the Wealth" plan. He eventually met Long and shortly thereafter there developed, according to Smith's description, "a close and fast friendship" between the two. It is definitely known that shortly thereafter, and lasting for a period of several years: Smith assumed the position of one of Long's chief lieutenants. Although Smith is prone to describe this relationship as a personal one, several persons who were close to Long at the time, state that Long had little personal regard for Smith and apparently evaluated him as being untrustworthy and dishonest. These persons state that Long was merely utilizing Smith's services, and in this connection it is known that Long, as well as others associated with him, regarded Smith as a very dynamic and powerful public speaker. It appears that Smith was widely used by the Long organization in the role of a public speaker for the "Share the Wealth" movement. It is said that Smith, at one time, received as much as $650 per week from the Long organization as reimbursement for expenses and as salary.

Information has been received that while associated with the Long movement, Smith joined William Dudley Pelley's Silver Shirt organization. Nothing in the way of documentary evidence is available to prove this membership, but in recent years, Smith has, on several occasions, admitted membership in the Pelley movement. He states, however, that he joined Pelley's organization merely for the purpose of securing information in connection with his work in behalf of Huey Long.

Although during Huey Long's lifetime Smith was an outstanding personage in the Long machine, he rapidly lost his position after the death of Long. It appears that his services were continued for a short period of time by Long's

successors, but that he eventually was displaced due, allegedly, to his untoward efforts to attain personal power. By 1937, any influence which he previously had was completely dissipated and it was during that year that he left Louisiana for New York.

On arriving at New York Smith attempted to organize a group known as "The Committee of One Million." According to the self announced purposes of this organization its primary concern was that of combating the forces of Communism. However, Smith's efforts in New York met with little success, and reportedly he was disheartened to the extent of ceasing his activities and removing to Detroit, Michigan, early in 1938.

Toward the end of his stay in Louisiana, Smith's personal reputation apparently suffered to some extent. On November 3, 1936, he was arrested by the New Orleans Police Department on a charge of having disturbed the peace in the using of obscene language in a public place. Reportedly, this arrest resulted in his receiving a suspended sentence of $10.00 and ten days.

During 1936 and 1937, Smith was also involved as a plaintiff in several libel and slander cases. These cases were apparently of minor importance, but the consensus of opinion appears to be that Smith's reputation suffered more than did the reputation of those whom he sought to sue.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

On arriving in Detroit in 1938, Smith almost immediately set out to reorganize the defunct "Committee of One Million." In this connection he distributed a considerable amount of literature designating the purposes of "The Committee of One Million" as follows:

1. To rebuild the spirit of America.

2. To wipe out the last vestiges of Communism, Nazism and Fascism in all forms.

3. The redefinition of the American National character.

4. The installation of a new spirit in American youth, dedicated to the maintenance of American institutions.

5. To issue a call to farmers and laborers to resist what is now known as an international plot to involve them in a world revolution.

6. To rededicate the citizenry of America to the family altar and to the spirit of the church.

7. To secure the maintenance of a well defined standard of American living.

Other literature of "The Committee of One Million," sought particularly to stress the activities of this organization in combating Communist influences.

With the coming of the European war in 1939, Smith shifted the policy of "The Committee of One Million" to that of promoting the cause of isolationism. In various pieces of literature distributed during 1939, 1940 and 1941, he was especially critical of the Government's policy of rendering assistance to the allied Governments.

Since the involvement of the United States in the war, Smith has again shifted his policy as well as that of "The Committee of One Million" to the direction of criticism against the Government's efforts in prosecuting the war. He has not questioned the necessity of winning the war, but on the other hand, in various of his publications, as well as his public utterances, has been careful to lay stress on the necessity of the people's aiding and assisting in every way in defeating America's foes.

However, he has advanced contentions that the Government is using the war as an excuse for depriving the public of its just liberties. He has also freely voiced criticism against what he has been disposed to characterize as the Government's efforts to reduce the United States to a mere entity in a great international state dominated by Great Britain.

Smith carries on the work of "The Committee of One Million" through radio broadcasts over Station WJR at Detroit, the distribution of literature, and through the publication of a monthly magazine known as "The Cross and the Flag." Although Smith claims that "The Committee of One Million" has a following of three million persons, it appears that "The Committee of One Million" is really not an organization as such, and is merely a name used by Smith. Smith, of course, does have a rather large mailing list, and it seems that the persons who receive his literature and make occasional financial donations to him are considered by Smith as being members of the Committee. Available information indicates that Smith's claim of three million followers is grossly exaggerated.

Early in 1942, Smith sought to establish another organization known as "The Inner Circle." As suggested by its name, this group was described by Smith as consisting of the more prominent and trustworthy members of "The Committee of One Million." He announced the foundation of this group through the distribution of literature calling for the donation of additional funds, and it appears that its purposes were the same as those of "The Committee of One Million." According to information received, "The Inner Circle" is no more of a real organization than "The Committee of One Million" and was conceived and used by Smith merely for the purpose of collecting additional money from persons on his mailing list.

During the summer of 1942, Smith sought the Republican nomination for the position of United States Senator from the State of Michigan. He made a number of speeches and conducted quite an active campaign and in the primary

election received approximately 120,000 votes. Although this was not sufficient for nomination, political observers were of the opinion that Smith had made an unusually good showing. Even after this defeat, Smith continued his candidacy in the general election in November, 1942, when he projected himself as a write-in candidate. He was badly defeated in the general election, his following being less than that in the primary campaign.

Late in 1942, Smith publicly announced the intention of forming a third political party on a national scale. The proposed platform for this Party, as announced, was similar to that advanced by Smith in connection with his work as leader of "The Committee of One Million" and it is understood that Smith hopes to gain support from members of the now defunct "America First Committee." In recent months, Smith has toured the Middle West and has made a number of speeches in various cities, outlining his plan for a third political party. Recently, he has indicated that it may not be necessary to form this party if the Republican and Democratic Parties "present a real issue" for the 1944 Presidential Election.

At various times within recent years it has been reported that certain officials at the Ford Motor Company are interested in Smith and have collaborated with him to the extent of furnishing him information used in some of his speeches and his publication "The Cross and the Flag."

In connection with his various appearances as a public speaker Smith has attained the reputation of being a very effective and forceful speaker. Although he is somewhat bombastic, and at times given too freely to overemphasis, it does appear that he is an unusually good speaker and that he is effective in influencing audiences. Some persons have described him as among the foremost public speakers of the day.

It is of interest to note that Smith's publication "The Cross and the Flag" was named, along with a number of other publications, in indictments returned in the District of Columbia on July 21, 1942, and January 4, 1943, charging twenty-eight and thirty-four defendants respectively with having engaged in a conspiracy to violate the Sedition Statutes. These indictments have pertinence to the case popularly referred to as United States vs. Gerald B. Winrod, et al. Although Smith's publication was mentioned in the indictment, as being one of a number of publications throughout the country which has contributed to undermining the loyalty and morale of the Armed Forces, neither Smith nor the publication was named as a defendant.

JPHa:eh

62-43818

September 18, 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/5/92 BY SP-8875/ml

SAC, Detroit

6

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was, et al;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C;
SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of September 5, 1943, referring to the report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on the same date.

b7C

In reply to your inquiry, you are advised that the Bureau does not desire that reference report, in its present form, be disseminated to the various field offices which are designated on the first page as receiving copies of the report. As noted in your letter, the report sets forth considerable information concerning subject's [redacted]

b7D

It appears that if the information in the report as now phrased, that is, in the form of direct quotations of the correspondence concerned, came to the attention of Smith, either directly or indirectly, there would be a good chance of the informant's identity being revealed. Accordingly, in view of this, as well as the particular nature of the correspondence set forth in the report, it is desired that the report be rewritten in such a way as to paraphrase the pertinent items of correspondence. The information contained in the correspondence should, of course, be included in the report, but it is believed that through the medium of paraphrasing, the chance of revealing the identity of and embarrassing the informant would be materially lessened.

I am therefore returning with this letter three of the five copies of Agent Wolf's report which were forwarded to the Bureau. The report should be rewritten as indicated above, and thereafter, the designated copies should be forwarded to the Bureau and disseminated to the other offices for which copies are designated.

b7D

In connection with the submission of further reports, these observations should be borne in mind, and all items of correspondence submitted by [redacted] should be paraphrased rather than quoted verbatim.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 6
SEP 21 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED 62-43818-335

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 22 1943

2 SEP 23 1943

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

TCC:ESL:bc

146-28-43

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

DATE: September 14, 1943.

TO: Federal Bureau of Investigation

FROM: Tom C. Clark, Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division.

SUBJECT: Gerald L. K. Smith

Some time ago the Attorney General forwarded to you a copy of a statement one hundred and ten pages long, written by [redacted] centering around the activities of the subject.

b7c b7d

It is desired that the original of such statement be returned to the Criminal Division promptly at this time, inasmuch as its return now has been requested by the source which made it available.

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-4 [illegible] 38

F B I

16 SEP 21 1943

5

memo to clark 9/14/43

Op. 7

JPHa:WMJ
9-13-43

62-43818-336

RECORDED

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

Reference is made to your memorandum of September 11, 1943, referring to a statement of 110 pages written in connection with this subject by [redacted]. As you indicated in your memorandum, the original of this statement was furnished the Bureau with a memorandum received from the Attorney General under date of October 28, 1942.

b2
b7c

Pursuant to your request, I am returning the original of the statement with this memorandum. The Bureau is retaining a copy of the statement and you will recall that the statement has already been summarized in reports submitted in connection with the instant case. For your further information you are advised that the various marginal notations appearing throughout the statement were there when the statement was received by the Bureau.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-7BTJ/mlc

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

RECEIVED 8 P.M. 1943

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FEB 22 1943

137

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b1, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

_____

_____

☐ For your information: _____

_____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-337 & 338

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Detroit, Michigan — Ipls. FILE NO. 100-4754

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Indianapolis, Indiana	9-9-43	5/5;7/17;8/23, 24,27,28,31; 9/2/43	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, w.as.; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION.	INTERNAL SECURITY (G) SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted] unable to furnish information of value. Subject was national speaker for Ku Klux Klan about 1925-1930. Former Indiana leaders of Klan inform that subject appeared to have no un-American tendencies in that period of time, but advanced Klan theme that public offices in the United States were disproportionately controlled by Jews and Catholics, and sought to awaken voters to this fact. No evidence found in Fort Wayne, Indiana, indicating that meeting planned by subject for June 1, 1943, was actually held. b7c

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 6/5/82 BY SP-8 b7c

Reference: Bureau file 62-43818.
Report of Special Agent [redacted], New Orleans, Louisiana, March 16, 1943;
Letter from New Orleans office dated April 20, 1943.

Details: AT RICHMOND, INDIANA

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted] on May 5, 1943: b7c

[redacted], Colonial Building, informed that he was not personally acquainted with the subject, but that in 1924 or 1925 he knew subject had been connected with the Ku Klux Klan. [redacted] stated he was employed by the Klan to investigate some of the members of the

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: D. S. Hostetler SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES — RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818 339

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2 SEP 24 1943

524

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 7—2034

organization in order to clear out the undesirable elements.

[redacted] stated that in his opinion SMITH was a "rabblerouser," and that he was always making inflammatory speeches. He stated that SMITH in 1924 or 1925 had been connected with the Lecture Bureau of the Ku Klux Klan and went around the country making speeches recruiting members for the Klan. He further stated that in his opinion he believed SMITH to be a psychopathic case, because of the fact that he acquired strange ideas and evidently believed in them sincerely.

[redacted] also informed that [redacted] Indianapolis, was a man who would know more about past activities of SMITH and would possibly know more definitely exactly what SMITH's duties were.

b7c
b7D

[redacted], stated he had been employed by the KKK in 1924 or 1925 to investigate certain members of the Klan who had become so radical in their activities that they were detrimental to the KKK movement. He said that in 1924 or 1925 SMITH was a speaker and organizer for the Klan and at that time he was assigned to a territory in Wisconsin. He said that the Klan had a group of from fifty to sixty speakers who covered the country organizing and recruiting members.

[redacted] stated that after SMITH's connection with the Klan ceased, he became associated with HUEY LONG in Louisiana, and later with Dr. TOWNSEND. [redacted] also stated that [redacted] and a [redacted] would be able to furnish more definite information concerning SMITH's activities.

AT INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

b7c

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted]

[redacted] was contacted for information concerning subject, but stated that he was totally unable to give any pertinent information regarding subject's background, activities, statements or tendencies. He had heard of the subject's recent activities but had no personal acquaintance with him or other information pertinent to this investigation.

b7c
b7D

The following investigation was conducted by the writer:

[redacted], Marion County Courthouse,

b7c, b7D

100-4754
Indpls.

[redacted]

In the period of about 1925 to 1930 subject was known to [redacted] as a national speaker for the Klan, who traveled over several states in the Midwest and addressed meetings of Klan members. [redacted] stated in this capacity subject did not conduct any membership solicitation campaigns, but spoke in an inspirational capacity only. Membership solicitation was handled by state speakers who were separate and distinct from the national speakers.

During this period and in the early 1930's [redacted] knew subject as an ordained minister. He regarded subject as entirely sincere, and stated that at that time subject had no tendencies whatever which would indicate disloyalty to the United States. In his addresses to Klan personnel, subject advanced the current Klan theme that public offices in the United States were occupied to a disproportionate extent by Catholics and Jews. In other words, in proportion to the number of Catholics and Jews in the entire population of the United States, the number of such individuals holding public office was too large, and this condition resulted in influences which were not considered by the Klan to be in the best interests of the United States in the long run. Subject's purpose in pointing out this fact to Klan audiences was understood by [redacted] to be to awaken the voters of the United States to this condition, so that they would exercise their franchise at the polls in such manner that the condition would be corrected. According to [redacted] subject at no time advocated the overthrow of the Government or violence or persecution with regard to any group or race. [redacted] regarded subject's speeches as entirely consistent with Christian concepts.

[redacted] stated that subsequent to his acquaintance with subject, the latter became involved with HUEY LONG, late Senator from Louisiana, and visualized himself as a person who was destined to save the world. At about this same time he became very active in politics and was inclined to commercialize his teachings and connections. [redacted] is unable to furnish any information regarding subject's activities or tendencies after about 1932. He stated that so far as he knows, subject's character and reputation in Indiana were generally regarded as good.

[redacted] remembers that SMITH appeared as a national speaker for the Klan on about two occasions in Indiana. On these occasions he advanced approximately the same theme as

ALL b7c, b7D

previously described herein by [redacted], and appeared to [redacted] to be completely sincere. [redacted] is unable to give any information which would indicate that subject had any tendencies which were inimical to the best interests of the United States. He suggested that further information concerning the subject might be procured from [redacted]

[redacted] was interviewed at his home on August 28, 1943, and stated he knew subject only as a minister who has engaged in giving inspirational addresses for the Klan. He was unable to give any information regarding subject which has not already been set forth, and reflected that he had only a slight personal acquaintance with subject. b7c b7d

[redacted] called at the Indianapolis field office on August 31, 1943, and informed that he was an official of the KKK in the Greenfield area during the period in which subject is said to have been a national speaker. He also was unable to give any further information regarding subject's activities or tendencies, and informed that he remembered seeing subject on only one occasion, and that was at a time when subject delivered an address to a Klan meeting, but [redacted] could not even remember the topic of the speech.

AT FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

b7c

The following investigation was performed by Special Agent [redacted]

Information received from [redacted] was negative. b7D

Investigation failed to indicate that any meeting was held by subject SMITH or in his behalf, at Fort Wayne on June 1, 1943. [redacted] of the Journal Gazette, a local newspaper, informed that he had the date June 1, 1943, in his "future book" indicating that a meeting was to be held by or on behalf of subject SMITH on that date. [redacted] however, informed he did not believe the meeting was held. Negative information was secured from [redacted] of the News Sentinel, a local newspaper; however, [redacted] recalled that a meeting was held by subject SMITH at the Shrine Auditorium in Fort Wayne the year previously. b7c b7D

100-4754
Indpls.

[redacted] of the Shrine Auditorium, 411 West Berry Street, informed that subject SMITH had called him on the telephone from Detroit some time prior to June 1, 1943, and had requested the use of the Auditorium. It was decided, however, according to [redacted], that the Auditorium was too large as subject SMITH had told him he wished merely to hold a committee meeting where there would be present relatively few individuals. [redacted] said he had suggested to SMITH that he attempt to secure the Anthony Hotel Ballroom, and had given SMITH the name of [redacted] of the Anthony Hotel as the one to contact.

[redacted] of the Keenan Hotel in Fort Wayne, and [redacted] of the Anthony Hotel, stated he had been telephonically contacted by subject SMITH, as he recalled, in the latter part of May, 1943. SMITH had called from Detroit and had asked to engage the hall. [redacted] stated he had told Mr. SMITH he would call him back, and upon deciding not to rent the hall, called some woman in the office of subject SMITH in Detroit and told her that a meeting was to be held in the hall by a local group during the particular time it was desired by subject SMITH, and he would not be able to rent the hall. [redacted] stated it was his belief that no meeting was held by subject SMITH.

[redacted] of the Civic Theater at Fort Wayne, and [redacted] advised that they had received no request from subject SMITH or from anyone acting on his behalf, for the rental of the Civic Theater Hall. They could furnish no information in this respect.

[redacted] informed he had not heard that any meeting was held by subject or on his behalf.

It is not believed that further investigation would be advisable at this time inasmuch as inquiry fails to indicate that any meeting was held, but if the Detroit office has information that such meeting was held in Fort Wayne, appropriate investigation will be conducted.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

b7c b7D

100-4754
Indpls.

[redacted] -- [redacted] former Special Agent assigned to the Indianapolis office. The case was originally assigned to Agent [redacted] but upon his death [redacted] nothing was found among his belongings and papers which would indicate that any meeting was held by subject. It was not possible to ascertain who was contacted in this connection by Agent [redacted]

b7c, b7D

62-43818

SEP 20 1943

TELETYPE

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. B. A. Tamm
Mr. Clyde
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lupo
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starks
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Teletype Room

FBI DETROIT 9-20-43 3-55 PM EWT SMY

DIRECTOR

ADEPT

GERALD L. [redacted] K. SMITH, WAS, INTERNAL SECURITY G, SEDITION. ADVISE

b7c WHETHER COPIES OF REPORT OF [redacted] DATED SEPTEMBER THIRD FORTY

THREE AT DETROIT SHOULD BE FURNISHED OTHER OFFICES AS DESIGNATED.

[redacted] SUTEL.

BUGAS

RECORDED 62-43818-340

cc Lad

29 SEP 23 1943

ACK AND HOLD

3-55 PM OK FBI WASH DC GMW

41 SEP 27 1943

CC-150

JPHa:WLJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DEFERRED

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

SEPTEMBER 21, 1943

Transmit the following message to:SAC

RECORDED 62-49818-310 DETROIT

GERALD L. K. SMITH, WAS, SEDITION. REURTEL SEPTEMBER TWENTY LAST. DO NOT DISTRIBUTE REPORT IN PRESENT FORM. LETTER WITH INSTRUCTIONS FOLLOWS.

HOOVER

O'Brien

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
SEP 22 1943

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524

Y MES

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVEST.
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
1300 Biscayne Building
Miami, Florida

[redacted] b7c

July 5, 1943

100-0

Director, FBI

Re: [redacted] b7c

Dear Sir:

In the course of an investigation conducted by the Miami Field Division, [redacted] was interviewed at Sarasota, Florida, at which time he displayed credentials of the [redacted] indicating that he was a special investigator for such organizations, located at [redacted] telephone number [redacted] signed by [redacted] administrative chairman.

[redacted] stated that he had been employed as a paid investigator for the past five years, and that he was presently engaged in investigating subversice Fascist organizations throughout the United States. He advised he has on many occasions furnished information to the New York Field Division, and that his office, which is maintained in New York, had furnished considerable information to the New York Field Division of the Bureau.

At the time of interview [redacted] furnished the writer with a mimeographed pamphlet, written in Italian, which he advised is being distributed by GERALD L. K. SMITH, addressed to the Italian people, criticizing the New Deal, and which pointed out that GERALD L. K. SMITH was a great friend of the Italian people, organizer of the America First Committee, and editor of the magazine "The Cross and the Flag". This mimeographed pamphlet is being forwarded to the Bureau for their information, said pamphlet having been obtained by [redacted] from his New York Office and which he was using as the basis for an investigation.

[redacted] was advised of the Bureau's jurisdiction in investigation pertaining to unAmerican organization, however, in view of the apparent nation wide scope of instant matter, it is being called to the attention of the Bureau for such action as is deemed appropriate.

Very truly yours,

1 ENCL

A. P. KITCHIN, SAC

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY SP2 [illegible]

RECORDED

62-43171-34

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 22 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TRANSLATION FROM THE ITALIAN

ITALIANS!

In this hour when the whole world, thrown into a turmoil because of all the cruel and violent passions which the human race employs to satisfy its craving for power and conquest, it is indeed consoling to see that among so much degradation there is still some good to be found; this goodness and sincere attachment for what is right, is found in men, who placing the well-being of all humanity before their own personal interests, risk their lives and liberty in propagandizing and exposing to the public those individuals who cause wars for purely economic and social reasons.

I could here list many names which would appear insignificant to you but would acquire gigantic importance if beside each name I could list the battles which each has sustained to defend the rights to life and peace which are desired by the majority of the people.

These men, whose experience, contracted through their many years spent with the people and for the people gives them a greater opportunity of knowing their needs, know that the war was not a public desire, but solely the machination of a few interested parties.

We, Italians who are Christian by birth, above all others have the right to defend this Christianity from those who like Judas sold and killed for gold.

In a few days you will be given the opportunity of hearing one of these champions of the people, who although not our compatriot, has always shown a deep affection for us, and from his words you will draw an exact picture of the situation we are now traversing, while suffering its consequences.

This nation which is our host and which should be guided by a government with democratic principles, seems to be guided, instead by a group of Jews whose principle is but one: personal economic interests.

The name of this great friend of the Italians, I am sure is not new to you, GERALD L. K. SMITH, organizer of the "AMERICA FIRST PARTY" and editor of the magazine "THE CROSS AND THE FLAG".

From this man, who today inculcates fear into a large number of politicians of the so-called NEW DEAL, we Italians have much to learn and in that way will know how to conduct ourselves in the coming elections.

It will be our duty to keep you informed of the date on which GERALD L. K. SMITH will visit your neighborhood to bring you an account of his experiences.

Enroll today in the AMERICA FIRST PARTY, and in that way you will have the opportunity of not only fighting the NEW DEAL, but of maintaining the lofty ideals of CHRISTIANITY BY WHICH WE CAN BE DISTINGUISHED.

ENCLOSURE

On reverse side of photostat, in circle are the words "ITALIANS AWAKEN".

62 - 4[illegible]18 - 341

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-[illegible]

JPH FILED
RECORDED
&
INDEXED

~~100-215285~~

Date: September 13, 1943

To: SAC, New York

62-43818-341

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/80 BY SP8B75/pkb

Transmitted herewith are photographic copies of a leaflet written in the Italian language headed, "Italiani!" and on the reverse side bearing an inscription, "Italiani Svegliatevi." For your additional information, copies of a translation of this leaflet are also attached.

The original of this leaflet was furnished the Bureau on July 5, 1943, by the Miami Field Division which advised that it had been secured from one [redacted] who displayed credentials as an investigator for [redacted] located at [redacted] indicated that he was at the time in the vicinity of Miami on business for this organization and in furnishing the leaflet stated that it had been given him by the New York office of the [redacted] indicated that he was investigating this leaflet and stated that it had been distributed by Gerald L. K. Smith.

[redacted] indicated that the source of this information was [redacted] and, accordingly, it is desired that the New York office immediately contact that organization for any information in its possession tending to show that the attached leaflet has been distributed by Smith or other persons in his behalf. For the information of the New York office it is pointed out that at the time [redacted] was questioned he was being interviewed in connection with an investigation of his activities by the Miami office embodying an allegation that he had given expression to statements derogatory of the WAC. The New York office is in possession of a report concerning this matter captioned, [redacted] dated at Miami.

The Laboratory has examined the original of the attached leaflet and has advised that the leaflet was prepared on a typewriter equipped with type which conforms with the Laboratory's standards of L. C. Smith Elite type, spaced twelve letters to the inch. A comparison was made with material of similar nature in the file of writings pertaining to national security without effecting an identification.

cc - Detroit

Enclosures

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
SEP 19 1943
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

21 SEP 25 1943

SEP 19 2 13 PM
RECEIVED IN READING ROOM

ALL
b2C, b7D

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE NO. 100-19053

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SAN FRANCISCO	9/14/43	9/8/43	[redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMANN KENNETH SMITH, was. The Committee of One Million	SECURITY MATTER - G.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted] presently in South Pacific.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 8/20/43 at Detroit, Michigan.

DETAILS: AT PITTSBURG, CALIFORNIA.

[redacted] advised that [redacted] Army Serial No. [redacted] 925th Air Base Battalion, was at Camp Stoneman for only a few days enroute to overseas duty.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/5/82 BY SP8BTJ/mc

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: N. J. L. Pieper SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES: 62 | 43 | -342

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5 BUREAU
2 Detroit
2 New Orleans
2 San Francisco

88 OCT 21 1964

40 SEP 21 1943

47 SEP 28 1943

SF #100-19053

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 14-7 ECC

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	9-15-43	8/14,15,16, 17,18/43	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, was THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject originally scheduled to speak in Buffalo, N. Y., on 8-16-43 under sponsorship of JOSEPH H. STOFFEL, Economics League of Buffalo. Subject refused use of halls by owners in Buffalo. Held secret and closed meeting 8-16-43, Iroquois Room, Hotel Statler. Approximately 210 attended. Committee formed to demand use of public hall for meeting in future, at which Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN to speak. Date of future meeting not known. Subject gave anti-Jewish, anti-Communist, anti-United Nations speech.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-1 b7b/c

- R U C

b7c

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 6-16-43 at Buffalo, New York.

Letter from Detroit to Buffalo dated 8-11-43.

DETAILS: According to circulars obtained from [redacted] subject was scheduled to speak on August 16, 1943, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Delaware Avenue, under the auspices of the America First Party in cooperation with the Economics League of Buffalo, JOSEPH H. STOFFEL, President. It was also indicated that Father CURRAN'S tribute to Father CHARLES COUGHLIN would be read. It was also announced that Captain EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago, would be one of the speakers. b7d

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: John B. Little SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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62-143811-345

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3 - Buffalo

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83 OCT 13 1964

40 SEP 2 1943

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 7—2034

According to [redacted], the officers of the Knights of Columbus, upon hearing that SMITH was to be present, cancelled all arrangements for the use of their hall.

[redacted] JOSEPH H. STOFFEL was the individual charged locally with making arrangements for the meeting hall, and that in making the arrangements, he did not disclose to the owners that the subject was to be one of the speakers. [redacted] STOFFEL rented several other halls for the meeting but the respective owners, upon hearing that SMITH was to make a speech, would cancel the arrangements.

[redacted],

that a closed meeting was to be held in the Iroquois Room in the Hotel Statler the same evening, and that only people who were known as SMITH followers and members of the Economics League were to be invited and admitted to the meeting.

[redacted] that apparently the telephone facilities were used to extend the invitations to the meeting.

[redacted] all individuals invited were instructed not to make inquiry at the hotel for directions to the Iroquois Room, and were further instructed that individuals would be stationed in the lobby of the hotel and upon recognition, would conduct the individuals to the room.

[redacted] the primary putpose of the meeting was to arrange a committee to sponsor and demand the use of a public hall in Buffalo, preferably the Kleinhans Music Hall. A secret committee was formed, headed by STOFFEL, who were charged with the duty of making the arrangements for a future meeting at which Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN would be the principle speaker.

[redacted] the subject was "smarting with madness" because the property owners in Buffalo had refused the use of their halls, and he spent considerable time expressing his opinion that the Communists and the people attempting to persecute him were responsible for the property owners actions.

AL
b7D

BU 14-7

[redacted] SMITH seemed to have toned down his remarks considerably, but managed to make a few comments which were anti-ROOSEVELT, anti-Jewish, and anti-Communist.

[redacted] estimated that the meeting was attended by approximately 200 persons and lasted from 8:30 P. M. to 11 P. M.

[redacted] after arrangements had been made for the committee to arrange for a future meeting, the subject gave a short speech in which he opened by inquiring if there were any newspaper men present, and if so, they were instructed to leave, and announced that the matter was of the "committee" and invited guests, and that no "stooges" were wanted, that while nothing would be done of which they would be ashamed, they were not going to take a chance of receiving the unfavorable publicity which they had previously received in Buffalo.

SMITH stated that the Communists had a scheme for suppressing him by calling up owners of halls which had been rented, representing themselves to be prominent clergymen or prominent officials and demanding that the rental of the hall be cancelled. [redacted] subject then proceeded to "build himself up" by declaring he was a devout Christian and a loyal American, presenting two or three memoranda to the Chairman to be read. One memorandum was a list of prominent people who would vouch for his loyalty and character and included the names of HENRY FORD, Senator VANDENBURG, and the name of an FBI official in Detroit, whose name the informant could not recall. One of the other memoranda contained a list of organizations before which SMITH had previously spoken.

SMITH then stated that the publicity he had previously received in Buffalo had been fair with the exception of an editorial in the Buffalo Courier Express by TOM BROWN, charging that he had trampled on the American flag at a previous meeting in Buffalo. SMITH said he was crusading to save America from Jews, Communists, New-Dealers, and others, conspiring to destroy our institutions. He said that individuals representing these groups were seeking to destroy Americanism and substitute internationalism, in which, our country would be ruled over by Chinamen, British, and Russians.

[redacted] that SMITH, during this speech, made numerous sneering remarks concerning the Allies of the United States, but at no time did he make any unfavorable remark about the Nazis or the Japanese or their leaders.

SMITH declared that he was organizing the America First Party as a "spare tire party" in case the Democrats nominate ROOSEVELT and the Republicans nominate WILKIE, both of whom he characterized as internationalists.

ALL b2D

SMITH stated that his idea of a victory was to send ROOSEVELT to Hyde Park and make him stay there; WILKIE to Moscow, and make him stay there; and Vice-President WALLACE to be a milk man in China. SMITH then named several individuals who would be acceptable to his Party. Among those were Senators WHEELER and VANDENBURG.

SMITH read excerpts from an article dealing with race riots in Detroit, in which it was supposed to state that they had been caused by the Communists who had appointed white girls to date out negro men and stir them up. In this connection, SMITH also attacked "The Stage Door Canteen" of New York, where, he said, white girls were forced to date out negroes.

SMITH then made numerous criticisms of the government and the Bureaucrats who were denying to Americans the four freedoms, while claiming to fight for their establishment throughout the world. He said that ROOSEVELT'S government had no faith in the patriotism of the people as the American government had to resort to conscription while in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, there was no conscription.

SMITH charged that there were going to be 40,000,000 or more unemployed after the present war, and that the international conspirators were preparing to take advantage of the contemplated unrest and chaos which would result in an overthrow of the American system. SMITH said that he told his son, when the latter was called into the Armed Forces, that the only thing he was fighting for was "Old Glory", and that he was not called to fight to make ROOSEVELT President for the fourth term and thus establishing a New Deal dictatorship.

[redacted] SMITH spoke extemporaneously, and the speech was calculated to stir up disunity, create suspicion of our government, and arouse fears concerning the aims of the men who at present direct our policy, and engender ill will toward our Allies.

b7D

[redacted] estimated that approximately 200 people attended, most of whom were elderly.

Neither of the informants were able to recall any statements made by subject which might be considered seditious.

BU 14-7

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS MENTIONED
IN FOREGOING REPORT OF SPECIAL AGENT

b7c

[redacted] dated 9 9-15-43

[redacted]

b7c
b7D

The identity of [redacted] was not disclosed at his request, and the identities of [redacted] were not disclosed because of the possibility existing of continuing their services in future matters.

b7D

JPHa:WMJ
9-21-43
62-43818 - 343

5402

RECORDED

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your further information in connection with your consideration of this case I am transmitting copies of additional reports submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Buffalo, New York, on September 15, 1943, and Special Agent [redacted] dated at New York City, on September 14, 1943. b7c

cc - The Assistant to the Attorney General

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/5/82 BY SP8 [illegible]

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Lease
Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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★ SEP 24 1943 P.M.
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SEP 30 1943

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
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ERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

5403 KJH

Form No. 1
This case originated at DETROIT, MICHIGAN

NY File No. 100-19707

Report made at	Date when made	Period for which made	Report made by
NEW YORK, NEW YORK	9/14/43	7/22,23,27-29; 8/4,5,7,9,11, 17/43	[redacted] b7c

Title	Character of case
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	SECURITY MATTER - G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted] b7c

SMITH's suit against MARCH of TIME for libel charged that the picture entitled "The Lunatic Fringe" depicted him as a Fascist, exponent of Nazism, an anti-Semite, and as being un-American. Action was discontinued when defendant was upheld in his motion to vacate the plaintiff's notice of the examination of certain defendants before trial.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/2/82 BY SCB/SJ

— P —

REFERENCE: Bureau file 62-43818
Bureau letters dated June 16, 1943 and July 5, 1943

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 31, 1943, at New York, N. Y. b7c

DETAILS: The following information was obtained from the 1943 edition of "Who's Who": b7c

[redacted]

Approved and Forwarded	Special Agent in Charge	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES.
E. E. Conroy	62-41818-344	RECORDED & INDEXED

Copies of this report
5 Bureau
3 Detroit (1 USA, Detroit)
2 Washington Field
3 New York

38 SEP 16 1943

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/24/57

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34 SEP 30 1943

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

[redacted]

b7c
b7d

At the County Clerk's office, New York County, the writer reviewed file No. 1114 (1938) entitled, "GERALD L. K. SMITH vs. MARCH OF TIME, INC.; TIME, INC.; ET AL." This file reflects that a complaint and summons was filed on March 17, 1939. The complaint, which is 40 pages in length, alleges that in the MARCH OF TIME picture entitled, "The Lunatic Fringe", the plaintiff was depicted as a Fascist and exponent of Nazism, designated as an American Hitler, as an anti-Semite and Jew-baiter, as a demagogue and rabble rouser, as unpatriotic and un-American, as a person associated with FATHER DIVINE, HITLER, and MUSSOLINI, and made to appear insane, crazy, a crackpot, and a lunatic. He declared all these things were false, fraudulent, and deceitful and, as a consequence, he was made the object of shame, ridicule, hatred, and scorn.

NY 100-19707

The complaint also alleges that this picture caused the plaintiff to lose opportunities to speak upon the radio and public platform, caused shame, embarrassment, and annoyance by constant requests of leaders of the German Bund and various Hitler organizations and sponsors of Hitlerism and Jew-baiting that the plaintiff support their platforms. It also alleges that the picture caused the plaintiff to be designated as the organizer of the Fascist Party in America a impaired him in his profession, and occupation, reputation, fame, and credit to the extent of $5,000,000.

The defendant filed an answer denying most of the allegations in the complaint. The plaintiff thereafter served a notice of his intention to examine certain defendants before trial, and the defendant was upheld in his motion to vacate this notice on March 23, 1939. No further action was noted in the record.

[redacted], telephonically advised that his file in connection with the defense of the above-mentioned case, contains no additional information other than that appearing in the official record. b7c b7D

In accordance with reference letter from the Bureau, an effort was made to locate and interview [redacted], and [redacted] It was ascertained through [redacted] that her husband is presently employed [redacted], by the [redacted] He resides at the [redacted] b7c

Through [redacted] New York American Red Cross, it was ascertained that [redacted] is residing at [redacted]

Efforts to locate [redacted] have been unsuccessful to date.

b7c

-- P E N D I N G --

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

At Washington, D. C.
Will interview [redacted], employed by the [redacted], for any pertinent information he can furnish concerning the subject's activities.

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

At [redacted]
Will interview [redacted], for any pertinent information he can furnish concerning the subject's activities, particularly his relationship or association with [redacted]

At New York, N. Y.
Will locate and interview [redacted] who was formerly associated with SMITH in New York City.

b7c

NY 100-19707

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The confidential informants mentioned in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 9/14/43 at New York, N. Y., are: b7c

[redacted] b7D

[redacted]

[redacted] b7c b7D

This informant's name is being kept confidential according to Bureau policy inasmuch as [redacted]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 18

PAGES REVIEWED: 93

PAGES RELEASED: 41

NOTES: _____

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
September 3, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Leonard
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

~~PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL~~
AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was et al
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is the original and four copies of a report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, September 3, 1943.

It is to be noted that copies of this report are designated for various offices of the Bureau, and before forwarding these copies to these offices, I am submitting this report to you for your approval, especially in view of the fact that there is considerable information contained therein regarding [redacted]

It is requested that you advise me whether or not these copies of this report should be distributed to the offices designated.

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

Yours very truly,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted]
62-1126

Op. 10

RECORDED
INDEXED
F B I
31 SEP 16 1943

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FBI/DOJ

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

JPHa:WMJ
62-43818

September 18, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
SEDITION

In the attached letter dated September 3, 1943, SAC Bugas at Detroit refers to the report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on September 3, 1943, and requests advice as to whether copies of the report should be distributed to the various offices which are designated to receive copies.

b7c

Mr. Bugas points out that there is considerable information in the report concerning [redacted]

b7c
b7D

[redacted] Copies of the report are not designated for any outside agency.

You will recall that the President, as well as the Department, is very much interested in the investigation of this case and that the matter is being given special and continued attention. Pursuant to the Department's request Smith's speaking activities in connection with his so-called America First Party are being covered and all reports reflective of these speeches as well as other collateral investigation requested from time to time by the Department are being immediately referred to the Criminal Division upon their submission by the Field. To date the Department has indicated that Smith has not done anything actionable under the Sedition Statutes or other Federal statutes.

RECORDED INDEXED 63

43818-A

1 ENCL

The Detroit office has unusually good informant coverage in this case, one being a technical surveillance [redacted] through [redacted] Smith's contacts are followed very closely [redacted] Recently, the information afforded by [redacted]

b7D

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83 OCT 13 1984

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

ACTION:

1. [redacted] Accordingly, the Bureau's copies of the report are being returned to SAC Bugas with instructions that the report be rewritten along the lines indicated.

b7D

2. For the reasons set forth above, it is further felt that the report in its present form should not be made available to the Department. However, when the revised version of the report is received, it will, of course, be furnished to the Department, and field offices having outstanding leads.

In view of the interest the President and the Attorney General have shown in this case, as well as the allegations made against [redacted] there are attached copies of a blind memorandum setting forth in appropriate phraseology the substance of the information embodied in this memorandum. I thought that such a memorandum, appropriately phrased, should be prepared in the event you desire to furnish copies to the Attorney General, [redacted] or Mr. Marvin H. McIntyre, with whom the previous White House correspondence in this case has been had.

b7C

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

JM

Please prepare letter to Gen. Watson transmitting the attached memo. E.

Enclosure

JPHa:WLJ
9-25-43
62-43818 - 346

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~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

DECLASSIFIED BY 60 80/LED/ml
ON 8-19-92

Dear General Watson:

On March 31, 1943, in answer to a request received from the President, I furnished a memorandum to Mr. Marvin H. McIntyre setting forth in summary form information concerning this Bureau's investigation of Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit, Michigan.

This investigation is continuing and in recent weeks certain data emanating from confidential sources of information has been received pertaining to Smith's contacts with various persons at Washington, D. C. I thought the President would be interested in the substance of this information and, accordingly, I am transmitting with this letter a memorandum embodying the pertinent data.

For your further information, the facts developed in connection with this case are being referred to the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice, but to date the Criminal Division has not indicated that Smith's activities are sufficient to warrant any prosecutive action.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-8 BLT/MC

Enclosure

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MAILED
★ SEP 28 1943 ★
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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Nichols
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Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Clarke
Ann Tamm

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Detroit, Michigan

FILE NO. 100-7744

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Chicago, Illinois	9/30/43	9/8/43	b7c [redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH; COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION.	SECURITY MATTER - G; SEDITION.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Closed meeting held by subject on September 8, 1943 at Kimball Hall, Chicago, covered by agent Approximately 140 people in attendance includi JOSEPH E. McWILLIAMS. Subject spoke two hours with 45 minutes more used to solicit funds and answer questions. Most of speech devoted to telling subject's experiences in meeting opposi tion to his meetings in other cities. Subject said New Dealers were Internationalists, discus ed statement of Churchill concerning "union now Walter Winchell and Drew Pearson. He stated th Huey Long was the best friend he ever had and said that he, SMITH, had been arrested in New Orleans in 1936 on election eve on "orders of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Called Roosevelt "o old fox" and stated he would shape his attitude any way that would win an election. Subject di cussed results of the Mackinack Island Confere of Republican leaders and asserted Thomas E. Dewey had committed "political suicide" there. SMITH stated he had instructed his attorney to file suit against Walter Winchell for $100,000 for slander.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIG

REFERENCE: Letter from Detroit dated September 2, 1943.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: S. J. Drayton SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES: 62-43818-371

RECORD & INDEX

EX 27

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7—2034

Chicago File No. 100-7744

DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:

By the letter of reference the Detroit Field Division advised the Chicago Field Office that it had been ascertained that GERALD L. K. SMITH was scheduled to hold a closed meeting in Chicago on September 8, 1943 at 8 P.M. on the 10th Floor of the Kimball Building located at 310 S. Wabash Avenue. The letter enclosed a letter secured from informants which on presentation at the door would admit one or more individuals. It was requested that this meeting be covered either by agents or informants of the Chicago Field Office.

[redacted] of the Kimball Building, 310 S. Wabash Avenue, advised on September 8, 1943 that the meeting sponsored by the subject would be held in Room 1018 at 8 P.M. He said the hall was first rented for the meeting by a [redacted] 82 W. Washington Street, who is associated with the "Citizens Keep America Out of War" Committee, or otherwise known as the "Republican National Revival" Committee. [redacted] stated that [redacted] had first requested the hall for use by a group of Republican Ward Committeemen and insisted that the receipt for the rent be made out in her name. He said that he later determined that the meeting was, in fact, to be a meeting sponsored by the subject and told [redacted] that, in view of the fact that there was a misrepresentation on the identification of the meeting, he desired to cancel it. He stated, however, that CAPTAIN EARL SOUTHARD of the "Citizens Keep America Out of War" Committee had contacted him and requested the use of the hall and he had decided to permit the same to be used.

b7c
b7d

At 8 P.M. on the night of September 8, 1943 the writer, together with Special Agent [redacted] appeared at Room 1018, Kimball Hall and attended the subject's meeting. Entrance was gained by showing the letter of invitation which had been furnished to the Chicago Field Office by the Detroit Field Office.

b7c

This letter pointed out that the meeting was a closed meeting and that only those who carried a letter of invitation or who appeared with someone carrying a letter of invitation would be admitted. It also advised that important things were happening and that the writer, SMITH, was anxious to report these things to his friends. He stated that he would report concerning his recent speaking tour in the East and would answer any questions that the audience would have in mind concerning events in Washington, D. C. The letter further advised that MRS. SMITH

would accompany the subject, and he would have some very interesting documents to display. The letter was dated August 28, 1943 and addressed to "My dear Subscriber and Friend".

The meeting commenced at 8:15 P.M. and was called to order by EARL SOUTHARD, who is active locally in the "Citizens Keep America Out of War" Committee, also known as the "Republican National Revival" Committee. Approximately 140 people were in attendance and most of these were middle-aged individuals, approximately two-thirds of them being women. The hall was very small and extremely crowded.

The subject was introduced by EARL SOUTHARD and upon his introduction spent about 15 minutes discussing the need for revival of Christianity in America after which discussion he led the group in reciting the Lord's Prayer. In connection with the aforementioned discussion, SMITH stated that some people thought that if anyone preached CHRIST that individual was anti-Semitic. SMITH said he believed all sects and creeds were entitled to worship as they saw fit, including the Jews, and he would not deny anyone that privilege. He asserted that it had reached the point in America today where the name of CHRIST could not be mentioned in the schools and yet these same schools were permitted to teach Atheism and Communism.

Following his introductory remarks SMITH outlined the plans for his forthcoming trip to the middle west. He advised he was going next to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he would speak at a meeting held under the chairmanship of MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN, widow of the late Senator LUNDEEN. From Minneapolis he was going to Des Moines, Iowa and on to Denver, Colorado where the meeting in that city would be held on Tuesday, September 14, 1943 under the supervision of a man who was known as the "Cowboy Preacher". He said this preacher was one of the best known and most able and dynamic speakers among the Baptist ministers in the State of Colorado. SMITH further disclosed that on his return from Denver he was to hold a meeting in Kansas City and St. Louis, Missouri.

SMITH then discussed briefly the statements recently made by PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND CHURCHILL on post war plans. He said ROOSEVELT had made a statement about a World Military Alliance and that CHURCHILL had made a statement about "Union now --", in which the people of the United States and England would enjoy the same privileges. SMITH did not dwell on these statements more than to say that he was opposed to such plans as he did not want CHURCHILL telling him he had to return to the

British Empire. He was opposed to any military alliance which would permit the keeping of American soldiers in all parts of the world, or, as he put it, if India revolted from England as the United States had once done he did not want American soldiers sent there to help hold India in the British Empire. He also said he was opposed to a common citizenship with the British people.

SMITH then stated that there was a difference between Nationalists and Internationalists and stated he was a Nationalist, while such men as WALLACE AND WILLKIE were Internationalists. He illustrated the difference between the two by saying a Nationalist was like a wife who was faithful to her husband and an Internationalist was like an unfaithful wife. He added that only the Nationalists were the true Americans.

SMITH said that he was the leader of the "America First" Party, but hoped there never would be such a party as he hoped that either the Republicans or the Democrats would adopt Nationalistic principals and nominate a candidate believing in America first, and if either party did this, the full weight of SMITH'S support would be thrown to that party.

SMITH claimed a following of 630,000 people in the state of Michigan and said he had a very strong following in the states of Indiana and Ohio. He said in these three states he held the balance of power. SMITH asserted that his strength and that of his party was growing throughout the nation.

He advised that when the Nationalists came to power in Washington the party would investigate many things which had happened there, including the sudden and untimely death of HUEY LONG, whom he described as the best friend he ever had. SMITH disclosed that the Nationalists would also investigate the mysterious death of Senator ERNEST LUNDEEN while flying to an "American First" Committee Meeting in the South. He extolled the virtues of HUEY LONG and denounced WALTER WINCHELL AND DREW PEARSON for attacking LUNDEEN after his death.

SMITH pointed out that PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT , CORDELL HULL AND ARCHBISHOP BECKMAN had each called DREW PEARSON a liar. He added that if ROOSEVELT had called PEARSON a liar, he must be one because "if anyone knew what a liar was ROOSEVELT did". SMITH related that in 1936 he spoke in New Orleans, Louisiana the eve of the election from 9 P.M. to 12:15 A.M. in an open

air meeting and shortly afterwards was arrested at his hotel by fifteen armed but unidentified men who took him to a remote precinct station and put him in jail with a vomiting drunk for the night. SMITH said he was charged with disturbing the peace on an old Napoleonic law, stating that anyone who spoke in the open after midnight disturbed the peace. He said he was found guilty and sentenced to thirty days, but the sentence was suspended. SMITH said that if people wondered where he had gotten all of his inspiration for his talks during the past few years they would realize that if they had had to spend the night in a police cell with a drunk such as he did there would be enough inspiration for talks for fifty years. He said the politicians of the country were afraid at that time that he would disclose certain facts concerning the death of HUEY LONG. He said, "You know who it was I was arrested by; I was arrested on the orders of FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT."

SMITH stated that he had been in Washington, D. C. recently and had noted important developments. He advised that he had sent a statement of the "America First" Party policy to each of the delegates to the Mackinack Island Conference held recently by the leaders of the Republican Party. SMITH claimed that the newspaper "P M" had pointed out that the policy adopted at the Conference followed closely those suggested by him in his statements to the delegates, and he personally considered this fact to be a very important development. SMITH related that THOMAS E. DEWEY went to the Conference as a "favorite son" after a very commendable administration as governor of New York, but had committed "political suicide" by coming out as advocating a military alliance with England. SMITH said that SENATOR ROBT. A. TAFT had said that this policy advocated by DEWEY was "a damn fool statement to make".

SMITH referred to PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT as "the old fox" and said that ROOSEVELT was the shrewdest politician who ever lived. He asserted that even now the President could begin to see the hand writing on the wall and realize the power of the Nationalistic group. He further stated that ROOSEVELT was willing to shape his "attitudes anyway that would help to win him an election." SMITH said that ROOSEVELT had already "kicked WALLACE in the pants and gotten rid of SUMNER WELLES", the latter whom he described as "the best friend the Communists ever had". SMITH said that ROOSEVELT was trying to get the election in 1944 so he could resign to become "president of the world". SMITH asserted that if ROOSEVELT would not work for re-election, but would work solely for a military victory, and would "call ELEANOR home", his actions would be very acceptable. SMITH pointed out that

he had been accused by Communists of starting the Detroit race riots and that he had gone to the FBI office and talked to MR. BUGAS. SMITH said that investigations conducted in connection with these riots showed that he did not incite them, although he did not state the source of such information.

SMITH related that he had been accused of being anti-Negro and claimed he had never made an utterance against the rights of the Negro people. He said, however, he believed the matter should be considered from a practical point of view, and there was certainly nothing wrong with his being practical about the type of man his daughter married. He said each race should realize that nature and society demanded that the races recognize their difference and neither should expect the other to meet him on a social par. SMITH said he was opposed to letting down the immigration barrier and allowing all nationalities come in in any amounts. He advised that some people had accused him of objecting to the entrance of Jewish refugees and stated that he wished to point out that there were refugees in this country from all parts of the world, including China, Japan, Russia and all European nations, and he was of the opinion that the Jewish refugees should be considered in the same light as all refugees.

SMITH stated that he was a friend to FATHER COUGHLIN and in answer to a question "prophesied" that COUGHLIN would return to the air.

SMITH bitterly denounced WINCHELL AND PEARSON and said that he was suing WINCHELL for $100,000 for slander because WINCHELL had said over the air that SMITH had trampled on the Cambridge flag which GEORGE WASHINGTON had fought under before BETSY ROSS had made the American flag. He said further that WINCHELL had accused him of spitting on this same flag. SMITH said that what he really had trampled on was a flag similar to the Cambridge flag which was a combination of flags which a certain group in this country today wished to set up as the world flag. SMITH stated he had bought a flag from this group for $3.68 and wished to state that he could never support this flag and illustrated by dropping it to the floor and stamping on it. He said it certainly was not the Cambridge flag but was, in fact, the flag of the Internationalists.

SMITH told the audience that his son was in the United States Army and that when he left to go he had told his son to go out and give all he had to fight for the stars and stripes. SMITH then stated that he would not care to have his son fight or shed

one drop of blood in order to make the opportunity for the Internationalists to move the capitol of the United States to London or any place in the world.

SMITH stated he wished to reveal a secret which he had never revealed to any meeting before. He explained that he had forced the Communists in New York City to show their hand as controlling the American Labor Party in that state by writing a letter to the editor of the "Daily Worker", which was published in that paper. SMITH was not clear on how he had forced the Communists to show their hand, but stated that he had been told by one individual that by the use of a 3¢ stamp and a one-page letter SMITH had done more for the Republican Party than any man in the country. SMITH spent most of the evening telling the audience about the various experiences he had had in other cities in being refused places to speak.

He related at great length how a meeting in Buffalo was cancelled three different times but was finally held in a meeting room at the hotel at which he was registered. He also related that in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania a group of Jews had gotten together to endeavor to prevent his holding a meeting but that one Jew as the meeting objected to their taking a stand against SMITH'S meeting because free speech was involved and consequently SMITH was allowed to speak. He further related that while planning a meeting in Cleveland that the mayor of that city forbade him to speak and that he later appeared before a committee on the City Council and presented his argument for free speech and was permitted to speak in Cleveland by a vote of this Council Committee. SMITH related that later on the same issue came up in Cleveland and the mayor of Cleveland stated on that occasion that SMITH should be permitted to speak. SMITH then commented on this by saying, "Of course, the fact that there was an election the next fall had nothing to do with it."

SMITH stated that the meeting was a closed meeting because he intended it to be more of an informal gathering with his friends and that a large crowd could not be accommodated. It was not a closed meeting because he, SMITH, had anything to hide.

SMITH made a plea for contributions to pay his expenses to Minneapolis and his hotel bills and stated he would endeavor to have the people in Minneapolis pay his expenses on to Des Moines. An envelope was passed out containing the title, "America First Party" thereon and contained as a pledge any sum which the individual desired to pledge to help carry on the organization activities. The envelopes were then collected.

SMITH also distributed the June, 1943 issue of "The Cross and the Flag", copies of which were obtained by the agents. However, it is believed the Detroit Field Division is in possession of this document and so will not be forwarded to that office, but one copy will be placed in the files of the Chicago Field Division.

SMITH spoke from 8:15 to 10:15 P.M. and the remainder of the time up to 11 P.M. was given over to his plea for contributions and questions. The questions submitted appeared to be of an unintelligent nature such as, "When do you think the war will end?", or, "Will Father Coughlin be permitted to return to the radio?"

SMITH was very well received by the group and his speech was repeatedly supported by the crowd with cheers and applause.

The notes of the meeting are being retained in the files of the Chicago Field Office.

It was noted by the writer that present at this meeting was JOSEPH E. McWILLIAMS who came in about 9 P.M. and remained standing at the door throughout the meeting. He took no part in the meeting and no mention was made on the platform of his presence.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
October 4, 1943

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth hereinafter the substance of information obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau for the period between September 17 and September 30, 1943.

Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER had addressed a meeting at Detroit, Michigan on September 28, 1943, and that SPRINGER had also apparently contacted Reverend MARION in Pontiac, Michigan on several occasions during the time he was in Detroit as set forth above. It is being noted that SPRINGER remained in Detroit for several days subsequent to the time he gave this speech for SMITH.

Informant stated further that SMITH was greatly perturbed over the fact that he had been contacted by two women giving the names [redacted] and a [redacted] SMITH has stated to informant that it is his belief that these women had been sent by some Jewish organization, probably the B'NAI B'RITH, in an attempt to trap him.

On September 30, 1943, Informant advised that SPRINGER was still in town and that at that time SPRINGER advised SMITH that he, SPRINGER, was scheduled to speak in Colorado on October 14, 15, and 16, but that he would attempt to give another talk for SMITH on October 19.

SMITH has also contacted [redacted] relative to SMITH'S securing the hall in Buffalo, New York on October 27. [redacted] advised SMITH that he was having some difficulty in obtaining a hall, and SMITH advised him at that time that in the event the city refused to grant permission for the use of the auditorium, [redacted] should make use of the following

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38 OCT 8 1943

61 OCT 14 1943

Letter to the Director
dated October 4, 1943

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SEDITION

phrase: "If city-owned property is closed to Congressmen of the United States, God help America."

Very truly yours,

John S Bugas, jls

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted] b7c

62-1126

ND-46

SECURITY DIVISION - FBI

9/18 1943

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____Mr. E. A. Tamm
____Mr. Ladd
____Mr. Mumford
____Mr. Alden
____Mr. Burton
____Mr. Callan
____Mr. Carson
____Mr. Cunningham
____Mr. Fitch
____Mr. Strickland
____Mr. Timm

____Mechanical Section
____Ident. Division
____Technical Laboratory
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____MR. F. L. WELCH
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____E. P. Ferris
____J. S. Gilmore
____J. P. Hanratty
____W. K. Harvey
____K. C. Howe

____J. G. Keenan
____R. O. Kittelsen
____C. C. MacCartee
____H. MacMillan
____K. R. McIntire
____J. W. McMurray
____C. G. Stetter
____R. W. Taylor
____F. G. Tillman
____J. I. Walter
____L. Wilson
____E. K. Winterrowd

____Mrs. Henley
____Mrs. Dorset
____Miss Griffin
____Typists - 4725
____Correct
____Re-date
____Initial
____See me
____Call me

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____Appropriate action
____Send References
____Send file
____Bring file up-to-date
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____Indicate index references

Original this rept is attached to a memo sent Director with case dated 9/18. 3 copies of rept have been returned to Detroit 9/20/43 to be rewritten

J. P. HANRATTY
SUPERVISOR

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
This Case Originated at DETROIT, MICHIGAN DETROIT File No. 62-1128

Report Made At	Date When Made	Period For Which Made	Report Made By
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	9/3/43	7/3,8,10,17, 22,24;8/10, 14,16,18-20/ 43	[redacted] b7c

Title	
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY - C CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

DECLASSIFIED BY 4080/LEDM ON 8/10/77

Synopsis of Facts: b7D ~~STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted] states that SMITH has been contacting numerous officials in an attempt to point out to them that he had no connection with the recent race riots in Detroit. Informant states SMITH requested Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS to secure a copy of the Dies Committee report relative to Reverend C. WILLIAMS, who has been criticizing SMITH in this area. In accordance with this request REYNOLDS forwarded to SMITH a copy of the Dies Committee report regarding WILLIAMS. SMITH has maintained rather close contact with REYNOLDS and Senator NYE relative to future plans, etc. Reverend WINROD has advised SMITH that a new organization, "The Christian Civil Liberties League" is about to be launched and has requested the aid of SMITH. SMITH has indicated that he intends to start suit against WALTER WINCHELL for alleged libel. NYE has requested SMITH to sign all future correspondence with the name "WALTER" rather than SMITH. SMITH has stated that he is going to

3 copies sent to Detroit to be included in accumulation with letter 9/18/43 PMH

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SA [redacted] 10/1/43 PMH b7c

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Approved and Forwarded: Special Agent in Charge

62-43218-349

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81 OCT 6 1943

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OCT 12 1943

Cp. 10

attempt to have the America First Party placed on the official ballot in the state of Michigan in the next election. SMITH has expressed great displeasure with statements made in the recently published book "Undercover" and has indicated a desire for a senatorial investigation of the book. Senator NYE came to Detroit on about August 9th for a one day visit with SMITH. Copies of SMITH's correspondence obtained from Informant DE 38 and set forth herein.

-P-

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated July 23, 1943 at Detroit, Michigan. b7c

DETAILS: AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

[redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, has advised the Detroit Office that SMITH has been contacting numerous state officials, the Detroit Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Dies Committee and other organizations in an attempt to convince the above-named organizations that neither he personally nor his party had anything whatsoever to do with the race riots in Detroit. SMITH has also made releases to the press denying any participation in the race riots. During all this time SMITH has stated that it was his opinion that the COMMUNIST PARTY was more responsible for the recent race riots in Detroit than any other organization; that his name was brought into the race riots by a Reverend CLAUDE WILLIAMS, who he alleges is backed by the COMMUNIST PARTY. SMITH states WILLIAMS has been acting under instructions from the COMMUNIST PARTY in an attempt to blacken SMITH's name by advising all church people in this vicinity that he, SMITH, had an active part in the riots. SMITH has complained to the various churches throughout this area that although WILLIAMS claims to be a minister he should not rightfully make that claim inasmuch as he is not recognized as a minister of any church. b7D

Along these same lines informant stated that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had contacted Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS at which time SMITH requested REYNOLDS to attempt to secure a copy of the Dies Committee report concerning the Communistic connections of WILLIAMS. [redacted] b7D

(DE 62-1126)

[redacted]

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] stated further that he had received information to the effect that SMITH was making a definite effort to have the America First Party placed on the official ballot in the state of Michigan in the next election and that in fact SMITH at a recent meeting had proposed to his audience that his business manager, BERNARD DOMAN be selected as their candidate for mayor. b7D

[redacted] has advised the Detroit Office on numerous occasions that SMITH was making preparations for the institution of a libel suit against WALTER WINCHELL for alleged libelous statements made by WINCHELL in one of his radio broadcasts. It is being pointed out at this time that SMITH is complaing of the fact that in one of his radio broadcasts WINCHELL is alleged to have made the remark that SMITH trampled on the American flag while addressing an audience at Buffalo, New York. SMITH admits that he trampled upon a flag, but that this flag was definitely not the American flag, but that it was rather a flag which he was exhibiting to the audience which in his opinion was the flag selected by certain groups within the United States who were favoring the definite unification of the United States and Great Britain. b7D

Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had contacted Mrs. KNOWLES, one of his ardent

followers in Detroit, with the suggestion that she, Mrs. KNOWLES, sponsor a meeting in Detroit and invite Representative CLARE HOFFMAN of Michigan to attend that meeting and that he, SMITH, would take care of all the expenses.

Informant related further that on or about August 9, 1943 SMITH had been in telephonic contact with the secretary of United States Senator NYE and at that time SMITH requested information of the secretary relative to the character and activities of one [redacted] who had allegedly been sent to Detroit for the purpose of securing information from SMITH. SMITH was advised by the secretary that [redacted] apparently had been O.K.'d by Senator NYE. b7C

Informant stated that SMITH has been greatly perturbed for the past few weeks over the recently published book "Undercover", said book having been written by one JOHN ROY CARLSON. It is being noted that SMITH is referred to in this book in a rather derogatory manner and SMITH has indicated a desire to have the book made the subject of a senatorial investigation. SMITH has also indicated to informant that this book was being backed by WALTER WINCHELL.

[redacted] stated he had received information to the effect that United States Senator NYE had been in Detroit either on August 9th or 10th, apparently for the purpose of discussing with SMITH future plans for the America First Committee and other political theories with regard to the coming presidential election. b7D

[redacted]

b7C
b7D

[redacted]

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- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
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(DE 62-1123)

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

ENCLOSURE TO THE BUREAU: Envelope containing various releases published by SMITH.

PENDING

(DE 62-1126)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE BUFFALO FIELD OFFICE

At Buffalo, New York, will advise in report form the results of the meeting addressed by SMITH on August 16, 1943 as requested in letter from the Detroit Field Office to the Buffalo Field Office.

THE CHICAGO FIELD OFFICE

At Chicago, Illinois, will report in report form the results of the meeting to be addressed by Subject SMITH at Chicago, Illinois on September 6, 1943.

THE CLEVELAND FIELD OFFICE

At Cleveland, Ohio, will advise in report form the results of the meeting addressed by SMITH on August 19, 1943 at Cleveland, Ohio, as requested in letter from the Detroit Field Office.

AT Toledo, Ohio, will report in report form the results of the meeting to be addressed by SMITH on August 25, 1943 at Hotel Secor in Toledo. In connection with this lead it is being noted that SMITH had previously set a tentative date for August 20th, but this has since been changed to August 25, 1943.

THE INDIANAPOLIS FIELD OFFICE

* At Indianapolis, Indiana, will report the result of the meeting addressed by SMITH at Fort Wayne, on June 1, 1943.

THE NEW YORK FIELD OFFICE

* At New York, New York, will interview [redacted] for pertinent information in their files concerning GERALD L. K. SMITH.

* In connection with the Bureau's request, efforts should be made to locate and interview [redacted] Investigation should be conducted along the lines suggested in Bureau letter to the New York Field Office dated June 16, 1943.

(DE 62-1126)

THE NEW ORLEANS FIELD OFFICE

At Lake Charles, Louisiana, will contact [redacted], and ascertain whether he has any knowledge concerning Subject and his background. b7c

THE PITTSBURGH FIELD OFFICE

At Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, will report the results of the meeting addressed by SMITH on August 17, 1943 as requested in letter from the Detroit Field Office.

THE DETROIT FIELD OFFICE

At Detroit, Michigan, will maintain contact with [redacted] and report any information received from them relative to instant case in report form. b7D

PENDING

4-750 (2-7-79)

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COPY: NJA

DO-11

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FLW:TD

DATE July 22, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Attached are summary memoranda which you requested on the following individuals:

[redacted]

Gerald L. K. Smith

[redacted]

b7c

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-8B3/mk

1 ENCL.

RECORDED

62-43818-351

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 14 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

4 OCT 16 1943

ORIGINAL FILED IN

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DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-8BB/mb

JFB:lem:MJ
7-22-43

GERALD L. K. SMITH

Personal History and Background

Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith was born at Pardeesville, Wisconsin, in February, 1898. He is better known today as Gerald L. K. Smith, and his history reveals that he attended Butler Seminary in Indianapolis, Indiana, subsequent to which he graduated from Valparaiso University in Indiana, having completed his studies in theology there. Smith took up his ministerial duties subsequent to leaving Valparaiso University, and it is known that he has served as a minister in Footville, Wisconsin, and also at the Seventh Christian Church, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Smith moved from Indiana to Louisiana and assumed a ministerial post at Shreveport, Louisiana. He became interested in the late Huey Long's "Share the Wealth" movement and went so far as to actively and openly participate in politics in Louisiana as a follower of Huey Long. The publicity which he received from these activities resulted in Smith's dismissal during 1934 from his ministerial post. After the death of Huey Long, Smith continued to identify himself with the "Long machine" but it appears that his efforts were unsuccessful and he left Louisiana in 1937, proceeding to New York City. He launched there an unsuccessful effort to build up "The Committee of One Million." Immediately thereafter, in 1938, he moved to Detroit, where he has since been located.

In Detroit, "The Committee of One Million" was again organized "for the purpose of combatting the menace of Communism." In 1939, Smith advocated isolationism and subsequent to the involvement of the United States in the present war he has openly criticized the Government's war effort and also directed criticism at what he describes as the efforts of the present Government to enslave the United States as an entity in an International State dominated by Great Britain.

More detailed comments are set forth subsequently as to Smith's connection with Huey Long and his activities as the organizer of "The Committee of One Million," but it is of significance to observe that it appears that the turning point of Smith's life dates from his association with Huey Long. Prior to that time he was the usual type of minister concerned with problems incidental to his calling. However, it seems that his participation in the "Share the Wealth" movement fired his ambition to the extent of self visualization of himself as a dominant political figure. Being unsuccessful in associating himself with Long's successors, he has apparently continued his

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

CLOSURE
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OCT 8 1943
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83 OCT 13 1964

dream of political prominence through his efforts in connection with his so-called "Committee of One Million." The fact that he still evaluates himself as an individual of at least potential political significance is attested to by the fact that he has sometimes described himself in confidential conversations as being likely "Presidential timber." In an effort to further augment his political background and potentialities, Smith sought nomination as Republican candidate for United States Senator from the State of Michigan during the summer of 1942. This campaign was unsuccessful.

Smith is married, lives with his wife, and has one son, about twenty years of age. His wife is said to be a distant relative of a Mr. Sorensen, described as an official of the Ford Motor Company.

Activities Prior to 1938

While serving as pastor at the King's Highway Church, Shreveport, Louisiana, Smith became interested in Huey Long's "Share the Wealth" plan. He eventually met Long and shortly thereafter there developed, according to Smith's description, "a close and fast friendship" between the two. It is definitely known that shortly thereafter, and lasting for a period of several years, Smith assumed the position of one of Long's chief lieutenants. Although Smith is prone to describe this relationship as a personal one, several persons who were close to Long at the time state that Long had little personal regard for Smith and apparently evaluated him as being untrustworthy and dishonest. These persons state that Long was merely utilizing Smith's services, and in this connection it is known that Long, as well as others associated with him, regarded Smith as a very dynamic and powerful public speaker. It appears that Smith was widely used by the Long organization in the role of a public speaker for the "Share the Wealth" movement. It is said that Smith, at one time, received as much as $650.00 per week from the Long organization as reimbursement for expenses and as salary.

Information has been received that while associated with the Long movement Smith joined William Dudley Pelley's Silver Shirt organization. Nothing in the way of documentary evidence is available to prove this membership, but in recent years Smith has, on several occasions, admitted membership in the Pelley movement. He states, however, that he joined Pelley's organization merely for the purpose of securing information in connection with his work in behalf of Huey Long.

Although during Huey Long's lifetime Smith was an outstanding personage in the Long machine, he rapidly lost his position after the death of Long. It appears that his services were continued for a short period of time by Long's successors, but that he eventually was displaced due, allegedly, to his untoward efforts to attain personal power. By 1937 any influence which he previously had was completely dissipated and it was during that year that he left Louisiana for New York.

On arriving at New York Smith attempted to organize a group known as "The Committee of One Million." According to the self announced purposes of this organization its primary concern was that of combatting the forces of Communism. However, Smith's efforts in New York met with little success, and reportedly he was disheartened to the extent of ceasing his activities and removing to Detroit, Michigan, early in 1938.

Toward the end of his stay in Louisiana, Smith's personal reputation apparently suffered to some extent. On November 3, 1936, he was arrested by the New Orleans Police Department on a charge of having disturbed the peace in the using of obscene language in a public place. Reportedly, this arrest resulted in his receiving a suspended sentence of ten dollars and ten days.

During 1936 and 1937, Smith was also involved as a plaintiff in several libel and slander cases. These cases were apparently of minor importance, but the consensus of opinion appears to be that Smith's reputation suffered more than did the reputation of those whom he sought to sue.

Current Activities

On arriving in Detroit in 1938, Smith almost immediately set out to reorganize the defunct "Committee of One Million." In this connection he distributed a considerable amount of literature designating the purposes of "The Committee of One Million" as follows:

1. To rebuild the spirit of America.

2. To wipe out the last vestiges of Communism, Nazism and Fascism in all forms.

3. The redefinition of the American National character.

4. The installation of a new spirit in American youth, dedicated to the maintenance of American institutions.

5. To issue a call to farmers and laborers to resist what is now known as an international plot to involve them in a world revolution.

6. To rededicate the citizenry of America to the family altar and to the spirit of the church.

7. To secure the maintenance of a well defined standard of American living.

Other literature of "The Committee of One Million," sought particularly to stress the activities of this organization in combatting Communist influences.

With the coming of the European war in 1939, Smith shifted the policy of "The Committee of One Million" to that of promoting the cause of isolationism. In various pieces of literature distributed during 1939, 1940 and 1941, he was especially critical of the Government's policy of rendering assistance to the allied Governments.

Since the involvement of the United States in the war, Smith has again shifted his policy as well as that of "The Committee of One Million" to the direction of criticism against the Government's efforts in prosecuting the war. He has not questioned the necessity of winning the war, but on the other hand, in various of his publications, as well as his public utterances, has been careful to lay stress on the necessity of the people's aiding and assisting in every way in defeating America's foes.

However, he has advanced contentions that the Government is using the war as an excuse for depriving the public of its just liberties. He has also freely voiced criticism against what he has been disposed to characterize as the Government's efforts to reduce the United States to a mere entity in a great International State dominated by Great Britain.

Smith carries on the work of "The Committee of One Million" through radio broadcasts over Station WJR at Detroit, the distribution of literature, and through the publication of a monthly magazine known as "The Cross and the Flag." Although Smith claims that "The Committee of One Million" has a following of three million persons, it appears that "The Committee of One Million" is really not an organization as such, and is merely a name used by Smith. Smith, of course, does have a rather large mailing list, and it seems that the persons who receive his literature and make occasional financial donations to him are considered by Smith as being members of the Committee. Available information indicates that Smith's claim of three million followers is grossly exaggerated.

Early in 1942, Smith sought to establish another organization known as "The Inner Circle." As suggested by its name, this group was described by Smith as consisting of the more prominent and trustworthy members of "The Committee of One Million." He announced the foundation of this group through the distribution of literature calling for the donation of additional funds, and it appears that its purposes were the same as those of "The Committee of One Million." According to information received, "The Inner Circle" is no more of a real organization than "The Committee of One Million" and was conceived and used by Smith merely for the purpose of collecting additional money from persons on his mailing list.

During the summer of 1942, Smith sought the Republican nomination for the position of United States Senator from the State of Michigan. He made a number of speeches and conducted quite an active campaign and in the primary

election received approximately 120,000 votes. Although this was not sufficient for nomination, political observers were of the opinion that Smith had made an unusually good showing. Even after this defeat, Smith continued his candidacy in the general election in November, 1942, when he projected himself as a write-in candidate. He was badly defeated in the general election, his following being less than that in the primary campaign.

Late in 1942, Smith publicly announced the intention of forming a third political party on a national scale. The proposed platform for this party, as announced, was similar to that advanced by Smith in connection with his work as leader of "The Committee of One Million" and it is understood that Smith hopes to gain support from members of the now defunct "America First Committee." In recent months, Smith has toured the Middle West and has made a number of speeches in various cities, outlining his plan for a third political party. Recently, he has indicated that it may not be necessary to form this party if the Republican and Democratic Parties "present a real issue" for the 1944 Presidential Election.

At various times within recent years it has been reported that certain officials at the Ford Motor Company are interested in Smith and have collaborated with him to the extent of furnishing him information used in some of his speeches and his publication "The Cross and the Flag."

In connection with his various appearances as a public speaker Smith has attained the reputation of being a very effective and forceful speaker. Although he is somewhat bombastic, and at times given too freely to overemphasis, it does appear that he is an unusually good speaker and that he is effective in influencing audiences. Some persons have described him as among the foremost public speakers of the day.

It is of interest to note that Smith's publication "The Cross and the Flag" was named, along with a number of other publications, in indictments returned in the District of Columbia on July 21, 1942, and January 4, 1943, charging twenty-eight and thirty-four defendants respectively with having engaged in a conspiracy to violate the Sedition Statutes. These indictments have pertinence to the case popularly referred to as "United States vs. Gerald B. Winrod, et al." Although Smith's publication was mentioned in the indictment, as being one of a number of publications throughout the country which has contributed to undermining the loyalty and morale of the Armed Forces, neither Smith nor the publication was named as a defendant.

It has been reported that a certain segment of the public press, particularly the newspapers PM and the Daily Worker, have recently sought to convey the impression that Smith, the Ku Klux Klan and other allegedly Fascist individuals and organizations fomented the recent race riot in Detroit. Information at hand, however, fails to show that there are any grounds for this allegation. From another source Smith is said to have been somewhat concerned

about the riot at Detroit, and it was reported that two or three days after the riot he contacted Senator Robert Reynolds requesting the latter to persuade Congressman Dies to investigate the disturbance in that city. Smith indicated at that time that he believed the Communists in the Detroit area were primarily responsible. In the early part of July of this year, Smith made a trip to Washington, D. C., and while in Washington he claims to have reviewed documentary evidence showing that Reverend Claude Cleonie Williams of Detroit had been and is a Communist Party member. Smith asserted that the material he examined was a definite indication to him that Williams had been chosen by the Communist Party to "finger" him.

Smith's remarks relative to Reverend Williams were apparently occasioned by an article entitled "Hell Brewers of Detroit," which appeared in the April, 1943, issue of "The Protestant." In this article Williams accused Smith, among others, of fomenting racial prejudices and anti-Semitism in Detroit. Concerning the tangible evidence which Smith stated he saw in Washington, D. C., relative to the activities of a Communist Front organization, Smith made the statement that he would turn this information over to the FBI for its information. To date this information has not been made available to the Federal Bureau of Investigation by Smith. [redacted] Williams was said to have written extensively in the magazine entitled "The Protestant" relative to his activities in Detroit. The publication "The Protestant", a Presbyterian magazine, is referred to as a Communist Party publication in the Dies Committee memorandum. b7

An extensive investigation of subject's activities has been conducted and is being continued at the present time. The information developed has been furnished the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice. The Criminal Division has recently indicated that nothing has been developed to date on which prosecutive action against Smith could be successfully predicated.

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FBI/DOJ

CONFIDENTIAL

Our Boys in the Back

UP, AMERICANS!!

t Us to Join "Union Now" or Any Kind of a World While They Are at the Battlefront

ey Come Back What Kind of a World They Wish to THEY Have Attained VICTORY

n 1877, for the purpose of re-uniting the United States with er British rule.

was the establishment at Oxford University of the Rhodes e British Empire and the United States.

ation now, while our boys are at the battlefront. He says this

see that this treasonable act is not committed. It Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln type of out against those who would betray the TRUE

co-operation, but are opposed to INTERNATIONAL POLIT-

national educators and politicians.

o oppose "Union Now," "World Federation" or any similar s are returned.

"AMERICAN MOTHERS"
15500 Piedmont Ave.,
Detroit, Michigan

er at 9 A.M. each morning. We have been asked to carry

CONFIDENTIAL

DAILY TRIBUNE:

WARING BLASTS IDEA OF WORLD POLICE FORCE

Urges America to Run Its Own Destiny.

San Francisco, Cal., Aug. 16 [Special].—Roane Waring, national commander of the American Legion, warned the Legion's department of California at its annual convention today of "some of this talk about an international police force."

Waring said he was not interested in an international police force because he did not know "who will command it" or "who will decide what that force is going to fight for and sustain."

"I am only interested in a national defense force," he asserted, "an American army and navy that will fight for the dictates of our American judgment, regardless of what any international court or society of people may decide."

Opposes Foreign Domination.

Describing himself as "a nationalist," not an "isolationist," he opposed "placing the destiny of this America of ours in the hands of any international organization of any kind under any circumstances." He did not want, he said, to "let some other foreign group of governments decide what America's policy shall be, what America's financial interests shall be, whom America will feed, supply and support."

Waring called upon the country to "take a definite stand in world affairs," assume its responsibility and "stand ready to execute it, but execute it thru the laws of an American congress."

"It is congress that has the power to declare war, and it alone can do it," he asserted. "I'm not willing for the British commonwealth of nations or soviet Russia, or poor China, or any foreign nation to sit in any council that says when my son or grandson will go out to be shot. That is for America to decide.

Wants Strong America.

"Then let America be big and strong enough, powerful enough, to assume our place in the society of nations. If anything goes wrong we'll step out as America and stop it."

Declaring that he was "disturbed

going to last long, so why worry about it."

oon-Journal, September 5, 1939

mand war.

g. Congressman Shafer

itizens who believe rticipation in the Euro- is inevitable should consideration to the obilization Plan, which orked out and staffed ies of our federal gov- othing is lacking but

ets up the chart of a ment, entirely con- he President, acting ar Resources Adminis- Trade Administration, Administration, Selec- Administration and e Control Administra- onsible only to him.

astic Laws.

full force of the Mob- takes effect the citi- United States will find living in a nation President is empower- nd all laws; all male the age of 18 and all ns over the age of 16 command of the gov- price of every article y will be fixed by the factories will produce e government orders; other necessities of tioned; all wages will residential proclama- ill be deprived of its ; all business will be mes will be taxed up and profits up to 100 rsonal and real prop- confiscated and sold; lox laws of economics ved, civil rights sus- e press, radio and ed.

d many times that uld have us partici- senseless European d have us gamble for stake in the history The stake is Amer- They ask us to risk all we have built in another effort to make the world safe for democracy.

"Public opinion polls run heavily against American participation in the European war, but this fact is not to be taken seriously. The overwhelming majority does not want war and hopes that it will never come. But wars are not made by common people; they are made by demogogues infesting palaces, and these demagogues 'sell' their wars to the people. It is a relatively simple task, too, because they talk peace while preparing the people for war. They acquire the monopoly of both public information and public education, and they complete the 'sale' of war before they send the goods home.

Must Face Gamble.

"The grave question before this nation today is, shall we gamble democracy at home on another pathetic chance of preserving it elsewhere? We did not solve Europe's problems last time; there is little chance of solving them now.

We can remain out of this conflict if we only have sense enough to keep to ourselves and maintain absolute neutrality. But have we sense enough to do this? Or is it to be another case of the burnt fool's finger going back into the fire?

"Should you disagree with the foregoing statements, let me remind you that our last effort to make the world safe for democracy resulted in 15 dictatorships replacing pre-war constitutional governments. The next time our own constitutional government may be replaced.

"If the prospects for peace look dark at the present time, then there is all the more reason for redoubling our efforts to remain at peace to save our democracy. With all its faults democracy is the best form of government."

OLD MacDONALD RETIRES

—/—

Old MacDonald had a farm—
A.A.A. Ai! O!
With a pro rate here
And a price freeze there;
Here a quota, there a quota;
Everywhere a questionnaire.
Old MacDonald had a farm—
A.A.A. Ai! O!
He had a farm,
But he had no seed,
No tractor parts,
No hands, no feed;
With a "Don't plant this"
And a fine if you dare,
And a Government blank
To be filled with care—
And they alaws want
At least one spare—
Here a form, a ration there,
And everywhere a questionnaire.
Old MacDonald had a farm,
And the auction is being held at two p.m., Sunday, three miles out on Highway 59,
Rain or shine.

—Ethel Jacobson
—The Saturday Evening Pos

"Mothers" Detroit, Mich.
Give this copy national contributions to—

"AMERICAN MOTHERS"
15500 Piedmont Ave.,
Detr. , Michigan

Dandies!

g, you are rking for AMERICA . . .
for the grand old U. S. A.

You are allied to other countries for purposes of self-preservation, but NOT TO BECOME PART OF THEM.

Your sons, your fathers, your lovers are fighting and dying for the American Bill of Rights . . . NOT for a Russian bill of rights.

They are fighting to preserve an INDIVIDUALISTIC, FREE-FOR-ALL democracy, not a slave-state collectivist democracy a la Russia.

We are fighting for a government of laws, not for the importation here of the Old World bureaucratic system, now gradually squeezing the life out of our liberties, under the mask of patriotic necessity.

• • •

WAKE up! Back to the U. S. A. On with the war to the last penny . . .

But only for the preservation of our OLD U. S. A. . . . NOT for Willkie's or Wallace's world-at-large.

Snap out of it, you Yankee Doodle Dandies!

Before the iron-collar of international commufascism is *snapped on your necks!*

CONFIDENTIAL

Boys Let Out of Army

WELLINGTON, N. Z.—Youths of 18 and 19 have been released from full-time service in New Zealand's army, navy and air forces to resume their studies or apprenticeships or undertake their chosen vocations. Wallington reports those who volunteered are not affected by the order.

Detroit News
Aug. 8-1943

Reprint from Battl

DICTATOR SURE IF WAR COMES, AVERS SHAFEI

Tells Lions Industrial Mobilization Plan Already Drawn.

Legislation placing the United States under a dictatorship should we become involved in the European war has already been written and is ready for passage by Congress the moment the "emergency" arrives, Congressman Paul W. Shafer told the members of the Lions club at their weekly luncheon this noon at the Hart hotel.

Such legislation, if adopted, Congressman Shafer contended, will mean the end of freedom in this nation, at least for many years to come. Few people, he pointed out, are aware that this legislation, knows as the "Industrial Mobilization Plan," exists, adding that it is the most astounding document ever prepared in a democracy. Satanically and brutally, he said, it abolishes the Constitution itself and takes from the American people all of their rights, investing them in the President and whoever he desires to designate.

Must Keep Head.

Because those who have prepared this legislation contend that a dictatorship is necessary if we are to emerge victorious from war, Congressman Shafer said, it behooves every American citizen to keep his head clear and his feet on the ground in this grave period, and guard against the efforts which will be made to arouse the citizens of the nation to the point where

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Your donation will help t
wide circulation. Mail

CONFIDENTIAL

BA-2

August 22, 1943 DETROIT SUNDAY TIMES

Snap Out of It, You Yankee Doodle Dandies!

CONFIDENTIAL

By BENJAMIN DE CASSERES

YOU are being doped with too much Russia . . .

Too much China . . .

Too much Gazook, Gazeh and Gazan.

Snap out of it, you Yankee Doodle Dandies!

Let us have continuous country-wide PRO-AMERICAN meetings.

Let's have more 100 per cent American talks over the radio.

Let's have more PRO-AMERICAN books.

Let's break the power of the internationalists, the sneak-Reds at Washington and the free-milk-for-Afghanistan galoots.

Let us proclaim our AMERICANISM and ALL that it stands for.

Snap out of it, you Yankee Doodle Dandies!

• • •

DON'T be ashamed of the way you came up.

Proclaim this from an Independence Hall in every town and city in the country—

"We came up the FREE ENTERPRISE way.

"We came up the CAPITALISTIC way.

"We came up the UNSECURED way,

"We came up the ANTI-RUSSIAN, the ANTI-CHINESE, the ANTI-GERMAN way."

Announce "no peace but an AMERICAN-WAY peace!"

Snap out of it, you Yankee Doodle Dandies!

Lay it on the line for everything we've stood for.

Cheer for the 1789-to-1933 *Old Deal.*

Quit hemming and hawing and hurriedly swallowing your spittle when some alien-minded gumshoe hisses "capitalist!" at you.

Yes, we are all capitalists—all of us who have a surplus of $10 in the bank or in our pocket or who have investments in land or railroad shares or who have an insurance policy in the drawer.

• • •

YES, we ARE capitalists!

We believe in the American capitalistic system.

And war on all Communists, world-planners, Fascists, Nazists, socialistic New Dealers and advocates of any kind of thumb-print government.

Snap out of it, you Yankee Doodle Dandies!

Rotten old Europe and enslaved, undrained Asia seek to stick you head-first in their postwar political and economic latrines.

They call it by all sorts of sucker-bait names . . . "world-state," "international council," "world-policing" . . . but these are only the encircling rosebushes that hide the latrines.

Up and at them—by radio, articles, meetings and the ballot.

They would sell out your national sovereignty for a mess of international witches' hell-broth.

They would put you in hock for life through skin-peeling taxes in order that people for whom you don't care a flea's belch shall be "put on their feet" . . . *the better to kick your Uncle Sam in the pants.*

Snap out of it, you Yankee Doodle Dandies!

CONFIDENTIAL

Don't S

!!

Our Fighting Men D

F

Let the Soldiers Dec

L

The Cecil Rhodes fund

Great Britain and bringi

One of the means Cecil

Scholarships for selected

Clarence Streit was one o

Mr. Streit proposes that w

must be done *while the*

It is up to every rea

is time for the Georg

Americans to break s

defenders of this nati

We believe in constructiv

ICAL ALLIANCES.

Let's not sacrifice An

Write your Senators and

plan, until VICTORY is

Don't forget to k

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-4156

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA	10/1/43	9/10/43	[redacted] SA [redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Speech made by SMITH 9/10/43 at Mpls. covered much the same general matter as previous speeches reported by this office. He eulogized the late Senator LUNDEEN of Minn. and attacked Congressman GALE and Senator BALL of Minn. referring to them as being "alien minded" and "parlor pinks". He stated Washington was filled with Communists and "smelly politicians". He accused ROOSEVELT of looting the treasury to buy votes and bitterly denounced Communism and all those favoring Internationalism in world politics.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Letter from the Detroit Field Division dated September 4, 1943.

DETAILS: AT MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA ~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

SMITH spoke on September 10, 1943, at the Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis, Minnesota, to a closed meeting, admission being gained only through invitation. Approximately 500 people attended this meeting and many others were turned away because of the lack of seating space and standing room. The meeting was sponsored by Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, widow of the late Senator LUNDEEN of Minnesota. SMITH, in introducing Mrs. LUNDEEN, eulogized the late Senator LUNDEEN and the position he stood for in regard to foreign policy. He also bitterly denounced Commentators WALTER WINCHELL and RAYMOND CLAPPER and their attacks on Senator LUNDEEN and branded them as traitors to the United States. He also discussed the Farmer-Labor Party in Minnesota and stated that the party had split into two factions, one headed by Senator LUNDEEN, and the other

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: M B Rhodes SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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St. Paul File #100-4156

Communistic in nature and controlled by former Governor BENSON.

At the conclusion of SMITH's introduction Mrs. LUNDEEN spoke for approximately one hour during which time she bitterly denounced DREW PEARSON and WALTER WINCHELL and also the myth "of Internationalism". She spoke in favor of the Isolationists point of view and criticized the administration for conducting the recent secret Food Conference at which conference she alleged the United States agreed to feed the rest of the world during this war and after this war at the expense of the citizens of the United States. She also condemned proposed legislation introduced by Senator BALL of Minnesota to police the world after this war. During her speech Mrs. LUNDEEN quoted GEORGE WASHINGTON and other great Americans in regard to their warnings to avoid entangling alliances abroad.

SMITH spoke for approximately one and one-half hours during which time he condemned the preachers of the United States and politicians who avoided the use of the word CHRIST in prayer and in Congress out of deference to that ten per cent of our population who are not followers of CHRIST. He discussed at some length the program of the America First Party and the steps that had been taken to present its basic policies to both the Democrats and Republican Parties. He referred to the basic policies of the America First as being, (1) wipe out Communism in the United States, (2) Abolish the Washington Bureaucracies, and (3) Adopt the Isolationist point of view in regard to post war policy. He stated that the America First Group with its assured one million votes could swing a presidential election from Republican to Democrat or visa versa and therefore he felt that the Party would receive consideration from both of the main line parties. He stated further that the America First Movement is "tired of being kicked around" and in the event that neither of the main line parties adopt the policies of the America First Group the America First movement will nominate its own candidate for president in the next election. SMITH discussed the history of the America First movement to some length and the difficulty experienced by him in renting speaking places in Cleveland, Ohio, Buffalo, New York, and other cities. In this regard he accused the Jewish element of attempting to stop him from speaking in Cleveland, Ohio.

SMITH harangued Congressman GALE and Senator BALL of Minnesota for their Internationalism stand on post war policies and referred to them as being "parlor pinks" and as being "alien minded". In that regard he stated that he was going to issue challenges to Senator BALL and Congressman GALE to meet him in debate on the Subject of internationalism.

SMITH stated that there were too many Communists and "smelly politicians" in Washington and condemned President ROOSEVELT for "looting the Treasury to buy votes". He accused ROOSEVELT of lacking principal even that of a politician and as an example stated that ROOSEVELT fired SUMNER WELLS and "kicked HENRY WALLACE in the pants" who were long his staunch supporters, in an effort to in some measure pacify and regain favor with the steadily increasing number of persons in the United States who are becoming disgusted with the attitude of the Administration toward Russia and post war planning.

SMITH referred to WENDELL WILLKIE as a Republican who had turned out to be a New Dealer and was a disgrace to the Republican Party.

St. Paul File #100-4156

SMITH bitterly denounced Communism and the attempts of Communists to organize the negro people in the United States. SMITH also stated that his son who is serving in the U. S. Army and who had had six years military training previous to his Army service was turned down for Officers Candidate School through the efforts of his, SMITHER's, fearless stand on post war policy.

SMITH defied anyone to question his patriotism and stated that every red blooded American should doe his utmost to help win the war by fighting, working and buying bonds to his utmost.

At the close of the meeting SMITH discussed the financial status of the America First movement and then took up a collection. He mentioned that attacks had been made on his integrity in regard to the acts of the party and stated that anyone who questioned his integrity in this regard could talk to the Internal Revenue Department at Detroit inasmuch as they had informed him after examining his books that he was the most selfless man that they had encountered. SMITH also stated that he had been investigation by the FBI and intimated that he had been found all right.

The meeting closed with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

On September 22, 1943, the report of [redacted] Internal Security Division, Minneapolis Police Department, pertaining to investigation conducted by [redacted] as to the above meeting and subsequent to the meeting, was received by this office. b7c

The report reflected that on September 13, 1943, [redacted] interviewed [redacted] who advised that all contacts in connection with the use of the East Room at the Nicollet Hotel for the Army First meeting were made by telephone, the first call having been made by Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN who stated that the meeting was to be non political. The report reflects that Mrs. LUNDEEN also stated that a Captain SOUTHERD was to conduct the meeting and no mention was made of GERALD L. K. SMITH. It is noted that no such person spoke at the meeting nor was mentioned in connection with the program.

The above report further reflects that [redacted] stated that during the last week of August a tough looking man contacted her requesting to rent the hall for a meeting to be conducted on September 7, 1943. [redacted] further advised that this person told her the meeting was to be non political meeting of the "Constitution Forever" group and showed her a proof copy of a Los Angeles paper with GERALD L. K. SMITH's picture on it. [redacted] stated that she refused to rent the hall to this individual. b7c b7D

[redacted] report further reflected that [redacted] of the Nicollet Hotel, had been contacted who advised that on the night of the meeting he had occasion to walk through the mezzanine floor adjoining the East Room where the meeting was held and observed that there were several arguments going on between members attending the SMITH meeting and some people who were attending a CIO meeting on the same floor. [redacted] stated that the CIO people called some of the America First women "Fascisti" and the America Firsters answered them back. He stated, however, that no serious trouble was started.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

62-43818
JPHa:mae
(10-13-43)

RECORDED

Date: 62-43818-353

To: Mr. Tom C. Clark
Assistant Attorney General

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
SEDITION

For your information there is transmitted herewith a copy of a report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] dated October 1, 1943, at Saint Paul, Minnesota. b7c

Enclosure

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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JPHa:sk
62-43818

Date:

To:

Mr. Tom C. Clark
Assistant Attorney General

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:
GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

RECORDED

62-43818-36

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 16 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Reference is made to previous correspondence with the Criminal Division concerning this subject and to the several reports heretofore made available to you.

For your further information, there is transmitted with this memorandum a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on September 8, 1943.

Enclosure

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

12 OCT 22 1943

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, New York

[redacted] b7c

100-19707

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October 8, 1943

Director, FBI.

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION
Bureau File No. 100-215285

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated September 18, 1943, transmitting photographic copies of a leaflet written in the Italian language headed "ITALIANI !", and requesting this office to contact the Non-sectarian Anti-Nazi League for any information in its possession tending to show that the leaflet has been distributed by GERALD L. K. SMITH or other persons in his behalf.

The following information was furnished to Special Agent [redacted] by [redacted] of the Non-sectarian Anti-Nazi League: b7c b7D

The leaflet in question was prepared and distributed by MARIO BUZZI, also known as MARIO BUZZE, a representative of the league with the knowledge and approval of that organization. The purpose of the leaflet was to promote BUZZI in SMITH's estimation and secure his confidence in order that BUZZI could obtain evidence against SMITH.

BUZZI at one time was editor of the publication of an Italian Fascist organization, which is now defunct. [redacted] could not name the organization, but indicated that it might be identical with the name on the reverse side of the leaflet "ITALIANI SVEGLIATEVI", and that it was an offshoot from the "SONS OF ITALY". b7c b7D

Some months ago the league decided to use BUZZI, posing as an ardent Fascist in an attempt to ascertain the sources of SMITH's financial backing. The plan was for BUZZI to ingratiate himself upon SMITH and gain

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his confidence, in the hope that SMITH would delegate to him the job of organizing the support for the "AMERICA FIRST PARTY" among the Italians.

BUZZI succeeded in obtaining letters of introduction to SMITH from a senator and a representative, both of whom are prominent isolationists. He then went to Detroit where he met SMITH, was well received and according to his reports was making progress. About this time the book "Under Cover", by John Roy Carlson, alias George Pagnanelli was published. This book disclosed how the author, posing as an Italian, joined a number of alleged Fascist organizations for the purpose of exposing them. The result was that SMITH immediately became suspicious of all Italians and BUZZI noticed SMITH's change in attitude toward him. It was decided that BUZZI should leave Detroit and he thereupon developed an illness which necessitated his departure for Florida.

It was at this point that the leaflet idea was adopted. It was hoped that this leaflet would establish BUZZI's reputation as a Fascist and lull any suspicions which SMITH may have entertained concerning him. Not more than 50 leaflets were published, and copies were sent to SMITH by BUZZI and also directed to persons known to be sympathetic who would probably call them to SMITH's attention. [redacted] could name only [redacted] one of the persons who received the leaflet. [redacted] b7c

BUZZI was also supposed to have notified representatives of the F.B.I. and the Military Intelligence in advance that the leaflet was to be distributed. It was [redacted] impression that a copy had been given to the Military Intelligence Division at Fort Myers, Florida, and also to the Bureau Agent. He stated that the contents of the leaflet had been carefully checked by his office, and it was felt that it contained no objectionable material. b7c b7D

In reference to the letters of introduction to SMITH, which BUZZI obtained from the Members of Congress, [redacted] advised that he furnished photostatic copies of these letters to Representative JOHN McCORMACK, Majority Leader of the House of Representatives, and he refused to identify the authors until he had conferred with Mr. McCORMACK.

Letter to Director
NY 100-19707

October 8, 1943

Unless advised to the contrary, no further inquiry will be made concerning the above matter by the New York Field Division.

Very truly yours,

E. E. Conroy

E. E. CONROY
SAC

cc: (1) File No. 100-15231
(2) Detroit Office

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 19

PAGES REVIEWED: 58

PAGES RELEASED: 30

NOTES: _____

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ON 10/15/82

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Case Originated at DETROIT, MICHIGAN — DETROIT File No. 62-1126

Report Made At	Date Made	Period	Report Made By:
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	10/1/43	7/3,8,10,17,22,24;8/10,14,16,18-20,27;9/4,11,18/43	[redacted] b7c HMR

Title	Character of Case
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY - G CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

Synopsis of Facts:

~~STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

b2D

[redacted] states that SMITH has been contacting numerous officials in an attempt to point out to them that he had no connection with the recent race riots in Detroit. Informant states [redacted]

b2D

[redacted] SMITH has maintained rather close contact with REYNOLDS and Senator NYE relative to future plans, etc. Reverend MINROD has advised SMITH that a new organization, "The Christian Civil Liberties League," is about to be launched and has requested the aid of SMITH. SMITH has indicated that he intends to start suit against WALTER WINCHELL for alleged libel. NYE has requested SMITH to sign all future correspondence with the name "WALKER" rather than SMITH. SMITH has stated that he is going to attempt to have the America First Party placed on the official ballot in the state of Michigan in the next election. SMITH has expressed great displeasure with

b7c

Bee of Supt attached Detroit

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED REGARDING SLIP(S) OF DATE 10/19/82

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Approved and Forwarded: John L. Burgess, Special Agent in Charge

b7c

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62-43818-358

25 OCT 1943

statements made in the recently published book "Undercover" and has indicated a desire for a senatorial investigation of the book. Senator NYE came to Detroit on about August 9th for a one day visit with SMITH.

- P -

REFERENCE: (62-43818) Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated July 23, 1943, at Detroit, Michigan. b7c

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan:

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, has advised the Detroit Office that SMITH has been contacting numerous state officials, the Detroit Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Dies Committee and other organizations in an attempt to convince the above-named organizations that neither he personally nor his party had anything whatsoever to do with the race riots in Detroit. SMITH has also made releases to the press denying any participation in the race riots. During all this time SMITH has stated that it was his opinion that the COMMUNIST PARTY was more responsible for the recent race riots in Detroit than any other organization; that his name was brought into the race riots by a Reverend CLAUDE WILLIAMS, who he alleges is backed by the COMMUNIST PARTY. SMITH states WILLIAMS has been acting under instructions from the COMMUNIST PARTY in an attempt to blacken SMITH's name by advising all church people in this vicinity that he, SMITH, had an active part in the riots. SMITH has complained to the various churches throughout this area that although WILLIAMS claims to be a minister he should not rightfully make that claim inasmuch as he is not recognized as a minister of any church. b7D

[redacted] It is interesting to note that [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised the Detroit Office that [redacted] The memorandum is not being set forth in this report but a copy of it is being maintained in the Detroit file relative b7

(De 62-1126)

b7c

to [redacted]

[redacted] stated further that he had received information to the effect that SMITH was making a definite effort to have the America First Party placed on the official ballot in the state of Michigan in the next election and that in fact SMITH at a recent meeting had proposed to his audience that his business manager, BERNARD DOMAN, be selected as their candidate for mayor.

b7D

[redacted] has advised the Detroit Office on numerous occasions that SMITH was making preparations for the institution of a libel suit against WALTER WINCHELL for alleged libelous statements made by WINCHELL in one of his radio broadcasts. It is being pointed out at this time that SMITH is complaining of the fact that in one of his radio broadcasts WINCHELL is alleged to have made the remark that SMITH trampled on the American flag while addressing an audience at Buffalo, New York. SMITH admits that he trampled upon a flag, but that this flag was definitely not the American flag, but that it was rather a flag which he was exhibiting to the audience which in his opinion was the flag selected by certain groups within the United States who were favoring the definite unification of the United States and Great Britain.

Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had contacted Mrs. KNOWLES, one of his ardent followers in Detroit, with the suggestion that she, Mrs. KNOWLES, sponsor a meeting in Detroit and invite Representative CLARE HOFFMAN of Michigan to attend that meeting and that he, SMITH, would take care of all the expenses.

Informant related further that on or about August 9, 1943, SMITH had been in telephonic contact with the secretary of United States Senator NYE and at that time SMITH requested information of the secretary relative to the character and activities of one JOHN M. HENSHAW, who had allegedly been sent to Detroit for the purpose of securing information from SMITH. SMITH was advised by the secretary that HENSHAW apparently had been O.K.'d by Senator NYE.

Informant stated that SMITH has been greatly perturbed for the past few weeks over the recently published book "Undercover", said book having been written by one JOHN ROY CARLSON. It is being noted that SMITH is referred to in this book in a rather derogatory manner and SMITH has indicated a desire to have the book made the subject of a senatorial investigation. SMITH has also indicated to Informant that this book was being backed by WALTER WINCHELL.

[redacted] stated he had received information to the effect that United States Senator NYE had been in Detroit either on August 9

b7D

or 10th, apparently for the purpose of discussing with SMITH future plans for the America First Committee and other political theories with regard to the coming presidential election.

[redacted] advised that under date of September 20, 1943, SMITH was contacted by two women who were then staying at the Book Cadillac Hotel, said women's names being [redacted] and [redacted] and these women had tried to conduct an interview with SMITH at the Hotel Statler in Detroit. SMITH contacted these women at the Hotel, accompanied by his wife, and at that time SMITH became violently enraged inasmuch as he claimed they had exhibited a letter to him from the German Board of Commerce. Along these same lines SMITH contacted Assistant Special Agent in Charge ROBERT T. ROSS and Special Agent [redacted] at the Detroit Office and related his experience with these women, advising the above two individuals that in his opinion these women were definitely spies for the German Government.

b7c
N'Aware of this [redacted]
b7c
b7c

It is being noted further on these same lines that SMITH contacted one of his informants and at that time this informant advised him that in his opinion these two individuals were female operators for the Anti-Defamation League of the B'NaiBrith. SMITH's informant further alleged it was quite possible that these individuals were connected with the "Friends of Democracy", headed by BIRKHEAD. SMITH has expressed the opinion to [redacted] that these individuals unquestionably were female operators and were trying to entrap him into making some statement in favor of the German Government but that he had eluded the trap.

b7D

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, has advised that NYE was actually in town on about August 9th or 10th and at that time NYE stated that he did not desire to register in any local hotel; that in fact NYE had only been in Detroit one day, leaving Detroit by plane on the evening of the day of his arrival.

b7D

There is being set forth hereinafter the substance of information received from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau:

[redacted]

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(De 62-1126)

[redacted]

b7D

Various pamphlets and literature obtained by agents at the time of the above meeting were also forwarded to the Detroit Office and are being retained in the Detroit file on instant case.

ENCLOSURE: TO THE BUREAU:

Envelope containing various releases published by SMITH.

- P E N D I N G -

(De 62-1126)

- UNDEVELOPED LEADS -

CHICAGO FIELD DIVISION:

At CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, Will report in report form the results of the meeting to be addressed by Subject SMITH at Chicago, Illinois, on September 8, 1943.

CLEVELAND FIELD DIVISION:

At CLEVELAND, OHIO, Will advise in report form the results of the meeting addressed by SMITH on August 19, 1943, at Cleveland, Ohio, as requested in letter from the Detroit Field Office.

At TOLEDO, OHIO, Will report in report form the results of the meeting addressed by SMITH on August 25, 1943, at Hotel Secor in Toledo. In connection with this lead it is being noted that SMITH had previously set a tentative date for August 20th, but this was changed to August 25, 1943.

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION:

* At NEW YORK, NEW YORK, Will interview [redacted] for pertinent information in their files concerning GERALD L. K. SMITH.

b7c

* In connection with the Bureau's request, efforts should be made to locate and interview [redacted], and [redacted] Investigation should be conducted along the lines suggested in Bureau letter to the New York Field Office dated June 16, 1943.

NEW ORLEANS FIELD DIVISION:

At LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA, Will contact [redacted] 925th Air Base Security Unit, and ascertain whether he has any knowledge concerning Subject and his background.

b7c

PITTSBURGH FIELD DIVISION:

At PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA, Will report the results of the meeting addressed by SMITH on August 17, 1943, as requested in letter from the Detroit Field Office.

(De 62-1126)

DETROIT FIELD DIVISION:

At DETROIT, MICHIGAN, will maintain contact with [redacted], [redacted], and [redacted] and report any information received from them relative to instant case in report form.

67D

- P E N D I N G -

TITLE: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, WITH ALIASES GERALD L. K. SMITH, GERALD L. K. SMITH: THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION DESTRUCTION EDITION

B. A.: [redacted] b2c

DATE: 10/1/43

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[redacted] 8,18,
[redacted] 5,
[redacted] 14,
[redacted] 24,
[redacted] 5,
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KNOWLES, MURRAY 9,
[redacted] 14,
[redacted] 4,
[redacted] 4,
[redacted] 4,
LEADER, THE 11,
LIBERTY 15,
[redacted] 20,
[redacted] 8,9,20,28,
[redacted] 4,22,
[redacted] 14,
[redacted] 19,
[redacted] 12,
[redacted] 11,22,25,
[redacted] 14,
[redacted] 11,
[redacted] 24,
[redacted] 10,19,
[redacted] 19,
[redacted] 11,
[redacted] 18,
MICHIGAN DIGEST 9,10,
[redacted] 22,
[redacted] 12,
[redacted] 18,
[redacted] 26,27,
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[redacted] 12,
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WINROD, GERALD D. 1,11,12,13,15,23,

AVL
DJC

JPHa:WMJ

PUBLICATION FILE

File No. 62-43818-358

October 18, 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/5/82 BY SP3 [illegible]

SAC, Detroit

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report prepared in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on October 1, 1943.

b7c

From the information appearing in the report it appears that it purports to be a revision of Special Agent [redacted]'s report dated September 3, 1943, in compliance with instructions set forth in the Bureau's letter of September 18 last. My letter, in referring to the information furnished you by [redacted] instructed that the [redacted] specifically [redacted]

b7c

Special Agent [redacted] latest report [redacted] in question, [redacted]

b7c

For example, the concluding paragraph of page four of the report mention a memorandum entitled, [redacted]

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starks
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

★ OCT 20

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

OCT 20 5 OT PM '43

b7c, b2

55 OCT 29 1943

[redacted]

Three copies of reference report are being returned herewith. These copies as well as all other copies of instant report should be rewritten as instructed and the attached copies should be returned to the Bureau as soon as possible. Further, I want to stress my desire that this procedure be followed rather than that followed in connection with reference report, that is the preparation of an entirely new report.

I will expect that the corrected versions of the attached three copies will be returned to the Bureau no later than November 1, 1943.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

b7D

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
October 15 - 1943

[redacted]

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases
THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth below the substance of information obtained from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, during the period from September 30 to October 11, 1943:

Informant advised that under date of October 4, 1943, SMITH [redacted] communicated with a [redacted] (phonetic) of a Detroit Baptist Church, at which time SMITH advised the doctor he had heard his sermon the day before and was very much impressed with it; that it was the type of sermon which the Ford Motor Company would be interested in; and along these lines SMITH suggested he would like to introduce him to Mr. FORD or Mr. FORD'S Secretary, [redacted] Informant stated that he was under the impression that arrangements were made at that time for SMITH to take [redacted] out to the Ford Motor Company for the purpose of introducing him.

Informant stated he had received information to the effect that SMITH had made a remark to Mr. GARTNER of the Daily News to the effect that [redacted] of Detroit, Michigan, who was recently discharged from the United States Army, had never actually contributed anything to the SMITH cause. SMITH stated that there was a possibility that [redacted] might have subscribed to his magazine, but other than that he did not know anything concerning [redacted]

DEFERRED RECORDING

Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that under date of October 8, 1943, SMITH had been contacted by a [redacted], a reporter from New York City, who stated he was representing the Post, and at that time the reporter questioned SMITH relative to an alleged meeting had with a [redacted] (phonetic) at the Murray Hill Hotel in New York City in 1937. This alleged meeting was supposed to have taken place concerning the Louisiana slot machine business. SMITH stated that he had no comment to make relative to this meeting but

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DATE 10/5/92 BY SP8B75MC

62-43812-359

32 OCT 16 1943

(5)

530

OCT 25

(Letter to the Director
Dated October 15, 1943)

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was.
THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G; SEDITION

that if the reporter came to Detroit he would grant him an interview.

The Informant stated that he had received no other information of value during this particular period.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted] b7c

62-1126

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK, N. Y. NY FILE NO. 100-19707 AMN

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK, N. Y.	10/11/43	8/21,25/43	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERARD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted] He said that SMITH was in constant touch with a man from the office of the German Consulate in NYC whose name he did not recall. He said that he had been requested by a woman, whose identity he did not know, to arrange a contact between subject and [redacted] and he did not know if that meeting had eventually been consummated. He declared that SMITH had expressed approval of HITLER many times and said that subject was in frequent contact with [redacted] also in touch with [redacted] and was a close friend of [redacted] Efforts are being made to locate [redacted] b7c b7D

- P -

REFERENCE: Bureau file #62-43818; Report of Special Agent [redacted] made at New York City and dated May 31, 1943. b7c

DETAILS: At HEMPSTEAD, Nassau County, L. I., N. Y.

On August 21, 1943 the writer interviewed [redacted] who presently resides at [redacted] b7c

Previous investigation of [redacted] made at [redacted] disclosed that [redacted]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: E E Conroy SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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3 Detroit (1 USA, Detroit)
2 New York

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34 OCT 13 1943

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

_____

_____

☐ For your information: _____

_____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-438-8-560 pgs 2-4

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XXXXXX
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

[redacted] b7c

[redacted] advised that he would make efforts to locate the whereabouts of [redacted] without disclosing the reason therefore and said that he was confiden[redacted] would furnish information concerning subject because [redacted] had not been treated right by subject. He also advised that he would try to ascertain the identity of the woman from Bayside, L. I., who had requested him to arrange for the contact between subject and [redacted] also stated that subject had made $1,300.00 back salary and in that connection he had filed a statement with his attorneys, [redacted] b7c

It was indicated, during the interview, that [redacted] was concerned with his previous connections with subject; did not wish this connection to be known to the [redacted] where he is presently employed, and the $1,300.00 back salary would seem to indicate a greater connection with subject than two months, as mentioned by [redacted]

-P E N D I N G-

NY 100-19707

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

- At NEW YORK, NEW YORK,

b7c

- Will interview [redacted], for pertinent information in their files concerning GERALD L. K. SMITH.

Will contact [redacted]

b7c
b7D

Will interview [redacted] of subject.

Will locate [redacted]

b7c

ND-46

SECURITY DIVISION - FBI

10/13 1943

___ Mr. E. A. Tamm
___ Mr. Ladd
___ Mr. Mumford
___ Mr. Alden
___ Mr. Burton
___ Mr. Callan
___ Mr. Carson
___ Mr. Cunningham
___ Mr. Fitch
___ Mr. Strickland
___ Mr. Timm

___ W. A. Johnson
___ Mechanical Section
___ Ident. Division
___ Technical Lab.
___ Crime Statistics
___ Crime Records

___ MR. F. L. WELCH
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___ K. R. McIntire
___ J. W. Mowbray
___ C. G. Stetter
___ R. C. Taylor
___ F. G. Tillman

___ J. I. Waller
___ L. Whitson
___ E. H. Winterrowd

[redacted]

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___ Send file
___ Bring file up-to-date
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___ Indicate index references

b7D

b7C

6 EXC. 25 ... 4 ... 3 ... 1 ... 1 ... 1

[redacted] b2D

WORLD WAR NUMBER TWO

First man killed	Mike Murphy
First man to sink a Jap warship	Colin Kelly
First man to down 5 Jap planes	Eddie O'Hara
First man to get four new tires	Abie Cohen

See memo to the Individual [illegible]

"GOD BLESS AMERICA"

the luncheon [redacted] and [redacted] returned to Smith's suite at which time they found Smith in. [redacted] advised that for a short period of time, perhaps five or ten minutes, he and Smith conversed relative to general matters, wishing one another well, and expressing mutual desires to again see one another some time in the future.

[redacted] claims that in so far as he can now recall he did not thereafter see either Smith or [redacted] again. He asserted that neither he nor his organization was associated with Smith and stated that their relationship was only as extensive as that described above. Concerning [redacted] stated that he believed that previous to the meeting he had met this individual on four or five occasions perhaps at picnics, gatherings, or at similar functions.

You will note that [redacted]'s statements in so far as his observations as to the luncheon at the Pennsylvania Hotel and the apparent disagreement then existent between [redacted] and Smith or other persons in the organization coincide with [redacted] statements, described in reports heretofore submitted in this matter by the New York office. [redacted] assertion that [redacted] and [redacted] frequently conferred and that thereafter Powers reported to Smith concerning the conferences, is, of course, not substantiated, according to [redacted] version of the situation.

In connection with your further investigation of this matter it is desired that you intensify your endeavors to locate both [redacted] and [redacted] and thereafter interview them relative to the information set forth in [redacted] report, particularly as to Smith's possible associations with [redacted] or the German-American Bund. It is believed that the information set forth above should be of assistance in conducting these interviews.

The comments included herein as to [redacted] being in Washington at this time and being interviewed by the Criminal Division and the Bureau with reference to this particular case, are for your confidential information and should not be revealed to outside sources. However, in the next report submitted in this case by the Detroit office the substance of the information supplied by [redacted] should be appropriately summarized.

cc - Detroit

ALL
b7C, b7D

JPHa:WMJ

Date: October 15, 1943

To: SAC, New York

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-8B5/MCW

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE CONTINENTAL OF ONE MILLION
SECURITY MATTER - G
SEDITION

Reference is made to the report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at New York City on September 14, 1943, wherein leads are set forth to locate and interview [redacted] and [redacted]. b7c

[redacted] of the German-American Bund, has recently been brought to Washington by the Criminal Division of the Department where he is being interviewed by representatives of the Criminal Division in connection with his knowledge of the activities of certain of the defendants involved in the sedition case, "United States vs. Gerald B. Winrod, et al," presently pending in the District of Columbia. During the course of these interviews [redacted] made reference to his knowledge of Gerald L. K. Smith and as a result was thereafter interviewed by a representative of the Bureau relative to information in his possession concerning the activities of the instant subject. For your information the data supplied by [redacted] is set forth in the following paragraphs. b7c b7d

DE-INDEXED DATE: 10/24/57 4

[redacted] advised that sometime during the latter part of 1937 or the early part of 1938, [redacted] communicated with him arranging for a conference to be held between [redacted] and Smith at the Pennsylvania Hotel in New York City. [redacted] accepted and, according to his statement, when he arrived at the hotel, Smith was not present. Several minutes of conversation ensued between [redacted] and [redacted] during which the latter sought to describe some type of internal dissension or disagreement within Smith's organization. [redacted] was not clear as to detailed information in this regard but stated he was given the impression by [redacted] the latter [redacted] to exert his influence and prestige with Smith apparently in [redacted] behalf. According to [redacted] he assumed a noncommunicative attitude with reference to this suggestion and did not inject himself into the issue involved. b7c

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION OCT 16 1943 P.M.

RECORDED 62-43818-36

[redacted] stated that after this discussion he and [redacted] accompanied by another or other individuals whose identity he cannot now recall, proceeded to the dining room in the Pennsylvania Hotel for luncheon. Subsequent to

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Mendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

6 OCT 29 1943

meeting at Macabee's Bldg. Detroit, Michigan. Handed out by [redacted]

b7c

BEWARE CONGRESSMAN

b7D

WE STAND AT THE CROSS ROADS

Before you sell the American people to a super world State it is fitting to reconsider the Isrealites who sold themselves for bread, and could not re-deem themselves. If we surrender our constitutional rights to a superstate who's foundation is world trade, along who's channels will flow the lifes blood of our sons, the super State whose Laws are to be supreme. The only court of appeal left to the people is God and His laws still are above all to stand as a witness in judgment in our behalf. Jezebel was a daughter of Tyre, (Symbol of world trade) a strongly entrenched City, highly fortified, and when she saw God was passing judgment on the Kings she redecked herself up and painted her face in order to vamp God's anointed, 2-Kings 9-32-37. But the word of God's judgment was fulfilled and she received her portion as God through Elijah had spoken. If the State department who represents this body is to usher God's Kingdom on earth, it must meet the fiery test of God's creative laws and present its self pure with out spot or blemish as the bride, because God will not be fooled any more than his annointed was by Jezebel. God saved the harlot Rahab who dwelt in the wall of Jerico, Joshua, 2 chap., but she had a change of heart and not a change of garment. Ezekel,28-2, saw the day when Tyre lifted its self up to set in the seat of God Almighty, Ezek. 28-9, God's judgment proved it to be set up by man and not God. War is the Sign of God's wrath, and not a foundation for Peace. Jermia 16-5, The Lord says I have taken away my Peace from this people also having loved kindness and mercy, the restoration of peace does not lay in the hands of men but God. He layed the ground work instructed to proclaim in the streets, it being in effect because of breech of of that Peace, Jermia 11-6-9, in form of a covenant which Jermia was cov. Jermia 11-3, the curse was on all who broke this contract with God, and they had not the power to formulate Peace. But we have the promise, Isa. 2-2, that we could come again under the law of the house and return into the bond of the covenant. Jermia 23-7-8, gives us the route by which we may return as the Northern route over which Jacob traveled when he came out from under Labor and under the protectorate of his Father Isac's House. But the Lord liveth that shall no more say he brought the children of Isreal out of Egypt, but, led the seed of the house of Isreal out of the North country, which Jermia 46-6, definately places at the Northern tip of the Euphrates, Syria Labons land of slavery, which he chose on his way from Babylon with Abraham refusing to go all the way with God, to Hebron to covenant with God. 1 Kings 14-15-16, Beyond the Euphrates where God drove the Isrealites out of his land because Jeroboam 1 Kings 12-32, set up the Gold on the alter of God causing God to rent the alter, 3rd verse and bringing on his self and house Jeryebels punishment 1 Kings 14-7-11, and this became God's sign to Nations and Kings. It was here Labon tried to block Jacob's deliverance by God. It was also her Numbers 22-5 King Moab sent for a Prophet to work divination on the Isrealites God was delivering, but God give him to understand he had lost his power and rebukes him as he did,Gen. 31-13-17 and 42, for trying to rob Jacob of the work of his hands, as he travels back to the laws of his father Issac's house and offers sacrifice, Gen. 31-54-55, in the Mt. of God instead of serving Labon. Isa. 9-11-12. If those who are wise claiming to be the sons of the ancients want to prove it, 12 verse, let them tell of God's plan and what he was purposed to do and let not the principle men be deceived as the ancient rules who knew not God and perished. God divorced Isreal for her unlawful State. I am sure when he is ready to inter into a new covenant with the State he will not be fooled by Jezebel and make her Queen no matter how much she may paint herself up ready for new fields of conquest. Isa. 48-18, O that thou had harkened to my commandments, then had Peace been as a river. PEACE IS THE GIFT OF GOD, the price is OBEDIENCE to his HOLY LAWS, may we measure up to their high standard so God may re-deem us. If we do not, we have no right to claim His mercy.

STELLA ANN McKISSEN
3051 Burdette St.
Ferndale, Mich.

678

This ticket will admit bearer and friends to hear an address by the

HON. JOHN LOUGHMAN

OF CHICAGO

On the subject:
"INTERNATIONAL INTRIGUE IN THE LIGHT OF CURRENT EVENTS"

THURSDAY
October 7th
8:15 p. m.

MACCABEES BLDG.
AUDITORIUM
WOODWARD AT PUTNAM
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Easy to reach by bus and street car

Auspices: America First Party

● Mr. Loughman will be introduced by GERALD L. K. SMITH

679

This ticket will admit bearer and friends to hear

THE SENSATION OF THE WEST

HARVEY H. SPRINGER

(DENVER, COLORADO)

Cowboy-American-Christian Statesman

Subject: "THE WIDE OPEN SPACES AND THE INTERNATIONALISTS"

Auspices: America First Party

TUESDAY NIGHT
SEPTEMBER 28
8:15 p. m.

MACCABEES BLDG.
AUDITORIUM
WOODWARD AT PUTNAM
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Easy to reach by bus and street car

GERALD L. K. SMITH will preside and report on his most recent and exciting tour in the West. EXCITING THINGS HAPPENED.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-3557

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
DENVER, COLORADO	10-6-43	9-14,30-43	[redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: SMITH spoke at the City Auditorium, Denver, Tuesday evening, 9-14-43. He flayed the Communists in his speech but refrained from strong statements along racial lines.

- RUC -

DETAILS: This investigation was undertaken at the request of the Detroit Field Office, which advised the Denver Field Division of the appearance of subject at the City Auditorium, Denver, the evening of Tuesday, September 14, 1943.

Agent attended this meeting and noted that elaborate precautions had been taken by the Police Department in Denver to maintain order. The crowd did not fill the Auditorium but the attendance was larger probably than expected.

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

Reverend HARVEY ~~H.~~ SPRINGER made the collection to defray the expenses of the speaker. On the platform there were arrayed thirteen preachers who, by their presence, would seem to attest to the sincere and Christian purposes of the meeting. One of these was a Jewish protestant preacher who delivered the opening prayer. This was apparently for the purpose of advertising the tolerance of the speaker.

SMITH thereupon gave his oration directed against political tendencies in our Government and generally endorsing the Republican Party. He flayed the Communist element frequently

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62-43818-361X

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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~~62-43818-361~~

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2 - Denver

32 OCT 9 1943

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but made no particular appeal to his anti-Semitic or anti-racial following. In general, the speech was not objectionable insofar as relating to the substance of this investigation.

As a matter of fact, [redacted] reported to this office that the [redacted] b7D

It is not believed that further details are necessary in connection with subject's Denver visit. The local Army Intelligence covered the meeting and for this reason, no copies of this report are indicated for Army Intelligence.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JPH:a:WMJ
10-22-43
62-43818

RECORDED 62-43818-36X

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your additional information in connection with your consideration of this case there are attached copies of further reports submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Denver, Colorado, on October 6, 1943, and Special Agent [redacted] dated at Chicago, Illinois, on September 30, 1943.

b7c

Enclosure

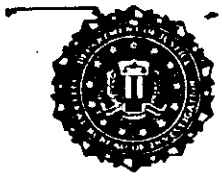
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-PBTS/MC

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 6
OCT 25 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

OCT 28 1943

DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
October 4, 1943

[redacted]

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above entitled case, as the Bureau is aware, the Detroit Office has been receiving information from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, for some time. In connection with the information received from the informant, logs have been maintained by the Detroit Office for some time past and it is my observation that these files containing the logs have become very voluminous and are taking up a good deal of the much needed space in the filing cabinets.

In view of this fact, it is being requested at this time that authorization be given by the Bureau for the destruction of those technical logs over six months old. It is my opinion that if these logs are destroyed as they become six months old, it will save a great deal of filing space for the Detroit Office.

DEFERRED RECORDING

In view of the extreme importance of this case, these logs have been maintained, and specific authorization is being hereby requested for permission to destroy all those over six months old. It will be greatly appreciated if the Bureau could advise the Detroit Office as soon as possible relative to the above.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-45178-36
F B I
35 OCT 22 1943

b7C [redacted] :BMB
62-1126

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mc

JPHa:WMJ

RECORDED 62-43815-362

October 19, 1943

SAC, Detroit

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of October 4, 1943, concerning the logs maintained by your office in connection with information pertaining to Smith, made available by [redacted] You will recall that you requested authorization to destoy the logs which are more than six months old. b7D

Your observations concerning the bulkiness of these logs and the difficulty experienced in storing them are appreciated. However, in view of the unusual importance attached to this case and the possibility of the logs being needed in the future, it is desired that they be retained until such time as the instant case is disposed of.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

DEPT. OF JUSTICE
E B I
SECURITY-HAIR BRANCH
OCT 50 4 52 PM '43

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
☆ OCT 26 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
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Carson
Harbo
Hendon
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Gandy

34 OCT 27 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-PBTS

October 10, 1943:

While con rsing with [redacted] vesterday it was learned that----------

b7c

[redacted] b7c

[redacted] b7c, b7D

1 encl.

(For entire letter see original.)

Brought to Director's attention
Dean Smith

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY [illegible]

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-362X

NOV 1 [illegible]

INITIALS OF [illegible]

[redacted]

59 DEC 31 1943

COPY

b7c

This will admit two people to hear an address by

MR. DEAN E. SMITH

Just returned from the Orient. He saw the Flying Tigers. He was on the Burma Road. For 20 years Mr. Smith represented American Business in the Orient.

He Will Make A Businessman's Report on the Asiatic War Zone including China, India and Burma.

POSITIVELY SENSATIONAL!

Auspices: America First Party

TUESDAY
October 19
8:15 p. m.

GRAND BALLROOM
Book Cadillac Hotel
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Easy to reach by bus and street car

Mr. GERALD L. K. SMITH *will preside and introduce the guest speaker.*

NOTE: These tickets are in great demand. Handle with [redacted] POSITIVELY by ticket only

Admission will be [redacted]

[redacted]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 20

PAGES REVIEWED: 51

PAGES RELEASED: 43

NOTES: _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

This Case Originated At: DETROIT, MICHIGAN — File No. 100-7463

Report Made At	Date When Made:	Period For Which Made:	Report Made By
CLEVELAND, OHIO	10-12-43	8/18, 19, 20, 21, 25, 29; 9/14/43	[redacted]

Title:

GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with alias Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000

Character

INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION

Synopsis of Facts:

On 8/19/43 at the Cleveland Public Auditorium, Cleveland, O., SMITH addressed an audience of about 1100 persons repeating many remarks previously made at such meetings and emphasizing the dangers of Communism to the United States, blaming the Detroit Race Riots on Communist agitation. SMITH introduced KENNETH GOFF as a former inner-circle Communist who now exposes atheistic Communism. GOFF explained the connection of the U. S. Communists with Stalin and the Comintern, described infiltration tactics, and warned that the Communists intended to overthrow the United States by force after this war. Statements made by SMITH and others at meetings held by him at Toledo, O. 8/25/43 and at St. Henry, O., 8/25/43 reported herewith.

- RUC -

REFERENCE:

Bureau File 62-43818.
Referenced letter from Detroit dated 8/12/43.

DETAILS:

AT CLEVELAND, OHIO

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

At 8:15 p.m. August 19, 1943, an audience of approximately 1100 persons gathered in the Cleveland Public Auditorium Ballroom, Cleveland, Ohio to hear GERALD L. K. SMITH, National Director of the America First Party, and KENNETH GOFF, a former Communist.

Approved: L. O. Boardman

62-43818-364

Copies of This Report
(5) - Bureau (Enc.)
4 - Detroit (1 USA)(Enc.)
2 - Cleveland

18 OCT 27 1943

RECORDED & INDEXED

COPIES DESTROYED 33 OCT 13 1964

14 OCT 30 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/5/82 BY SP4 [illegible]

An announcer opened the meeting with the Lords Prayer. On the platform with the speakers were Mrs. DAVID STANLEY and Mrs. MONREAL of the United Mothers of America, Cleveland branch. SMITH opened the meeting by announcing himself to be the proud grandparent that day of a baby girl. SMITH spoke of numerous protests he had received in bringing GOFF to Cleveland. He mentioned one in particular, which he claimed was the first protest received as being from the Urban League, Cleveland, Ohio. SMITH claimed that this negro group claimed to be representative of the Cleveland negroes but in fact was only a small group and was Communistically inspired. SMITH stated that he had personally telephoned CLAYBORNE GEORGE, a Cleveland negro attorney, and praised him on his statesmanship in writing an article offsetting the Urban League's protest.

SMITH warned the audience not to let the Communists capitalize on our military alliance with Russia saying, "If Stalin were not on our side, the Communists would close every plant in Cleveland in 24 hours." SMITH stated that he had made a considerable inquiry into the reasons for the Detroit Race Riots and he claimed that it was due to Communist inspired agitation. SMITH told of how Communist leaders were requiring that girl members of the Communist Party "date" negroes. He stated that if a girl Communist refused to "date" a negro she was brought before the Communist committee and tried on a charge of "White Chauvinism" and expelled from the Party.

SMITH stated that he had been asked what he would consider as a victory for the America First Party in the coming elections and he stated his answer was the defeating of Roosevelt and the Bureaucrats, sending Wilkie back to Russia and sending Henry Wallace to China as a milkman.

SMITH, in criticizing any form of Nationalism and "Union Now" again related the story of the British Lend-Lease Administrator speaking before the Press Club in Washington. SMITH in relating this story inferred that no accounts were being kept by the English of the supplies sent by Lend-Lease and that the English wished this method of accounting to continue. SMITH displayed the flag which he said was a creation of the "Union Now Movement" and trampled it. He attacked WALTER WINCHELL, calling him WALTER LIPSCHITZ, for having claimed on his Sunday night broadcast that he, SMITH, had trampled the American flag.

SMITH spoke of planning to speak in Buffalo, New York a few days previous to this meeting and claimed that some underhand group had forced the owners of the halls which he, SMITH, had contracted to rent, to cancel the contract. SMITH, before introducing KENNETH GOFF as a former Communist who had an amazing story to tell, made a plea for donations to the cost and expenses of the trips and meeting.

BERNARD DOLAN, Smith's Secretary, and helpers from the United Mothers Organization passed through the audience and collected the donations which were placed in envelopes previously handed out.

Also passed out to the audience was a form petition to Congress which was set up so that the person receiving the petition in the audience could act as circulator obtaining the names of others in the blanks. This petition states opposition to any World War Government or "Union Now" scheme, opposition to such measures as the Austin-Wadsworth Labor Draft and the War Security Measure, alleging creation of a "Gestapo".

KENNETH GOFF then addressed the audience. He stated that he had been a member of the Communist Party and a member of the Young Communist League. GOFF spoke of the infiltration tactics used by the Communists. He claimed that he had been sent to Cleveland by EARL BROWDER in 1936 to fight GERALD L. K. SMITH and that he had previously attended a meeting of the National Youth Congress in this same hall where some 36 delegates were elected, all of them being members of the Communist Party, and that he had seen the Communist Social Organization infiltrate into the Social Organizations of the churches of his own home town, especially the Epworth League.

GOFF spoke of the Communist school in Moscow which trained Communists in the art of revolution and infiltration and of a similar school near New York which has now sent teachers all over the United States to train Communists. GOFF explained that the Communists in the United States were directly controlled by Stalin and the Comintern and that the dissolving of a third of the Comintern was a ruse to take the Communist Party underground temporarily and that as a matter of fact it was well understood among Communist leaders that such action could not be really taken without a world congress of Communists. GOFF stated that the Communist infiltration was a two-sided policy and that so far as minority race groups were concerned, they were being misled as were thousands of ministers all over the country. He stated that it was required that white girls in the Communist Party have sexual intercourse with negroes in order to bring them in as members and that if the girls refused, they were expelled from the Communist Party for a charge of "White Chauvinism."

GOFF warned that the real intention of the Communist Party was to overthrow the Bourgeoisie" and establish the Soviet worker in the United States by the overthrow of this Government and that they would accomplish this in a bloody fashion when the good people of this country were in their weakest moment.

SMITH had envelopes passed out by DOLAN and others at the meeting in which subscriptions to his magazine, "The Cross and The Flag" could be placed. SMITH asked that these be filled out and made a further plea that the audience in passing out of the door would leave all their money except carfare with the United Mothers who would be standing at the exit. SMITH praised Mrs. DAVID STANLEY and Mrs. MONREAL and their organization, the United Mothers, stating that they should be generously supported by the Cleveland people. SMITH closed the meeting by leading the audience in the Oath of Allegiance to the American flag.

The above meeting was attended by [redacted] and the writer.

b7c

CV F.O.
100-7463

A report from the Cleveland Police Department dated August 20, 1943 was received in this office indicated that several of the officers of this department, including [redacted] ssigned to the Criminal Investigation Bureau, attended the America First Party meeting at the Ballroom of the Public Auditorium on August 19, 1943. This report indicated that arrangements for the rental of the hall were made by Mrs. PHILLIP MONREAL, and that approximately 1100 persons attended. In addition, the license numbers and corresponding names of cars furnished in this report as having attended the meeting . Other persons recognized by these police officers were included. Stenographic notes were made and transcribed at this meeting by one of the Cleveland Police Department members attending, apparently made by [redacted] and a copy furnished to this office. Copies of these transcribed notes are being furnished to interested offices. b7c

b7c

On Wednesday night, August 25, 1943 GERALD L. K. SMITH addressed a crowd of approximately 300 people in the Wedgewood room of the Secor Hotel, Toledo, Ohio. This meeting was attended by Special Agent [redacted] who reported as follows:

"SMITH opened the meeting by having the group pledge allegiance to the American Flag which was prominently displayed and by reciting the Lord's Prayer. In a 1½ hour speech SMITH stated that he was firmly behind the war effort, had a son in the service, was purchasing bonds, urged the people to support the war effort, excoriated WINCHELL and ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, called on the people to defeat ROOSEVELT in the November elections, and strongly condemned the Communists. SMITH strongly praised WHEELER, NYE, LINDBERGH, and FORD while belittling WILKIE, DREW PEARSON and WICKERT. He repeatedly stated that he was opposed to the political system in Russia and called on JOSEPH STALIN to express his final aims now. SMITH vehemently denied WINCHELL's accusation that he trod upon and spat on an American flag and exhibited the flag of the Internationalists which was the flag WINCHELL should have had reference to. SMITH predicted that the American voters will clean house in November 1944 of the present dishonest administration with a three fold purpose, "to retire Roosevelt to Hyde Park, send Wilkie to Moscow, and make Wallace a milkman in China."

As guest speaker SMITH had one KENNETH GOFF, of Milwaukee who was the former head of the Young Communist League of America and who outlined the Communist Party of the World in a speech and warned the people of the evils of it. There are more Communists in America today than there were in Russia before the revolution, GOFF stated. He added that there are 1½ million of them actively at work to overthrow the U. S. Government.

In response to questions asked at the conclusion of the meeting, SMITH advised the audience to advise the FBI should they ever hear of any draft officials accepting bribes; he also stated that the FBI is well informed on Communist matters, that J. EDGAR HOOVER is no friend of the Communists but that due to politics in Washington, his hands were tied.

Definitely anti-Communistic in his talk, SMITH spoke before a sympathetic audience made up for the most part of former members of the Million-And-One Club and of the Young Nationalists. A strong representation of the German-American element in Toledo was also present, including JOSEPH TROUPERTER, T. L. DANIELS, FRITZ MAIER, and ——— FILSINGER.

The substance of Mr. SMITH's remarks is that which is printed in his monthly magazine, copies of which have been secured and are being placed in the files of the Cleveland Office.

The July and August 1943 issues of the "Cross and the Flag" as well as the July 1943 issue of the "National Record" were obtained at the meeting and are being placed in the 1A section of instant file. It is to be noted that the August issue contains the speech given by Mr. GOFF at the meeting.*

On August 29, 1943 at 9:00 p.m., Eastern War Time, SMITH held an open air gathering termed a "Free Speech" meeting at St. Henry, Ohio. This meeting was attended by Special Agent [redacted] who estimated there was an attendance of over 500 persons, and reported as follows: b7c

"It was noted that many cars present bore Indiana license plates, and that after the meeting a large portion of the cars present returned in the direction of Greensville, Ohio. The American flag was prominently displayed on the temporarily constructed platform. A public address system was utilized at high volume, making it unnecessary for attendants to leave their cars, to hear the addresses. There were provided benches with a capacity of about 250 persons, which were filled well in advance of the opening of the meeting. Prior to the meeting the general consensus of those present was to the effect that the gathering was to hear some startling truths.

The meeting was chairmaned by HARRY ROAMER (phonetic) who spoke on the theme that the American people were being asked to give up their right of free speech in that they were being asked to forego free speech for the duration. ROAMER asserted that if the right were discontinued for a period of two years the right would become nonexistant through non use. ROAMER condemned the OPA, the AAA, Walter Winchell, and spent a large part of his time condemning the local school board because they had overridden his vote in having the meeting in the school building.

One JIM MADDOX, a young farmer in the vicinity of Greensville, Ohio read a letter relative to agricultural deferment with Selective Service, to effect that agricultural deferment was temporary and that each person so deferred must register with an agency for the purpose of being supplied with an alternate to run the farm during the absence of the person owning or operating the farm, with the armed forces. MADDOX asserted that this was

in violation of the "Due Process" clause of the Constitution, and that he did not intend to register for an alternate, and that if he were drafted he would put his farm up for public sale. HADDOX stated he did not know what other people in the vicinity were going to do but that he would take the single stand he had outlined.

The subject spoke for approximately an hour and a half. During the course of his speech he condemned WINCHELL, the New Deal, WILKIE and extolled Father COUGHLIN, Senator LUNDEEN, Mrs. LUNDEEN, BURTON K. WHEELER, and GERALD P. NYE.

Subject's main theme, interwoven with local and national politics, was that three things that must be guarded against. First, communism was getting strong in the United States, that there are more Communist Party members and fellow travelers in the U. S. at present, than were in Russia at the time of the Russian Revolution. SMITH categorically asserted that Communists were responsible for the Detroit Race Riots and would be responsible for further race riots in the future. SMITH cited as his source of information in this regard a negro friend of his in Detroit. SMITH stated that he was not talking against Russia but against communism.

SMITH secondly exhorted against bureaucratic fascism and tyranny, expressing the fear that through increasing bureaucracy a machine was being built that might be readily utilized for a dictatorship. The subject condemned inefficiency and inconsistency of bureaus created and operated by the New Deal. SMITH stated that the New Deal feared the truths that he expounded and that he had no doubt that there were Washington agents of the Bureaucrats in the audience; that he was aware that Washington agents had gone over his books. SMITH stated that he had founded the America First Party and that he hoped that it would not be necessary for the party to function in the 1944 campaign, but that it certainly would unless the Democratic or Republican Party came forth with a presidential candidate which was not controlled by "the international bankers and Wall Street."

Thirdly, the Subject begged vigilance against International Government, Flags or legislative bodies. SMITH stated that he was a great admirer of Churchill because he puts England first; that Stalin puts Russia first, and that Americans should put America first. SMITH stated that he was fearful that U. S. would lose another peace. SMITH stated that U. S. was paying largely for the war and cited figures to the effect that our financial contribution was greater than that of the allied nation combined and therefore the U. S. should have the large vote at the peace conference. SMITH stated that immigration should cease to this country because the jewish refugees were flocking to this country and taking jobs which should be reserved for the soldiers when they returned from the war.

SMITH [illegible] the time extolling Christianity and condemning the "newly discovered bible" authored by Moses Guibbory and introduced in the U. S. by Boake Carter and Rabbi Hornstein, as the Bible of the Anti-Christ and the tool of aethism pointing out that destruction of the church was a tool of Communism.

A collection was taken during the speech which was to be used to defray SMITH's expenses and to provide funds for arrangement of an address of GERALD P. NYE at the Celina Fairgrounds on the afternoon of September 26. The amount of the collection was not announced, although it was stated that the committee of the meeting would audit the funds.

The audience appeared to give much credance to SMITH's statements and comments noted in the crowd during and after the meeting reflected that SMITH was well regarded and received and his remarks seriously taken. It is believed based on observations of the writer and overheard comments that the audience at the meeting was largely agrarian.

It is thought that there was a strong political fued underlying the whole meeting to the effect that a few New Deal adherant, termed by the chairman as "Peanut Bureaucrats" are seeking to run the affairs of the community of St. Henry, and much emphasis was laid on the fact that the taxpayers who had built the school house were denied its use for the subjects speech and on one occasion previously for an address by Mrs. LUNDEEN.

ENCLOSURES - Copies of GERALD L. K. SMITH's speech at Public Auditorium sent to Bureau and Detroit.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

REVERAND SMITH: Now, if Mrs. Stanley and Mrs. Monreal are ready--we are ready to open the meeting. We have a public address system here furnished. Can you hear clearly? Can you hear what I am saying? Hold up your hands. That's fine. People are coming in rapidly.

Will ask now--you shall stand, please. We will open our meeting with the Lord's Prayer--in the way you have been taught to pray: that is, the prayer of a Methodist mother, or a Presbyterian or Baptist pastor in one of a score of denominations--or you may have learned it as a Catholic--in whatever way you have been taught--it may be Unitarian--you may say it differently in one or two slight ways. Whatever your way, the Lord's Prayer, pray it according to the way your pastor taught you to pray.

(The Lord's Prayer is recited.)

I presume that you can perceive that I look--that I am looking maybe a little different than I have ever looked before. I may look a little proud; I may look a little sober; I may look a little dignified; and I have got a surprise for all of you; that is, our only son's young wife, Emily Smith, gave birth this morning to an eight pound girl. So, I want you to meet Grandpa Smith. May I say--that we didn't know it. We were in Pittsburgh last night. Mr. Doman, our Secretary, who was on his way to Cleveland said, "I tried to reach you in Pittsburgh." Our children tried to reach us here--when we reached Cleveland, we found we were the proud grand parents of a baby girl; I asked the weight, and it is eight pounds and six ounces. It is the first time we are grand parents; you know, I don't appear overcast. The other day I met a man who was a grandfather for the first time. I asked him, "How does it seem to be a grandfather?" "Well," he says, "I didn't mind it a bit until I realized I was married to a grandmother".

So, if I don't act just exactly normal, you will understand there is a lot of excitement in our home. The young wife of our young son who is in the Army, and who is in transit, doesn't know where he is going, we don't know where he is. Consequently, he doesn't know he is a father of a baby girl. That is one of the dreams, one of the tragedies t at go, formally, with war. When I listen to the radio and hear Walter Lipshitz Winchell and then I hear about the four freedoms and read all these newspaper accounts that the Communist Party has in the newspapers, it makes me smile, because as far as I am concerned and as far as Mrs. Smith is concerned, everything that is valuable to us in in the war; and we have everything that we have invested in this war. I want thoroughly understood that my boy is ready to face death in the trenches, in the air or in the sea, in order to defend the stars and stripes. The purpose of this war is not to elect Franklin Roosevelt for a fourth term; the purpose is to win this war; to win the victory; the purpose of this war is not to make America safe for Communist propoganda.

I have observed since I announced that I was to bring a unique figure to this city, we begin to see, we begin to see the protests

ENCLOSURE

come in and the first protest that came in was an attempt to arouse racial antipathy in the City of Cleveland. There is an organization of negroes in the City of Cleveland called the Urban League. They state they represent the negro race. They do not represent the negro race; they are inspired by the communists which are attempting to use the differences between the whites and the negroes. In response to this, the Urban League is trying to deny free speech.

I say I was surprised to hear a negro statesman arise by the name of Claybourne George, and he is one of the most statesmen like men in the city of Cleveland and in an editorial I read just this morning, this man does not represent the Urban League. The man does not live who can say I arouse racial trouble between the negroes and the whites. We have enough trouble as it is.

If you want to know who caused the race riot in Detroit, Michigan, it was caused by the Communist Party and they are trying to do the same thing in the City of Cleveland. They thought that they could incite a group of negroes against us; they are not going to do it. We are not going to Claybourne George in the City of Cleveland, in the United States of America. I called him up on the telephone tonight and I told him I wanted to congratulate him. I told him I didn't want him to agree with me politically but I warned him not to allow the negroes for their own self-respect -- see to it that the negro race is not fooled by the Communist Party; and I warn Cleveland against a conspiracy of the Communist Party in America in attempting to allow race antipathy between the blacks and the whites.

Let us give Claybourne George a hand of appreciation for the attitude he takes.

How many have received the last copy of the Cross and the Flag? Let us hear how many, let us have a showing of hands. In this last copy I wrote a fifth page article on the race riots in Detroit. In this article I quoted an interview I had with one of the most outstanding negroes in Detroit. He said, "Mr. Smith," -- this man is a highly educated man. He said, "Mr. Smith, the Communist Party is causing us more trouble than any other group. We have bad negroes just like you have bad whites." Here is one of the worst cases we had. They called in white members of the Communist Party. Then they bring the black men into the parties and they tell them there is no need for them to follow the line of their self-respecting compatriots. Remember this, there are negroes who set great examples; do you want to know how I feel about a negro man in this critical time; who had that brilliant carreer; that remarkable scientist, George Washington Carver, the like of whom, there has never been an negro in America, and next to him I would remember Booker T. Washington--as an example for negroes in America. I say that if the members of the negro race in America will follow the example of George Washington Carver and Booker T. Washington; they will have that type of statesmanship so badly needed among their people. These Communists run the black man in, some of them just fresh

from the South, they tell them they don't need to restrain themselves, they can go out with white girls every day and freely and then one of them, that is natural will try to practice in the streets what they told them to do at a meeting of the Communist Party. I am not defending these kind of colored people. I say this as to George Washington Carver and Booker T. Washington to impress both groups to use good old fashioned Christian sense.

Instead of turning this matter over to the politicians, turn it over to the ten leading Church ministers. Ten Catholic priests, ten Presbyterian ministers and others to make a committee to call together 20,000 Christians and have prayers at the church and over the radio, read the scriptures. You will find that the trouble between the races never begins in the churches or at prayer meetings or on the alter, no, it begins in the saloon in the pool rooms and other such places, there you will find the agitators of bigotry.

There may be no negroes here tonight, or there may be some, I don't know. Let me challenge any self respecting group in this City, Gerald K. Smith is and has been ready to meet any group in the City regardless of what he may be and I will tell you that the negro question has been raised by plotters and schemers who have been and are about to be caught in their own dirty work and we will refuse to be the instrument in this technique. Give it a hand if that is your expression or sentiment. (Applause)

It seems that providence or fate or circumstance, I don't know what you call it, has figured that my life shall always be interesting. Every once in a while I get to a place on these speaking tours, where I think I will just have a bunch of ordinary meetings. For instance I was booked to speak on Monday at Buffalo, on Tuesday at Pittsburgh, tonight, here.

Tuesday of last week I got a call from our spokesman in Buffalo, that the meeting hall we had rented had been cancelled and we wouldn't be allowed to use it. You know what happens—two or three people get together in a hotel room and they call up the man I rented the hall from and they say this is Mr. Jones of the Presbyterian Church. I want to protest the use of the hall for Gerald K. Smith, and then a woman calls up and says she is the president of such and such church society and then he gets another call from another man and another woman who state they represent somebody and Joe Doakes is just an ordinary guy and he goes home and says to his wife there is an awful protest about this Gerald K. Smith speaking tonight and he calls up the man who rented the hall and says you cannot have the hall.

Then we rent another hall and then we mail out a whole new set of statements for the second hall and then they pull the same stuff on the second hall, then my secretary calls up and says we can't have the hall.

Don't think I am leaving this story, this is just a little side play; we are fighting the whole world for the four freedoms; I think that means it in Buffalo, Cleveland and Detroit. After we have whipped Hitler in Berlin and Herohito in Tokio, I don't want our boys to come back and find some little Hitler like Harry Hopkins and Ickes or somebody else. They say we should not talk politics in time of war. I wish I could agree with them; but when you have propogandists who try to put you back in the British government, and when you get a war president who is not satisfied with three terms but must have four terms, and whose wife is running off every day playing politics, I want to say to any New Deal stooges, "If you can get Mrs. Roosevelt to bake biscuits in the White House, that will suit Gerald K. Smith."

I called Joe Stailer my friend. He is connected with that wonderful instrument called Radar. I called Joe and I said, "Mrs. Smith and I will be in Buffalo Monday as has been planned, and to meet me in the Lobby of the Statler Hotel in Buffalo; so by the time we get to Buffalo, I went down in the lobby, Mrs. Smith talked to the management, and we had arranged for a fine room. I just sat down because nobody knew there was a meeting going on; I sat in the lobby of the hotel and as the people came in, I said, "Just go up to the Iroquir Room."

At 8:15 o'clock, the room was packed full, standing full, and we formed this night a committee and they called it a tax payer's committee and they invited Gerald K. Smith and Mr. Hoffman to come back and speak in the music hall which is run by the city, and we carried on in Buffalo; and we do not propose to be Buffaloed in Buffalo by anyone who lives in Buffalo.

And I want to tell you this, if I could spend ten minutes to tell you about all the people who conspired against me in Cleveland, I would be; I would be accused of all sorts of things. I would be called unAmerican. I am not going to name the rancals but if there is any statesmanship here by the people who are trying to keep me out of Cleveland, you are pursuing the wrong course and generating an awful reaction, and if you know what is best for America, you will let us alone because we are plain old-fashioned Christian people; we are working hard, buying bonds and stamps and we want you to quit pestering us, do you understand that? Give us a hand if you understand what I am talking about. (applause)

We had the same or similar experience over in Pittsburgh. The people stayed with us and there is some real statesmanship over there. By the way, this meeting wouldn't be complete if I didn't call attention to the fact that the Mayor of the city came out for free speech the other day. He didn't say that I should not be allowed to speak here. If you have any doubt, when Gerald K. Smith came to Cleveland last year, the Mayor didn't want him to speak in Cleveland; this year he wants him to speak in Cleveland. Could it be that the Mayor is running for election this year?

Somebody has brought up a picture here of the four freedoms, drawn by Rockwell Kent which is symbolic. This one is called the

freedom of speech; it has been prepared by Rockwell Kent, give that a hand. (applause)

I am glad to know that the Mayor of the City of Cleveland has changed.

Do I believe in what? Yes, I believe in freedom of speech, do you. Well, freedom of speech has this definition; I am not able to walk up and call you a thief if you are not a thief; that is what you call license. Some people think that a marriage license entitles a man to beat his wife. However, I have not been able to make Mrs. Smith believe that. She disagrees on that theory. So I think that every one has a right to express an opinion concerning political affairs in the United States of America. When you make a speech, that constitutes the violent overthrow of our government then you have violated the law and committed a crime, but as long as you are within your rights, then your free speech should be guaranteed. All right, so I want to congratulate the Mayor of the City of Cleveland. I don't think the Mayor's election this fall has anything to do with it (laughter). I think he is a good man who has changed his mind.

Now, you will be interested to know I am going to tell my good friends of the progress of our nation.

There are very few persons who are willing to go out on a speaking tour, in fact, I am practically the only one who is still speaking. May I say now there is a way for the people to demonstrate their loyalty to their country in time of war and loyalty to their country after the war. The question of whether or not we are going to allow the Communist Party to propogandize an alliance with Russia and spread their propoganda in America. There was a little while before the war started, that if you said anything about Communism they said, "you mustn't do that because we are allies of Russia" and a bunch of wire whiskered reds were running up and down the country saying you mustn't say anything about the Communists, they are our allies; but millions of good old fashioned Americans have decides that you don't have to flatter Russia in order to lease lend, and when this war is over, let me warn you of this. The Communist Party is all ready. They have so much power right now and Joe Stalin is so powerful here and has such an organization that they could close all the larger organizations down, all the factories could be closed in Cleveland tonight by the Communists when this war is over.

When 30 million people are walking the streets turned out of the factories and 10 million American soldiers are coming back home you will have some time, for this is the way Communism wants to work, you can imagine what will happen.

And another thing--we are not going to give a bunch of Bureaucrats any power after the war is over so that we will be so hogtied so that we won't be able to move. When this war is over, I want

to see every power returned to the people that has been taken away by the emergency of the war. They have a bill in Congress now, No. 666, to conscript your daughters, so that they can take your daughter right out of your home and send them anywhere on this earth. We need to protect our daughters for what God made them, for Christian motherhood. If a girl wants to go out as a Waac or a Wave or a Wren that is her privilege because she is a free moral agent, but millions of our daughters grow up in the innocense of the home and they are kept pure, right up to motherhood and right up to the age of their death. There are some girls exposed to vulgarity but most of our American girls are pure and clean and there is not a priest or pastor that will not agree with me that pure innocense is the foundation of civilized Christianity.

Then they have a Gestapo bill trying to have everybody tattle on the other; like the OPA. I am against the OPA and I am not going into that, but you remember how Hitler was teaching the children to tell on their fathers and mothers and when you get that, you destroy domestic tranquility and the home.

I am not going to say anything now about those OPA Bureaucrats, but after this war is over I am going to get a shillaleh and go after about seven of them I know.

I will suffer everything that the war may be won but I say to those Bureaucrats that you'd better introduce horse sense in your practice because there is a rising tide that will not be stopped. After the war, we will have to clean house of these Bureaucrats and the people will no longer be guided by Bureaucrats because we are going to clean house in the Government.

Somebody said, what is your definition of victory, Mr. Smith? My idea of a complete victory, send the Roosevelts back to Hyde Park, that is No. 1. No. 2, send Wilkie to Moscow. No. 3, send Henry Wallace as the milkman to China.

You say to me, what about this America first? This American First party. As far as a party, there would be nothing that would make me happier than the Democrats to nominate Burton K. Wheeler, and the Republicans to nominate Nye, if only one of them. I find a lot of people like Taft or like Dewey or Bricker or McCormack of the Chicago Tribune. I am not hard to please. The only thing I ask of a candidate for President is that he put America first in his consideration.

By the way, I picked up a little story. Maybe you heard it. Did you hear about the family that that born to it a ten pound boy and they were pretty elated about it, and then--the mother was jiggling it on her knee and a New Dealer dropped in to talk to the family and she said, "Isn't it a dandy; maybe someday he will be President of the United States". And the New Dealer said, "What's the matter with Roosevelt."

Well, then, we are going to have a big meeting in Pontiac, Michigan, Sunday night. We are going to have a big meeting in Detroit--

we are going to have a big meeting in Toledo Wednesday; then we go to Chicago and then to Minneapolis--and then a big Hoffman-Smith rally in Buffalo, then out to Colorado--we are going to have a state wide Colorado rally in the Municipal Auditorium that seats 6,000 people; then I am going to Salt Lake City, Utah. The first contribution in that city was made by the Mayor of Salt Lake.

Somebody said, do you think you can do everything, Mr. Smith? And I said, I can't do everything. All I am trying to do is to keep the old flag up in the air and show the people that there is somebody who has "old-fashioned American guts", and there is nobody who is going to intimidate me.

Now why did I have this trouble in Buffalo? I will tell you what happened. When I made a speech in Buffalo the 24th of May, I began to discuss free issues--that is vital to the American people; namely, will we permit international politicians to take us into a world government--even our money going into a world movement and our people should compete with Chinese slave and other low paid labor and a flag above ours, a flag and a constitution above our constitution, and that is what I pointed out. You can give republicans hell and nobody will say anything about it; and you can even curse a New Dealer and get away with it, but you are guilty of treason if you say anything about an Englishman. I like Winston Churchill. He puts England first; Stalin puts Russia first, and we ought to put America first. We spent last year in this war, three times as much as the British Empire. We have spent altogether five times as much as all of the other nations in this world. If we could sell everything in America for cash at its assessed value, that would be about 2 hundred billion dollars; and we have spent three hundred billion dollars. We have universal conscription in this war; we have conscription in the war. But nobody can be taken out of Canada or New Zealand or South Africa unless he wants to go. In a recent dispatch it states that the eighteen and nineteen year old boys in Australia were taken out of the army and sent back home to go to school; that is to say, they can all do something for their own good, but if I make a statement about things getting a little better for ourselves, or if it comes to the fact that we must feed the people of Africa or Asia or somewhere else, I am for America first.

I read a statement by Lord Blenning who is Chief of the lend-lease in the United States. He made a speech before the press club and what did he talk about? Winning the war? No. He talked about post war politics; he talked about American politics after this war. I am going to read a line of it. "We in Britain have evolved a system where no accounts are being kept; there is no more of this nasty business of how much we are owing to America." That is fine business. He ought to at least keep it up so he could know how much to thank us for. We are not keeping books and I would like to see that some sort--"same sort of system continued after the war." They know there is a mountain of gold in Kentucky and they would like to syphon that and go in there and take it. If I had my way, I wouldn't use that gold for anything but

taking care of the soldiers after the war. We might have "A senate sitting one year in Washington, another year in London and another year in South Africa." We have a hard enough time keeping them in Washington; but he gets generous and says, "You can continued to have your President and we can continue to have our King." That shows with what organization they propose to take us into a super-duper Empire of the world. You would have a few Russians and a few British and a few South American to make up rules for us to abey, as long as there is a heart in my breast, as long as there is blood in my veins, or spirit in my soul, I shall fight to the death any attempt to make rules by foreigners to govern us. That is why people who have only been here three months, who don't know our language, hate Gerald K. Smith.

I am against something else they hate me for. I am against letting down immigration barriers. They are slipping over in our Mexican borders and crossing the river and I am going to tell you that as much as I sympathize with suffering humanity I am going to agree with George Reynolds, to keep these people out because they will have the soldiers' jobs before the war is over.

I told the Buffalo audience, they want to put up a "Union Now" flag above the stars and stripes; a proposition that looks more like a Japanese flag. There will be no flag in America but the stars and stripes, and we will have no flag like this above it, any "Union Now" flag, and I have a receipt here from the Ammon Flag Company, Three dollars and fifty seven cents; a receipt for this flag made at the instigation of this crowd, to make this flag, they will never put it up as long as I live.

Some man, careless with the truth, went back and told one of the newspapers that I jumped on a flag that was called the Cambridge Banner; that was used before Betsy Ross made a new flag, and that that flag was used by George Washington. This paper uses and reversed itself so quick that they let me write the editorial on the front page.

Walter Winchell's former name was Walter Lipschitz, and he said, "Don't be fooled by Gerald K. Smith's name, because it is an old fashioned name." I said, on the radio, "my father's name was Smith, and his grandfather and his great grandfather's name was Smith, and I dare you to tell us what your grandfather's name was, so Walter Winchell got his tongue tied in the ringer. I want to tell you the biggest mistake of all; that Gerald K. Smith, in his speech at Buffalo, jumped on the American flag and spat on it. That may look like an American flag to Walter Lipschitz, but not to me. I don't want to embarrass Mrs. Smith in case you are worried about her old crusading husband--but about her son, but the next day the boys at camp threw it up to my boy that his father had stepped on the American flag. Oh, what mortification, oh, what embarrassment, and Mrs. Smith, for the first time in all my life, broke down and wept. I am used to having attacks levied

but that is an awful thing to say to fifteen million people on a Sunday night, because anybody knows what would happen; he would be beaten to a pulp; he would never try it in this crowd, he would never jump on an American flag and spit on it here.

We had a woman, she has been one of my pupils for years, she wrote Mrs. Smith, and she was so incensed about this terrible man, she said, "I began at once to make something for you by hand," and she made for me one of the most beautiful flags, hand crocheted, and Mrs. Smith and I would not accept a hundred dollars for this beautiful American flag, all hand crocheted. I am going to put this up for Mrs. Smith and anyone else interested in needle work may look at it. There was--Mrs. Smith and others have estimated that there was 320 thousand stitches in it.

Something here I want to show you because I have been looking forward to it; what I think is the most beautiful picture, symbolic of our crusade, it hangs on the wall of the United Mothers' organization, by Mrs. Stanley and Mrs. Monreal "Faith of our Fathers". Jesus, the good sheppard in the back ground, and the bible in the foreground and a lighted candle over the bible and everybody who gives an offering free in the mail.

Some of you have pledged to carry on the fight. Take this little "America First" envelope and the next thing you want to do--is there anybody without an envelope? Some of those husbands and wives sitting together--will they let us use one of their envelopes. Now on the top line of that envelope, there is a place to show how much you are willing to send in to carry on this crusading fight. Everything you give will be applied on your pledge; if you pledge a dollar a month, you give five dollars now, you have paid for five months, and so on. And every donor who writes his name clearly on the envelope will receive this picture and if you want to give this money, don't want to give your name, just write "Money" across the envelope. We can't rent this hall and bring Mr. Goff here on nickels and dimes. If you can only give nickels and dimes, keep it, because you need it more than we do. If you cannot give, you are just as welcome as if you can. Write your name and address clearly, so you can get your invitation for the next meetings.

Put your money in the envelope. Anybody who gives ten dollars or more can keep the pencil, we will make him a present of the pencil.

Now you have a petition there. Don't do a thing with it, don't turn it in; I think I told you what to do with it that is for circulation; then keep that long envelope that has been handed out by the United Mothers. Don't look at it now; when the time comes, we will tell you what to do with it. Now seal your envelope and pass it on to the man next to you and see that he gets it to the person in the aisle; we don't want some communist in the row to get your money.

If there is anybody that is mad or nervous, now is the time to go home.

You see that book? This book is a bible, and this book is a bible in the hands of its creater; it is the most blasthemous book I have ever read; that is the book Boke Carter said converted him to Judism. It says that Jesus was illegitimate and Mary is a harlot; and this is what Carter said converted him to Judiasm; there were 1979 pages. Father Coughlin is silenced; he cannot talk over the radio; but they advertise this book over the network. When they advertise this book over their network and silence a man like Father Coughlin, it is a wonderful state of affairs.

Now, I am going to talk to you about a man here. The first time I saw this man was when he was sent in 1936 to break up our influence during a Townsend convention and the Coughlin convention. For five years he was the leading influence in the Young Communists of America; he spoke at the biggest convention the Communists ever had in the City of Milwaukee and was an organizer. For reasons he will tell you, he consecrated himself to his mother's Christ; and in 1939, he became the most potent and most informative witness before Congressman Martin Dies' committee. He exposed the fact that at that time Eleanor Roosevelt was actually entertaining the young Communists in the White House. Our speaker tonight was the first to expose that.

Turning his back on Communism and reconsecrating himself to Christ, the first thing the communist did was to try and kill him. They pushed him under a train, but this boy he got out of it with the loss of one leg. He will tell his own story. Mr. Kenneth Goff of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

(End of first part of speech by Gerald K. Smith, which was followed by speech of Kenneth Goff, and later, Gerald K. Smith resumed speaking. See following page.)

(Kenneth Goff's speech will be made up separately)

REVERAND SMITH: I want to emphasize--we don't want any general--we want to close this meeting in order.

Now Mr. Goff here, give him the hand you ought to give him--altogether. (applause)

Now you may be seated, please. We have several hundred of them--a few hundreds--arranged literature--this is being used by the Communist party right now in the United States of America. Will someone hand me a long envelope--beginning at the end here--will you please--I don't want any commotion--unless you are sick, a long envelope, that is it.

This is a petition--wait a minute, I want others to hear us; this is a meeting, this is not entertainment--if you don't want to sit quietly, don't come--unless you are sick or have to go to work--if you are sick or have to go, or a Communist or a New Dealer or mad--otherwise, sit still until this meeting-- you can take what we are putting out or leave it, so far as I am concerned. We are here to give you the truth right straight from the shoulder.

This petition is opposed to forms of legislation that would lead us to a flag like this (indicating). Mail it in to the address, the address of the United Mothers of America, see it on the bottom. Now, I want to say these mothers carried on throughout the years voluntarily, they and their husbands, without complaint, paid their own wages; they have even taken up collections and sent money to my secretary and to me to carry on the work I am carrying on. Gifts have never been large. They have sent in their contributions to prove their faith in what we are doing.

Mrs. Stanley and Mrs. Monreal, I want you to give us your hand. Mrs. Stanley was taken to Washington and brought before a grand jury of the house, and intimidated and abused, and the man who did it has since been fired because of his conduct. Give that a hand (applause).

No one has ever been able to cast any justifiable criticism at these good women. Congratulations to the United Mothers of Christianity. I will have more to say about them a little later on. I want to tip off this--this masterly discourse, this address you just heard given by Mr. Goff will be in the next issue of the Cross and Flag. It is already. If you are a subscriber, you will get it; if you are not a subscriber, put a dollar in that envelope that was given, write your name and you will get it for six months, or two dollars for a year, or if you don't have any money, fill it out and we will send it to you; this also carries the sensational account of thd Detroit Race Riot.

A Doctor Mann, pastor of a Methodist Church states, "I now possess one of thos books; it is the most blasphemous; the most blasphemous volume I ever laid my eyes on. It contains 1979 pages; the lefthand column is printed in English and the righthand column is printed

Hebrew, and the author of this is a Moses Golmey, who pronounced himself as Christ. He says he wrote this in the caves of Jeruselcum where he still lives. According to him, Jesus was a pervert, Mary was a Harlot, and Christ is satan. He writes a masterpiece of blasphemy; something terrible; in that it attacks every tenet of Christianity. It devotes page after page trying to prove that Christ was an imposter; brings up the crucifixion. All these imps of hell who are circulating this book are sustained by some sort of satan and I am surprised he is not struck down by the hand of God. In referring to the book and the exposse, so called, he says he has derived and received the help of Rabbi Horwitz, and his new deciple Boke Carter who definitely propose to destroy all Christianity and will bring Christ down from the clouds, and that all Christians will be scattered to all parts of the earth, attacking the Virgin Mary; he says--Christ's body was tolen from the place he was burned in. This is the sort of thing that is being publicized over our network today for the benefit of those who get the Cross and the Flag. You will find an account of it on page two. To everyone who turns in that subscription in tonight, will get a copy. We will have no other copies available. If you subscribe tonight, on the back is a tribute to Father Coughlin from Father Curran in New York, which is no printed that it can be torn out and framed. One paragraph where Father Curran says on the anniversary of Father Coughlin's 27th year in the ministry, "We still believe in the cause of social justice; we still believe in the cause of peace, we still believe that Father Coughlin has more right on the platform than the former inmate at Atlanta Federal Penitentiary, Earl Browder."

Now I am going to ask Mrs. Stanley and Mrs. Monreal; I am going to ask them to kindly step down in front of these people; I want you to understand this; I want the mothers to particularly listen to this; I want every person in the house to help in the good work these mothers are doing, whether it is a dollar, fifty cents or ten cents, to come down and give it to these women.

JPHa:WMJ
10-22-43
62-43818

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your further information in connection with your consideration of this case, there are transmitted herewith copies of reports submitted by Special Agent [redacted], at New York City, on October 11, 1943, and Special Agent [redacted], dated at Cleveland, Ohio, on October 12, 1943.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/62 BY SP-8 BTJ

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 2
OCT 25 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED
62-43818-36
18 OCT 27 1943

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starks
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

4 NOV 2 1943

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

ST P FILE NO. 100-4156

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA	10/20/43	10/12/43	[redacted] AW

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Speech made by SMITH at Minneapolis 11/12/43 very similar in context to previous speeches reported by this office. SMITH again bitterly attacked the administration, bureaucracy, Communism, and "Internationalism," stating that the America First Party could never rest until ROOSEVELT, the bureaucrats, and the Communists were cleaned out of Washington. SMITH stated that the "Internationalists" in the United States are making it possible for the other allied nations to take advantage of the United States, which they are eager to do. Literature distributed at the meeting by the Hennepin County CIO Council alleges SMITH to be a mouthpiece of HITLER.

-RUC-

DETAILS: On instructions of Special Agent in Charge M. B. RHODES, the reporting agent attended a speech made by the subject at the Lyceum Theatre Auditorium, 85 South 11th Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota, on the evening of October 12, 1943.

This meeting was closed in nature, admission being gained by invitation only. The meeting was supposedly held under the auspices of Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, Minnesota State Chairman of the America First Party. The meeting was attended by approximately 1000 persons.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES: 62-43818-36

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3 - St. Paul
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DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-8875/INC

St P File #100-4156

SMITH speech followed very closely the same general pattern as previous speeches of SMITH's reported by this office. SMITH again harangued the New Deal, bureaucracy, Communism, and internationalism. SMITH further stated that the America First Party could never rest so long as ROOSEVELT, the bureaucrats, and Communists were in Washington.

SMITH bitterly criticized the foreign policy of the United States, stating that the internationalists made it possible for other nations, particularly England, to take advantage of this country. As an example, SMITH alleged that the United States, which has 25 per cent of the oil reserves in the world, is currently supplying 65 per cent of the oil products used by the allies in the war effort. He accused England of hoarding her oil supply so that she could later sell oil products to this country at exorbitant prices. SMITH, in discussing Rhodes Scholarships, referred to CECIL RHODES as the Englishman who laid aside a fund of millions of dollars for the purpose of educating brilliant American college students in English schools with the end in mind of making the United States once again a part of the British Empire.

SMITH's remarks as to President ROOSEVELT dealt chiefly with ROOSEVELT's views on foreign policy but he intimated ROOSEVELT was a liar while discussing DREW PEARSON, and the fact that ROOSEVELT had called PEARSON a liar, stating that if anyone should know a liar when he sees one it would be ROOSEVELT. SMITH bitterly denounced HARRY HOPKINS, BERNARD BARUCH, CLAUDE WICKARD, and other members of the present administration, stating that while they advocated sacrifices for the people they did not make any sacrifices personally. He stated as an example that two days after a further strengthening of the rationing regulations, BERNARD BARUCH gave a party in Washington for HARRY HOPKINS which was attended by all prominent administration leaders at which a meal was served at the Carlton Hotel, Washington, D. C. at $110 per plate and at which seven different kinds of meat were served. He referred also to the Chicago Tribune's "expose" of Secretary of Agriculture CLAUDE WICKARD, stating that a Chicago Tribune reporter had visited WICKARD's Indiana farm home and had discovered immense quantities of meat and butter hoarded away, which items were being shipped at regular intervals to WICKARD in Washington.

SMITH in discussing local organization of the America First Party stated that he would not appoint an America First Committee locally because the members of that committee would immediately be subjected to pressure from the old line parties and others. He stated that the members of the America First movement would "lay low" and act when the time came.

SMITH again stated that if a satisfactory candidate for President is not chosen by either the Democrats or the Republicans, the America First Committee will pick its own candidate for President. SMITH further stated that the logical candidate of the America First movement would be CHARLES A. LINDBERGH.

St P File #100-4156

Speeches were also made by Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN and a Captain EARL SOUTHARD, who SMITH introduced as a veteran of World War I who had been wounded seventeen times in action and who spoke representing the views of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the State of Illinois. The speeches of SOUTHARD and Mrs. LUNDEEN dealt mainly with the foreign policy of this country urging that the isolationist or nationalist point of view be adopted. Both frequently read long quotations of Washington and other early American leaders.

At the time collections were taken, SMITH offered a book to every person who would contribute the sum of $2 or more. SMITH vaguely discussed this book, stating that it had been written by a person who had been persecuted by the bureaucrats and who had been approached by the Secretary of ELEANOR ROOSEVELT with the proposition that everything would be dropped if he paid him $40,000.

It is noted that SMITH's speech was very well received by the audience, who cheered him madly.

A clipping from the St. Paul Pioneer Press, St. Paul, Minnesota, of October 13, 1943, discussed the meeting and made the following comment: "In a meeting which lasted almost three hours, not a single word was said against HITLER or TOJO but the speeches of SMITH, Mrs. LUNDEEN, and Captain EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago all were aimed at ROOSEVELT, WILLKIE, the New Deal, and the efforts of various men in public life to achieve international order after this war."

A clipping from the Minneapolis Morning Tribune, Minneapolis, Minnesota, of October 13, 1943, referred to SMITH's speech, stating that he had attacked what SMITH termed the "International crackpots."

Literature was distributed prior to the meeting in front of the meeting place by the Hennepin County CIO Council which was headlined, "GERALD L. K. SMITH--HITLER's Mouthpiece in Minneapolis," "GERALD L. K. SMITH Silver Shirt No. 3223 Plotted Treason," and "Tearing the Mask of Hypocrisy from GERALD L. K. SMITH." The literature alleges that SMITH has been a registered member of PELLEY's Silver Shirts, a labor-baiting, Jew-baiting, subversive fascist organization; that SMITH is the self-appointed National Leader of a movement whose avowed purpose is to overthrow the Government of the United States; that SMITH is an agent of anti-labor manufacturers, who imported him to undermine and destroy labor organizations; that SMITH has been an organizer of American Storm Troopers; that SMITH has made obscene and seditious utterances concerning the President of the United States; that SMITH has publicly avowed his intention of stirring up class hatred among Americans; that SMITH is a defender of the enemies of American democracy; that SMITH has been in the pay of WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST, notorious anti-labor employer; and that SMITH has taken up residence in many cities for the purpose of deliberately fomenting discord among the citizenry. This literature is being retained in the 1-A serial of the St. Paul file in this case.

-REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN-

JPHa:WMJ

RECORDED

62-43818 - 366

Date: November 1, 1943

To: SAC, Detroit

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

b7c

Reference is made to the report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at St. Paul, Minnesota, on October 20, 1943, and particularly to the following paragraph appearing on page three of the report:

"At the time collections were taken, Smith offered a book to every person who would contribute the sum of $2 or more. Smith vaguely discussed this book, stating that it had been written by a person who had been persecuted by the bureaucrats and who had been approached by the Secretary of Eleanor Roosevelt with the proposition that everything would be dropped if he paid him $40,000."

In connection with your further investigation of this case it is desired t you endeavor to secure information as to the name of the book referred to and the identity of its author. The Bureau is also interested in Smith's allegat that the author of this book was approached by the secretary of Mrs. Roosevel who reportedly offered to pay him $40,000. Any additional allegations of thi type which subject may make in the future should be immediately reported to the Bureau.

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NOV 1 - 1943 P.M.
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

4 NOV 4 1943

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

October 15, 1943

JPHa:WMJ

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-1 Rex

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
SEDITION

As you are aware, Mr. Rogge of the Criminal Division has caused [redacted] of the German-American Bund, now interned in Texas, to be brought to Washington where he is being interviewed in connection with the sedition case, "United States vs. Gerald L. K. Winrod, et al," by Mr. Joe Burns of Mr. Rogge's office.

These interviews have been in progress for two days and apparently will extend several more days. It seems that [redacted] is being exhaustively questioned with reference to the 34 defendants in the Winrod case in an endeavor to determine whether these defendants assisted the German-American Bund in distributing German propaganda in an endeavor to subvert the loyalty and morale of the Armed Forces of this country.

During the course of Mr. Burns' interrogation October 13, 1943, [redacted] mentioned in a collateral way that he had met Smith in 1937 or 1938 and had held a conference with him at the Pennsylvania Hotel, New York City. In view of this Mr. Rogge suggested that the Bureau might be desirous of having a Bureau representative, familiar with the Smith case, sit in on the further questioning with reference to this particular phase of the interrogation.

Accordingly, from 1:30 until 2:00 P. M., October 14, 1943, Supervisor J. P. Hanratty of this section joined Mr. Burns in questioning [redacted] stated that in the latter part of 1937 or the early part of 1938, an individual whom he later recalled as being named [redacted] contacted him requesting that he [redacted] come to the Pennsylvania Hotel for the purpose of meeting Smith. [redacted] recalled [redacted] as being somewhat of a No. 1 man for Smith and an individual whom he [redacted] had possibly met on a number of occasions in connection with various German meetings or gatherings.

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43618-347

[redacted] stated that on arrival at Smith's office in the Pennsylvania Hotel he was surprised when Smith was not there and [redacted] ushered him in and commenced a conversation relative to certain internal dissensions within Smith's organization, the Committee of One Million. [redacted] said he could not recall what the actual nature of the difficulty was but was under the impression that [redacted] was apparently vying with other individuals in the organization for Smith's favor and in so doing had called on [redacted] in an endeavor to gain [redacted] support and influence.

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS

6 OCT 29 1943

[redacted] stated that thereafter [redacted] invited him to lunch and that the two, accompanied by several other individuals, went to the dining room in the Pennsylvania Hotel. After lunch the two returned to Smith's office and while there Smith and [redacted] had a short conversation, extending perhaps for five or ten minutes. [redacted] was again not clear as to details but stated that he recalled this as having been primarily a social call where both he and Smith expressed good wishes to one another, stating that they hoped they would meet in the future, etc.

[redacted] claimed that he had no contact with Smith or [redacted] thereafter in so far as he can recall and again stated that his meeting with Smith had been casual and that his conversation with [redacted] had been, as indicated, with reference to some internal dissension in Smith's organization. In this regard he asserted that he had remained noncommittal and had not injected himself into the issue which he cannot now recall. He could not remember having seen Smith or [redacted] prior to the incident described at the Pennsylvania Hotel.

It was noted that throughout the discussion [redacted] although he seemed hazy as to details, appeared to be making an effort to be communicative and evidenced at least normal friendliness and sociability.

This information is of interest when considered in conjunction with certain related data appearing in the instant file. One [redacted], who was formerly one of Smith's chief henchmen, in a statement prepared for [redacted] an informant in this case, has stated that [redacted] who was at one time another of Smith's chief lieutenants, was "overly friendly" with [redacted] claims that [redacted] conferred on numerous occasions with [redacted] and thereafter reported to Smith the subject matter of such conversations. He has made no assertions that Smith himself was in contact with [redacted]

[redacted] has further claimed that [redacted] once entertained [redacted] at a luncheon at the Pennsylvania Hotel and has further explained that at about that time there was apparently considerable difficulty existent between Smith and [redacted]. This difficulty was apparently attributable to a difference in opinion as to how funds should be collected and principally as to how they should be divided between Smith and [redacted]. It is noted that to the extent of the statement as to the luncheon with [redacted] and the difficulty between [redacted] and Smith, [redacted] assertions apparently coincide with those of [redacted]

The whereabouts of [redacted] and [redacted] are not known at present and the New York office is currently endeavoring to locate and interview them relative to their knowledge of Smith's activity while in New York, particularly concerning any associations which may have been existent between Smith, [redacted] or other sources identifiable with German interests. In this connection it is noted that extensive investigation elsewhere has failed to develop such data and that the Criminal Division has frequently indicated an interest in having Smith's previous commitments fully explored for the possibility of developing any information available showing that he was associated with the Bund or German interests. The Criminal Division feels that Smith's current activities are rather

ALL b7c b7D

weak in so far as making out a case under the Sedition Statutes and it would appear that it further believes that the possibility of making a case would be greatly augmented by a showing of a community of interest or action between Smith, [redacted] or other German sources.

b7c
b7D

ACTION:

Information relative to [redacted] statements as described above is being made available in appropriate form to the Detroit and New York offices for their assistance in the further investigation of this matter. The New York office is being instructed to renew and intensify its efforts to locate and interview [redacted] and [redacted]

b7c

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch

F. L. Welch

JAM

JPH: WMJ
10-30-43
62-43818

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your further information, there is transmitted with this memorandum a copy of an additional report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at St. Paul, Minnesota, on October 20, 1943.

Enclosure

b7c

RECORDED 62-43818-368

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
NOV 2 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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Gandy

Oct. 20, 1943

Thursday, October 7th, 1943 Mr. Gerald L.K. Smith sponsored an America First meeting at the Macabee's Building, Detroit, Michigan with about 700 persons in attendance. At least half of those present were women and many of these appeared to be of the deeply religious type. Hon. John Loughman of Chicago, Illinois, was the advertised speaker and at 8.15 P.M. Mr. Smith came in and announced that his people had met every train from Chiago and that Loughman had failed to make an appearance. He stated that theyn had had Loughman paged at the Statler Hotel where he was due to arrive . He did not know what had happened to Mr. Loughman but did know that he had gotten on the train at Chicago at 9.00 A.M.

Smith launched into a bitter attack on the Roosevelt family; that Mrs. Roosevelt had earned nearly $3,000,000 with her Journalitsic activities that she is a disgrace to the White House; that one son is mixed up in the slot machine business, another high pressures businessmen into buying his insurance thru fear of New Deal reprisals if they fail to do so; that Roosevelt himself published his memoirs at $15.00 per copy and then forced the recipients of New Deal favors to buy same; that that sterling American "Cactus Jack" Garner had refused to sell his memoirs saying that they were the property of the American people. He cited an instance of Mrs. Roosevelt making an appearance before the Rotary Club of the small town of Johnson City, ##### Tenna; that she charged $1,000 for her speech there; that the sponsoring committee begged her to cut it down to $300.00 as this was all they had been able to raise; that she refused, saying she was under contract to speak at minimum rates of $1,000; that this committee had to go to the bank and give their notes and borrow the remaining $700.00 to pay off; that it had been rumored that Mrs. Roosevelt gave largely to charity but that he doubted this as he knew the Roosevelts had sticky fingers and very little ever passed thru their hands without sticking. He accused Roosevelt of wanting to be Caeser over the World while dictating the election of a New Deal stooge to take over the rule of the United States. He spoke of the horror of waking up in some government hospital, wounded on some far battlefront and looking up to see the " puss" of Mrs. Roosevelt grinning down at one.

Smith read from page # 1 of tomorrows Detroit Free Press relative to a secret session of the United States Senate where the 5 Senators who have toured 50,000 miles of foreign lands made their report; that they reported that all over Europe the people have been told that after the war their homes will be rebuilt, food will be forthcoming; that milk and honey will flow from America-- all free; that England is taking American goods and relabeling them and selling them in the markets of the world as British made; that six months after the war the airports and landing fields we are building will revert to foreign governments and USA will be charged rents for each plane that lands. Smith said that when the European people learn that America can't possibly give all this aid after the war it will make all Europe hate America.

Smith also commented on a speech delivered by Monsignor Sheehan of the Sunday Evening Catholic Men's Hour who spoke at Hotel Book- Cadillac at Detroit last Sunday to an audience of 700 persons. This speech was not broadcast as it would never have passed the radio censors. Smith alleged that Sheehan charged that Stalin is right now negotiating with a prominent communist who went over to Hitler in 1933; that the negotations are relative to a peace pact between Russia and Germany; that Stalin takes the Nazi and Communist captured German prisoners and feeds them just three times as much as he feeds captured Catholic prisoners of war; that Mexico City, Mexico is now the headquarters of the Communist Internationale; that the Internationale was not dissolved but was merely changed and now operates under a " zone" system. He further charged that Russia is going to take over Poland at the conclusion of

[illegible] Sheehan [illegible] Poland [illegible] Sheehan [illegible] American aid to China because she wanted to [illegible] get Chinese labor for 10¢ per hour and the last thing she desires is freedom for the colored peoples of the world.

The speech was not broadcast but it might be possible to get a copy by contacting Fr. Murphy of Assumption College, Windsor, Canada, as he is the business manager of Monsignor Sheehan.

Smith charged that the U.S. is spending on the war three times as much as all other nations combined. He also made the startling charge that New Zealand and Australia are demobilizing large numbers of soldiers; that Canada does not draft men for overseas duties (Army); that Canada has no lend-lease; that Canada does not ration shoes, soft meats, etc. He also charged that US has twice as many soldiers under arms as has England.

Smith commented on some newspaper mans story that General Summerval was going to be placed at the head of the U.S. Army with ### power to spend $22,000,000; that Summerval used to be in charge of the WPA for the New Deal in New York State; that General Marshall is to be given a fancy sounding title and shipped off to Europe while Summerval the New Deal stooge hands out patronage thru his spending program. " You can just imagine what these Jews can do with 22 billion dollars " shouted Smith and the said " And I say Jews just as I would say Baptists if it was Baptists".

This was followed by the taking up of a collection which must have been sizeable. Smith then announced a great meeting of nationalists at Cass Technical High School for Nov. 19th where will gather nationalists from all the great midwest district.

He announced for the following Tuesday a great gathering of nationalists at Minneapolis, Minnesota from the Northwest District

He announced a meeting of America First at Hotel Book-Cadillac for Oct. 19, 1943 which will be addressed by Mr. Dean E. Smith who represented the Standard Oil Co in Burma, China and Indiana up to and after the outbreak of world war # 2.

Several members of the National Workers League were observed as being present.

Smith also announced that the book "So They Indicted Me" would be given to any persons getting a certain number of subscriptions to his " Cross and Flag".

Adjourned:

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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4-750 (2-7-79)

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Ford
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Curran Tamm
Mr. Mason
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
November 1, 1943

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,
with aliases; et al.
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION
(62-43818)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-8005/MC

Dear Sir:

There is set forth below the substance of information received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, during the period from October 11 through October 27, 1943. b7D

Under date of October 18, Informant advised that SMITH had telephonically contacted [redacted] Baton Rouge, Louisiana, at which time SMITH advised [redacted] he was going to speak at Orchestra Hall in Chicago on November 7, at which time he would answer the charges made in the book "Undercover".

Informant advised that SMITH telephonically advised LIEBOLD at the Ford Motor Company under date of October 19 that SMITH was having a meeting on that particular night and that the meeting was to be addressed by a Dean Smith, who was to give the high-lights of the British Empire and its intents and purposes. LIEBOLD at that time stated that he did not think he would attend.

SMITH contacted JOE STOFFEL telephonically in Buffalo, New York, on October 19 and advised STOFFEL that STOFFEL should attempt to secure a meeting place for either eighth, ninth or tenth.

Informant stated that he had received information that under date of October 20 SMITH had advised Captain SOUTHARD of Chicago on that date that SMITH was going to attempt to work out a budget so that SOUTHARD might be able to get a weekly drawing account. No further information has been heard relative to this particular matter.

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88 OCT 13 1964
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It was also ascertained through [redacted] that SMITH was attempting to secure a meeting place in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania throug[redacted] b7D b7C

Informant advised that under date of October 20, SMITH had attempted to contact UPTON CLOSE, a lecturer who was then registered at the Hotel Statler. Informant advised under date of October 23 that SOUTHARD was apparently encountering a great deal of difficulty in Chicago in securing a meeting place, and that the American Legion was apparently opposing a SMITH meeting in Chicago.

Under date of October 26, SMITH communicated with HARRY BENNETT'S office at the Ford Motor Company, at which time he advised [redacted] that JOHN ROY CARLSON, the author of the book "Undercover", is to speak at the Town Hall Meeting in the Fisher Theater Building, Detroit, on October 27, 1943, and that SMITH thought the Ford Company should have some men there to cover the meeting; at this time SMITH expressed the opinion that he would like to see CARLSON beat up. It was ascertained that the SMITH group picketed this meeting at the time CARLSON appeared for his talk. b7C

Under date of October 13, 1943, DOMAN, SMITH's office manager, advised SMITH that he wanted to know how to reach [redacted] at New Randolph Hotel, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, inasmuch as DOMAN wanted to advise the doctor relative to the change in one of the meetings. b7C

Informant advised that SMITH had recently visited his parents in Delaven, Wisconsin. It was also ascertained that SMITH addressed a meeting in Chicago on Sunday night, October 16, 1943. This apparently was the same meeting which was supposed to take place on October 13 but which was postponed due to difficulty in securing a hall.

Informant stated that SMITH had contacted a great many of his constituents at the time CARLSON gave his lecture in Detroit, and at that time SMITH made arrangements via telephone for various individuals to report to the hall where CARLSON was to lecture for the purpose of picketing.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

John S. Bugas
SAC

[redacted] b7C
62-1126

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-7463

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CLEVELAND, OHIO	11-1-43	10-18-43	[redacted] go

TITLE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, was

CHARACTER OF CASE
INTERNAL SECURITY-G
SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

GERALD L. K. SMITH meeting attended by approximately 3,500 at Fairgrounds, Celina. Meeting sponsored by the Farmers Guild of Mercer County, Ohio. SMITH gave short 10 min. speech, mainly spent in introducing Congressman, Clare Hoffman, the principal speaker. SMITH expressed feeling against President and Mrs. Roosevelt, infiltration of Communists into Governmental Bureaus and the FULBRIGHT resolution.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-8BTI/W

REFERENCE: Letter from Detroit Field Division dated 9-20-43.

DETAILS: AT CELINA, OHIO

[redacted] furnished the following information concerning the meeting sponsored by the Farmers Guild of Mercer County, Ohio, which was held at the Fair grounds, Celina, Ohio, on September 26, 1943.

b7c
b7D

[redacted] advised that approximately 3,500 persons attended this meeting. The majority

~~DEFERRED PENDING~~

APPROVED AND FORWARDED L. V. Boardman SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43518 372

39 NOV 8 1943

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2 - Cleveland

cc clerk 11/4/43

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of the persons attending came from the southwestern section of Mercer County, Ohio, which section of the county formerly expressed a great amount of interest in Father Coughlin's "Social Justice" and lately has shown similar interest in GERALD L. K. SMITH, and the American First Party.

According to [redacted], the original advertizing for the meeting stated that Senator GERALD NYE would be the main speaker. Because of this fact many persons attended the meeting who otherwise would not have attended if they had known GERALD L. K. SMITH would be present. GERALD L. K. SMITH, in his short speech, explained to the persons assembled that NYE was too busy in Washington fighting the New Deal to take time out to come to Mercer County.

b7c
b7D

[redacted] said that SMITH only spoke for approximately 10 minutes and spent a large portion of that time introducing CLARE HOFFMAN. SMITH spoke strongly against the Fullbright Resolution. He also alleged that Communists have infiltrated Government Bureaus and laid the blame to the New Deal. SMITH attacked the President for his policies regarding lend-lease and made an allusion to the extensive traveling of Mrs. Roosevelt. He offered to stay out of politics if the President did not run for a fourth term.

SMITH also dwelt on the dangers of Communism in the country. He stated that our present relations with Russia should be regarded purely as military expediency but that there should be a complete break with that country immediately after the war.

As noted, the subject spoke very briefly the main speaker being Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN.

In the course of the meeting a collection was taken which collection GERALD L. K. SMITH stated would be used in furtherance of his fight against the New Deal.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JTHa:WMJ
11-4-43

RECORDED

Date: 62-43818-372

To: Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your further information in connection with your consideration of this case, there is attached a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Cleveland, Ohio, on November 1, 1943.

b7c

Enclosure

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DATE 12/5/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mc

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Enclosure

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FBI/DOJ

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287a

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

50315

SWR:eas

Call: 3:45 p.m.
Dictated: 3:50 p.m.

November 14, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

[redacted] of [redacted] office, Office of Naval Intelligence, called and stated that one [redacted] from the Washington Post called him and advised that Gerald L. K. Smith is presently in Washington, staying at the Statler Hotel, Room 632.

[redacted] stated that [redacted] had no information as to the length of time that Smith would be in Washington. He advised that he was passing this information along to the Bureau for whatever information the same could have.

Respectfully,

S. W. Reynolds

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DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-9013 AC

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

RECORDED 62-43818-374

33 NOV 16 1943

50 NOV 22 1943 527

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

POST OFFICE BOX 812
Chicago 90, Illinois
November 5, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was
THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

b7c

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated November 5, 1943, at Chicago, reflecting information concerning the subject's speech made in Chicago, Illinois, on October 17, 1943, in the auditorium at the Fine Arts Building.

For the information of the Bureau, SMITH advised that he had talked to the Chief of Police in Denver, Colorado, prior to the meeting and asked him to listen to his speech and that afterwards, if the Chief did not think that it was the most "American" speech he ever heard, SMITH would never speak in Colorado again.

SMITH said the Chief of Police in Denver did attend the meeting and that after the meeting he came up to him and whispered in his ear and told him that he would like to be able to get up and tell the people how fine he thought SMITH'S speech was.

This matter is being called to the attention of the Bureau as well as the Denver and Detroit Field Divisions mainly for information purposes.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY SP8BT/Tak

Very truly yours,

S. J. Drayton

S. J. DRAYTON,
SAC

[redacted]WS
100-7744 b7c
cc - Denver
cc - Detroit

537

DEC 4 1943

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TWO

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
November 9, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated November 1, 1943, Bureau File 62-43818, in which letter the Bureau referred to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at St. Paul, Minnesota on October 20, 1943, in the above-entitled matter.

In the reference report of Special Agent [redacted] it was alleged that SMITH was referring to a certain book which had been written by a person who had been persecuted by the bureaucrats and who had been approached by the secretary of Eleanor Roosevelt with the proposition that everything would be dropped if he paid him forty thousand dollars. The Bureau requested information relative to the name of this book and any further information in possession of the Detroit Field Office.

This is to advise that on September 28, 1943, at a meeting of the America First Committee held in the Maccabees Building, Detroit, which was attended by an informant from the Detroit Office, SMITH referred to his friend, J. EDWARD JONES of Baton Rouge, Louisiana and also at this time referred to a book written by JONES entitled "And So They Indicted Me". At this particular meeting SMITH made the statement that all donors of five dollars or more would receive a copy of this particular book. At this particular meeting, SMITH in describing JONES stated that JONES had resigned as oil coordinator for the Independent Oil Producers under N.R.A. after an attempt had been made "to get" JONES by HAROLD ICKES.

SMITH also at this time stated that Mrs. Roosevelt's personal secretary had attempted to shake down JONES to fix his indictment and that the name of this individual is Colonel MILES LASKER. SMITH at this time also stated that the "New Dealers" had banned JONES' book from the news stands. The complete text of SMITH's talk at this meeting as reported to the Detroit Office by the confidential informant will be incorporated in the next report submitted in this matter.

RECORDED 62-43818-37
INDEXED 27 DEC 2 1943

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 11/5/82 BY
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-7463

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Cleveland, Ohio	11-18-43	11-9,15-43	[redacted] b7c NF

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with alias Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

On 11/9/43 at Franklin Auditorium, Cleveland, O., SMITH addressed 750 persons. SMITH attacked the author of "Under Cover", Walter Winchell and Churchill as meddling in U. S. politics. Speaker Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, President, United Mothers of America, attacked author of "Under Cover" and Rabbi BARNETT R. BRICKNER. Speaker L.L. MARION talked in a religious vain and attacked Communism and Stalin saying Stalin was making concessions now to bring about certain revolution later. Also attacked the book, "The Bible Unmasked" and the Government for "plowing under food".

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/5/92 BY SP-8BT

REFERENCE:

Bureau File: 62-43818
Letter from Detroit dated 11/3/43

DETAILS:

At 8:00 p.m. on November 9, 1943 GERALD L. K. SMITH, National Director of the America First Party, addressed an audience of approximately 750 persons at the Franklin Auditorium, 2515 Franklin Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio. To gain admission to the hall, it was necessary to present a card of admission.

On the platform, in addition to SMITH, was Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, President of the United Mothers of America, Mrs. MONREAL of the United Mothers of America, and Dr. L. L. MARION, Pastor of the Christian Temple of Pontiac, Michigan.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: L. V. Boardman SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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SMITH opened the meeting with a few words outlining the program. He then requested that all stand and pledge allegiance to the United States flag. Two stanzas of America were sung and the Lords Prayer was recited. SMITH stated that it is imperative that he outstretch his arm palm upward in saluting the flag for if he outstretched his arm palm downward, he would be accused of giving the Fascist salute.

SMITH denounced the book "Under Cover" and its author, JOHN ROY CARLSON. He stated that such books and men like Walter Winchell were responsible for the ever-rising tide of anti-Semitism in the United States. SMITH attacked WINCHELL vigorously as a crop monger and stated that he SMITH and several others were responsible for the Navy Department's action in taking WINCHELL out of uniform and in placing him in a retired status.

SMITH advised all Jews to stop their vicious attacks and to commence to create good will or to suffer the consequences. SMITH then introduced Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, President of the United Mothers of America.

Mrs. STANLEY stated that she had been attacked by the author of "Under Cover" personally but that she had ignored this personal attack but could not ignore any attack on her faith and that she was there to "defend her faith". She then read portions from "Under Cover" on which the author gave his impression of the Shrine of the Little Flower, Royal Oak, Michigan. She denounced the author as a writer and gave her impression of the Shrine of the Little Flower.

Mrs. STANLEY then referred to the talk by Rabbi BARNETT R. BRICKNER in which he stated that the book "Under Cover" was a masterpiece and also in which he stated that Cleveland has a subversive arrangement headed by Mrs. DAVID STANLEY and MARTIN SWEENEY. Mrs. STANLEY attacked Rabbi BRICKNER and stated that such acts as this increased the anti-Semitic feeling in the United States. Mrs. STANLEY displayed correspondence which reflected that the author of "Under Cover", JOHN ROY CARLSON, had used the name GEORGE PAGANALLI and several other names in an attempt to entice her to reply in a manner that he could convert to his own desire and use against her in his book. She advised that she had always been very careful in her correspondence with him because she had at all times suspected him.

SMITH again took the speaker's stand and stated that in the United States today you can criticize a priest or a minister but if you criticize a Rabbi, you are accused of being anti-Semitic and Fascist.

SMITH criticized the Roosevelt family as being over ambitious and attempting to set up a "Roosevelt Dynasty" in the United States. He also criticized WINSTON CHURCHILL for entering politics in the United States and attempting to dictate politics in the United States. He referred specifically to CHURCHILL's speech at Cambridge, Massachusetts and also the speech made by CHURCHILL in England on November 9, 1943 in which SMITH alleged CHURCHILL told the people of England that if ROOSEVELT was not elected, it would be a calamity.

SMITH also attacked ELI CULBUITSON who he stated was advocating a world government with ROOSEVELT at its head. SMITH referred to his "Western" which he described as being highly successful and a reflection of the advances that the America First Movement was making. He related an incident that he alleged took place in Denver, Colorado where the City Council, under the pressure of the Jews and the Communists, drew up a resolution cancelling SMITH's speaking permit. The Mayor of the city refused to sign the resolution and when the Communists attempted a disturbance at the meeting, the Mayor ordered 300 policemen out to guard the meeting.

He further related that the Chief of Police at the end of SMITH's speech denouncing Communists and Jews was so enthusiastic that he attempted to make a speech of congradulation to SMITH.

SMITH offered autographed bound copies of the back numbers of his magazine "The Cross and the Flag" dated back to April, 1942 to anyone pledging $10 or more that evening. SMITH announced that a very important meeting of the America First Party would be held at Cleveland on November 30, 1943. SMITH then introduced Dr. L. L. MARION, Pastor of the Christian Temple of Pontiac, Michigan as a friend of his for over 20 years and who had been the best man at his wedding.

Dr. MARION stated that the Government of the United States was in great need of prayer if it hoped to prosper. He stated that the Government was greatly at fault when it plowed under food and destroyed livestock in the past and now it is necessary to ration food and the country is in want. He denounced the Communists as "Red pagans of hell" and also denounced the book "The Bible Unmasked" as a descriptive piece of literature that should never have been allowed to be copyrighted under the laws of the United States.

Dr. MARION attacked Senate Bill No. 666 and stated that the Bible had stated that a monster would come to destroy the people and this monster would be called 666. Dr. MARION referred to a speech of JOSEPH STALIN made in 1930 wherein he alleged STALIN stated that the Russians would make certain labor concessions to bring about certain revolution and gain control of the world. He stated that Russia is doing this at the present time at the conference held at Moscow with representatives of the United States, Russia, and Great Britain. He further stated that the Bible had prophesied this meeting when it said, "Men will sit at tables and lie."

Dr. MARION accused the Chairman of the Ration Board of Pontiac, Michigan of being a member of the Communist Party and a former secretary and treasurer of that Party who had been refusing to give him gasoline because he had stated that the work of a minister of God was not essential.

MARION stated that the author of "Under Cover" and all other Communist writers should be put in a boat and put out to sea and torpedoed and he would enjoy having his son a member of the United States Navy release the torpedo. MARION stated, "What we need is to run all the red agents of hell like the author of "Under Cover" out of this country. If we had a thousand more like GERALD SMITH, we could clean all these rats out of America."

GERALD L. K. SMITH again took the speakers stand and advocated that everyone read the book "Under Cover" as some day it would be termed the "Who's Who of Patriotic America." He denounced the author as using the "smear campaign" to attack patriotic Americans for the caliban of Father COUGHLIN, CHARLES LINDBERGH, HENRY FORD, Senator NYE, Senator REYNOLDS, Senator WHEELER, Senator DAVID I. WALSH and many others.

SMITH passed out envelopes for subscriptions to his magazine, "The Cross and The Flag". He advised the audience that no one should leave the hall with more than carfare home in his pocket because it was a crusade and they should give their all to support it. Members of the United Mothers of America took up a collection at the door as the audience filed out. The meeting was closed with a prayer by Dr. L. L. MARION.

The meeting was attended by Special Agents [redacted] and the writer.

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JPHa:MJ
11-30-43

RECORDED 69-43818-377

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your additional information in connection with your consideration of this case, there is attached a copy of a further report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Cleveland, Ohio, on November 18, 1943. b7c

Enclosure

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 9 OF 18

FILE NUMBER : 62-43818

SUBJECT GERALD L. K. Smith

PART 5

FEDERAL BUREAU
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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
REQUEST

SUBJECT GERALD L. K. Smith

PAGES REVIEWED: 3994

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NOTES: Sections 21 - 25

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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 21

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Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE NO. 100-7744

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Chicago, Illinois	11-5-43	10-17-43	[redacted] TWS

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TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases: Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY - C SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject addressed meeting at Curtis Hall, Fine Arts Building, 410 South Wabash Ave., Chicago, on October 17, 1943, between 3:25 and 5:40 p.m. Approximately 250 people in attendance. Announced purpose of meeting was to raise funds to help cover expenses of large meeting in Chicago in November to answer speech to be made in Chicago on November 3, 1943, by CARLSON, author of "Under Cover." SMITH'S remarks dealt principally with experiences and recent meetings in Minneapolis and Denver. Remarks made by subject concerning ROOSEVELT, CHURCHILL, WINCHELL and PEARSON set out. Subject stated if ROOSEVELT elected to fourth term, this country would see a dynasty and dictatorship which would make those of HITLER, STALIN and TOJO look like puppets as they did not have money to spend that ROOSEVELT did. Charged ROOSEVELT with using United States Treasury to buy control of countries in Western hemisphere.

- R U C -

REFERENCE: Bureau file 62-43818; teletype from Detroit dated October 15, 1943.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: S. A. Crawford SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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DETAILS: At Chicago, Illinois

By reference teletype the Detroit Field Division advised that the subject was making a speech in Chicago on Sunday, October 17, 1943, at 5:00 p.m. at the Chicago Fine Arts Auditorium, 410 South Michigan Avenue.

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On October 17, 1943, Special Agent [redacted] and the writer covered the meeting conducted by the subject in Curtis Hall, 10th floor, Fine Arts Building, 410 South Wabash Avenue.

The meeting was called to order at 5:25 p.m. by SMITH with approximately 250 people in attendance. It was opened with the singing of The Star and Spangled Banner, followed by the salute to the flag and the Lord's Prayer.

SMITH announced during the course of his talk that the sole purpose of the meeting was to raise funds for a big meeting to be held in Chicago by SMITH about one week after November 3, 1943, on which date Smith stated that a man named CARLSON, whom he stated was the author of "UNDER COVER" and to whom he referred to as an "Armenian Communist" was scheduled to speak in Chicago. SMITH said his talk was to be in answer to CARLSON'S speech and also to discuss the speech recently made in St Louis, Missouri, by WENDELL WILLKIE. During the course of the meeting SMITH did not disclose any plans for future talks to be made by him prior to his meeting planned for Chicago following the address by CARLSON.

SMITH spoke from 5:25 p.m. to 5:40 p.m., with the last half hour of his talk devoted to explaining the purpose of the meeting and making his plea for donations. He had previously passed out envelopes by which one could obtain a subscription to his publication and explained the manner in whichhe wanted his contributions submitted. He advised the audience that those who were nonsubscribers to the "CROSS and the FLAG" would get a subscription if they contributed $2.00 or more and for each new subscription he would send to the new subscriber a free copy of J. EDWARD JONES' book, "So I Was Indicted." He explained that the money received from donations would be used for the rent on the hall for the present meeting as well as the rent on the hall for the coming meeting in November. SMITH advised subscribers that they also could get acopy of JONES' book by contributing at least $2.00 to the rental fund.

During the course of his speech SMITH had discussed briefly the contents of the book written by JONES and had indicated that at the end of his meeting he would explain how the people might obtain a copy as set out above.

SMITH began his talk by mention the meetings held by him at Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Denver, Colorado, following his meeting at Kimball Hall, Chicago, Illinois, on September 8, 1943, which meeting was previously covered and reported by the reporting Agent. He mentioned the success of the meetings and the problems met in connection therewith. He pointed out that four days before the meeting in Denver, the Rocky Mountain News stated that the Communists and Jews were endeavoring to have the contract signed by the SMITH group for the city auditorium cancelled. He also disclosed that at a meeting of the City Commission on a night before the meeting in the city auditorium, a proposal submitted by Commissioner ROSENTHAL resulted in its unanimous adoption and provided cancellation of the contract. SMITH said that ROSENTHAL was a Jew and that following a publication in the paper that the meeting was cancelled since numerous protests were received by the Mayor and he repudiated the cancellation of the contract and permitted the meeting to be held.

SMITH said he had been called anti-Semitic, but asserted that he did not advocate the persecution of any group and was, in fact, opposed to it. He said that he believed there were Jewish operatives in the audience and that if they were there he wanted to tell them that it would be that "kind of stuff" as pulled in Denver and elsewhere as it was such tactics as that which were making him and the American people anti-Semitic.

SMITH attacked the New Dealers and their international policies. He also attacked Sir WALTER BENNING, British Lend Lease Administrator in the United States, for telling a press club meeting in Washington that the British had developed a system on lend lease on which they did not keep any books and that they weren't going to be troubled again on how much they owed the United States. He said he hoped this system would continue after the war. SMITH charged that this statement by BENNING was semi-official as shown by CHURCHILL'S Harvard speech in which he advocated a common citizenship and congress.

SMITH also attacked CHURCHILL'S alleged statements concerning "it would be a calamity not to elect ROOSEVELT to a 4th term or greater still if a Republican Congress were elected." SMITH alleged that the British were prepared to sink $100,000,000.00 to elect ROOSEVELT and asked why they shouldn't be prepared to do so when ROOSEVELT was giving them $2,000,000.00 every hour.

SMITH asserted that he actually believed that the ROOSEVELTS were working to make ROOSEVELT the President of the World. He said that he believed if ROOSEVELT were elected to a 4th term, this country would see a dynasty and dictatorship that would make the dictatorships of STALIN, HITLER and TOJO look like puppets as they did not have money at their disposal to spend like ROOSEVELT did.

SMITH attacked the "Union Now" Plan and said the Western hemisphere countries were a good example of how countries could live together in peace without union and a Hemisphere Congress. He charged that ROOSEVELT as President of the United States had dipped into the Treasury of the United States and endeavored to buy control of the other countries of the Western hemisphere.

SMITH asserted that Mrs. ROOSEVELT had used the White House to net herself $2,000,000.00. He did not explain in detail, but mentioned a specific case in Johnson City, Tennessee, stating that her press agent had contacted a Government Official there and put on pressure to get the "Optimist Club" of Johnson City to sign a contract to pay Mrs. ROOSEVELT $1,000.00 for speaking. SMITH pointed out that expenses were high and that the Club told Mrs. ROOSEVELT on the afternoon of the evening that she was to speak that they had only about $400.00 and she said that she wouldn't speak then as her contract prevented her talking for less than $1,000.00. SMITH related that it was then necessary for the Optimist Club to sign a note at the bank to make up the $1,000.00 and they had considerable trouble in paying that debt. He suggested that the Queen of England would never go among miners and take $1,000.00 from them and that after all there might be some reason for paying $1,000.00 to the Queen of England as she was a 'pretty nice looking woman.' SMITH said he admired CHURCHILL because CHURCHILL was working for the British Empire which was more than could be said of ROOSEVELT working for America. He gave his definition of a political victory as "retiring the ROOSEVELTS from public life, sending WENDELL WILLKIE to Moscow and to make HENRY WALLACE a milkman in China." He said he had given this definition in his address in Minneapolis.

SMITH repeated his act performed in the meeting of September 8, 1945, in Kimball Hall in which he stamped on the flag of the Internationalists and stated that he intended to perform that act at every meeting. He again bitterly denounced WINCHELL and PEARSON and said that WINCHELL was doing more to create anti-Semiticism in the United States than anyother ten men. He again mentioned the administration, denounciation of PEARSON and stated as it was his last meeting in Kimball Hall that "ROOSEVELT ought to know a liar if anyone would."

In connection with his meeting in Denver, Colorado, SMITH stated that the Communists tried to break up his meeting by distributing literature and said the Communists told people awaiting in front of the auditorium that if they didn't believe the things set out in the Literature, to ask EARL BROWDER about them. He also stated that his Minneapolis meeting was said by political leaders to have had the largest attendance of any political meeting in the state for ten years.

SMITH mentioned the recent attack of the five Senators who returned from a tour of the world battle fronts and stated that the fact that ROOSEVELT showed so little interest in their return and hadn't had a meeting with them showed how little the administration regarded the legislative body.

SMITH pointed out that he had a son in the United States Army and 48 hours before had received word his son was going over seas in charge of a mule pack. He then stated that his son had had six years of military training before going into the Army and 'a man with his experience certainly should be qualified to obtain a commission' but because of the unfavorable publicity heaped on SMITH by WALTER WINCHELL his son received no consideration. He then asserted that if the United States had not been so degraded and dissipated it would have stopped WINCHELL a long time ago. He charged WINCHELL with prying into the private and very personal lives of expectant mothers and making it a public issue. He then stated that if the United States had not been so degraded and dissipated they would never have elected ROOSEVELT.

At the conclusion of the meeting Captain EARL SOUTHARD announced that DEAN SMITH would complete his series of lectures for the USA Committee on October 22, 1943, in Engineer's Hall, Chicago, and would thereafter go to Detroit to deliver an address for SMITH.

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FARMERS GUILD NEWS

Vol. LXI—No. 9 8145 FRANKFORT, INDIANA September, 1942

Wallace Fears Mortal Blow To Internationalism

Believes Synthetic Rubber May Lead To Another War

Additional Light Upon the So-called "New Isolationism" Which Vice-President Henry A. Wallace Appears to Oppose More Vigorously Than a Military Defeat.

By CARL H. MOTE

Three years ago, in 1939, Dr. William J. Hale, research consultant of the Dow Chemical Company for 25 years, wrote in a book he called "Farmward March" about the fruits of internationalism.

Mediaeval politics have proved "an undoing," he said. "Economic soothsayers and internationalists have gained the upper hand that they may bleed both the rich and the poor into pauperism and peonage." There is ample evidence that Dr. Hale wrote the truth.

Vice-President Henry A. Wallace is acknowledged to be one of the outstanding "economic soothsayers" of the New Deal. Just now he is greatly disturbed. He fears that the production of vast quantities of alcohol for rubber and for power in America is about to strike a mortal blow at internationalism and terminate our dependence upon the British and Dutch rubber monopoly. Whether Mr. Wallace seeks to avoid a mortal blow at internationalism because he is a Socialist or because he wants to preserve a large volume of foreign trade for the benefit of international bankers is unimportant. The international bankers are deeply concerned because their profits from the manipulation of foreign exchange depend somewhat upon foreign trade.

Wallace argued in the New York Times Magazine of June 12, 1942, that the United States must not undertake permanently to make itself self-contained and self-sufficient as a rubber because, if it does, it will have to fight a World War No. 3.

If the time has come when this country must consult the British and Dutch before it may engage in the production of any commodity needed in our domestic economy to avoid the threat of war our armed forces at home and abroad should have that information now. Such information might have a far-reaching influence upon the course of future events.

Wallace's Definition

Mr. Wallace identified the production of alcohol for rubber and power from wheat, corn, sugar cane, sugar beets and potatoes with what he called a "new isolationism." Mr. Wallace is frightened because apparently he realizes that Socialism, internationalism and the foreign trade fetish are threatened by the daily necessities of 130,000,000 people educated to the use of the motor car and by the urgent demands of our war economy. He said the "new isolationism" threatens "collective security for the world" and "if we do insist on playing a lone hand, we shall not only hasten World War No. 3 but we shall have a good chance of losing it."

Most Americans would think that our present interest is more in winning World War No. 2 than it is in "collective security for the world" or in preparing for World War No. 3. Moreover, if it is admitted that an adequate supply of alcohol is necessary to win World War No. 2, how can it be maintained that such a supply would indicate us in preparing for World War No. 3?

Confusing Ideas

It would appear that Mr. Wallace thinks that his ideologies are in conflict, not only with the necessities of our war economy, but also with the imperatives of scientific discovery and invention which offer a bedeviled America, within a few months, all the rubber it needs. An American may very well wonder whether Mr. Wallace prefers to lose the war rather than yield some of the gains of Socialism, internationalism and foreign trade under the International New Deal. This is what Mr. Wallace said of the "new isolationism."

"This new isolationism is beginning to show its head for the first time in a very human and plausible way, using rubber as its cloak. From the long-run point of view, it is more dangerous than the old isolationism. Under the plea that the United States must produce everything at home in order to be prepared in time of war, this new isolationism would not only destroy the export market of the United States, but would cause great hardship among the producing populace of countries which normally export to the United States. This new isolationism would of necessity develop many points of economic liaison with the Germany of 1938 to 1939."

American Self-Sufficiency

First, why shouldn't the United States, so far as it can, produce everything at home? Why shouldn't the United States be self-contained and self-sufficient? To the extent we become self-contained and self-sufficient, naturally we shall lose interest in foreign trade which, its history for the past 25 years plainly shows, has been a delusion and a snare. Unfortunately, the American people have only a vague understanding of their own continuing sacrifices in blood, sweat and tears to preserve foreign trade.

Secondly, those Americans who do understand what we have paid and are still paying to preserve foreign trade can hardly be depended upon to weep over the "great hardship," as Mr. Wallace called it, to the British and Dutch rubber monopoly of our producing our own rubber. That act of sympathy probably will have to be performed by Mr. Wallace and the plutocracy for whom he speaks. The British and Dutch were unable to defend our sources of natural rubber in Malaya and the East Indies and there is no assurance presently that they will recover the monopoly. If the job is done it very likely will be done by our own army and navy. Some Americans have been unable to forget the twenties when the British and Dutch ran up the price of rubber to us to more than a dollar a pound.

Finally, it is unnecessary to say anything in behalf of Hitler's political order to recognize Germany's great economic progress between 1933 and 1939 when, in America, there were increasing national deficits from providing the "more abundant life."

Accents on Misstatements

The Wallace essay on synthetic rubber, as might have been expected, was accented by many misstatements of fact.

"It was not surprising, therefore, that prior to May 1, 1942," said the vice-president, "all of this country's experts in rubber believed that the practical source of synthetic rubber was petroleum."

Is it possible that the secretary of agriculture, between 1933 and 1940, never heard of Dr. William J. Hale or Dr. Lee M. Christensen? The former invented mustard gas during World War No. 1 and is known as the "Father of Chemurgy" in America. He wrote "Chemistry [illegible] in 1932, "The Farm Chemurgic" in 1934 and "Farmward March" in 1939. Mr. Wallace should have read these books. The latter, now at the University of Nebraska, formerly taught at Iowa State College in Mr. Wallace's home state and from which Mr. Wallace himself was graduated. Dr. Christensen was one of the authors of "Power Alcohol and Farm Relief," which was published by the Chemical Foundation.

The Truth

The sad truth is that while such noted chemists were perfecting chemical processes of farm crops, Henry A. Wallace, as secretary of agriculture, was destroying 6,000,000 hogs, 2,000,000 sheep and plowing under more than 10,000,000 acres of cotton. In 1933, the first year of the "more abundant life," American farmers received $[illegible] for producing nothing whatever. Such grandiose hand-outs were founded upon the illusion that scarcity is a synonym of wealth. They were fully explained by the late Dr. William A. Wirt in 1934 when he told a congressional committee that the farmers were to be corrupted and regimented in return for putting them on the dole.

Recommendations of Experts

Neither Dr. Hale nor Dr. Christensen ever advocated petroleum as a basic material for rubber, and if Mr. Wallace ever consulted an "expert" he must have been employed by the oil companies.

Mr. Wallace should be required to explain the loss of our export trade in cotton between 1933 and 1935. In 1933 we exported 8,418,000 bales and in 1935 only 4,800,000 bales, although world cotton consumption increased during the period. There is something Mr. Wallace omitted from his New York Times essay. Mr. Wallace omitted to state that in the interval between 1931 and 1934 the international bankers manipulated foreign exchange so that an ounce of gold in London would buy 1.35 times as much as it would buy in New York, New Orleans, Mobile and Galveston. Mr. Wallace neglected to state that in the same interval the international bankers manipulated foreign exchange so that an ounce of gold in the British colonies and Argentina would buy 1.85 times as much as it would buy in any American market.

It is a miracle that the American farmer had any foreign trade left in consequence of currency manipulation in the early thirties by the international bankers. The net effect of the policy advocated by Mr. Wallace is to impede the processing and consumption of farm surpluses at home. The further effect is to put the farmer again at the mercy of the international banker. When Mr. Wallace thus attempts to block the production of alcohol from farm crops he thereby arrays himself against the American farmer, and he thereby reveals himself as an enemy of the American farmer.

Another Misstatement

Mr. Wallace made a gross misstatement of fact when he said, "It was not until the first week in May that qualified chemists were able to assure Donald Nelson, chairman of the War Production Board, that sufficient progress had been made in the art of converting alcohol into butadiene."

Mr. Wallace should have known that Germany had 30,000 plants for the distillation of alcohol in operation in 1939, and that they were then producing five billion gallons a year. All the time stupid Americans have been wishfully believing Germany was about to run out of power and rubber that country has been producing an abundant supply of alcohol for power and butadiene for rubber.

Federal Sabotage

In contracts now being made for the production of rubber, Wallace relies upon provisions for government ownership at the end of the war to sabotage the wartime development of a new domestic industry. His apparent hope is that the government will sabotage these plants even if a private owner would not. Mr. Sharpless favors government ownership. If is most unlikely that such plants will be sabotaged at the end of the war. [illegible] It is some unlikely that the politicians will be able to overrule the scientists, even their discoveries and inventions have been widely utilized.

After eight months of war we are still bickering about whether we shall produce rubber from alcohol or petroleum; whether the government shall acquire synthetic rubber plants built during the war after the war is ended; whether plants not acquired by the government shall be protected by a tariff. Another commission is to review the findings of other commissions and boards and committees. Meanwhile, we are not winning any war. Suppose the new industry does demand and receive tariff protection after the war? What of it?

Overcoming Shortages

When we engaged in World War No. 1 we found ourselves greatly handicapped for want of dyes. It was the protection guaranteed for three years immediately succeeding the post-war embargo on dyes and intermediates, as Dr. Hale pointed out, which gave us our present chemical industry, now so helpful in our war effort.

As early as 1938 — nearly four years ago — Dr. William J. Hale warned: "Unless quick riddance is made of restrictions affecting agricultural alcohol as a supplier of power, there will be smooth sailing for an enemy that would subdue us."

The restrictions to which Dr. Hale referred in 1939 were those applying to alcohol as a beverage. The war added new restrictions in priorities, preferences and allocations of material for plant construction which were not removed, and then only partially, until near the end of July, 1942. Our enemies have had "smooth sailing" for eight months, just as Dr. Hale predicted in 1938. If the reign of what Dr. Hale called "economic soothsayers" is not ended quickly our enemies should continue to enjoy "smooth sailing" until we have lost the war.

A Modern Agreement

In July, 1942, we agreed to purchase the entire exportable surplus of alcohol from Mexico up to the end of 1943 at 40 cents a gallon, f. o. b. Laredo, Texas. The domestic price, f. o. b. Baltimore, is less than half the price we agreed to pay Mexico. Unless we provide Mexico with raw material for the manufacture of alcohol we'll not get enough alcohol from that country for a pair of bicycle tires. Of course, if we sell Mexico some of our government-owned wheat and corn at bargain prices we may get some alcohol. Such transactions as the Mexican alcohol contract were once called "dollar diplomacy," but they now have a fresh label given them by the New Deal, and are called "our good neighbor policy." Such transactions have a foul odor in spite of fresh labels.

False Theory

Messrs. Roosevelt, Wallace, Willkie, Wickard, Hull, Morgenthau and Biddle—to name only a few—cling to the doctrine that foreign trade is essential to our well-being although the scientific discoveries of Hale, Christensen and Horty (the pioneer in producing newsprint from southern pine) have exploded the doctrine in their faces. Chemurgy, which is the chemical processing of organic matter, not only will dispose of the problem of farm surpluses, but it offers the only real hope of discarding the dole and ending the power of corrupt politics.

Dr. Hale wrote this all-inclusive polemic in 1939 and it appears on page 191 of his last book, "Farmward March":

"In no way are foreign affairs a concern of ours. Our wealth and prosperity lie in our output and consumption thereof at home. Scientifically, it is forbidden a stalwart nation to permit the purchase abroad of that which can equally well be produced at home. Thus self-sufficiency becomes the hopes of a rising generation and the foundation for a modern world empire."

Still Another Misstatement

Mr. Wallace made one more rather odious stab at isolation in his essay.

"Last time, at the end of World War No. 1," he said, "the choice was for isolation. The choice had up to the present war been quickly that many more who fought in the first World War have had to take up arms again in the second."

Mr. Wallace did not say "isolation" caused World War No. 1, but he did say that it "led up to the present war." He used weasel words in an obvious attempt to mislead his readers.

"Isolation" did not lead up to the present war or cause the present war for the simple reason that we have had no isolation since Woodrow Wilson became president of the United States. Although we did not formally join the League of Nations after World War No. 1, our foreign policy thereafter was fashioned though we had joined the league and were, in fact, members. During the twenties we involved ourselves in the affairs of nearly every country in the world that could write an I. O. U. (nearly all of which have been dishonored) and, until the beginning of World War No. 2 we never departed from that policy, tragic though it was.

Wallace's Strategy

In the Wallace essay, there were the usual references to the airplane, the radio and "modern technology" as implied obstacles to isolation, nationalism, self-containment and self-sufficiency. This is a very common bit of strategy among "economic soothsayers," although no one has yet pointed out exactly wherein they are irreconcilable. The "economic soothsayers" suggest the airplane, the radio and "modern technology" as phases of contemporary civilization and leave them dangling before the imagination of stupid Americans in the hope that stupid Americans will visualize an irreconcilable conflict. "Modern technology," so-called, is a pious fraud at which any reputable scientist, not on someone's payroll as a bona-fide "expert," will rightfully scoff and sneer. Perhaps the country needs a tonic for domestic radio propaganda but a return to nationalism would eliminate the need of a tonic. Land based air power in the Coral Sea and at Midway exploded the prophecy that the British navy is our first line of defense.

Realism is Required

When we have begun to practice some of the realism upon which the Founding Fathers relied we shall have lost our ambition "to insure that everybody in the land has the privilege of drinking a quart of milk a day." Likewise we will have lost our enthusiasm for extending the "four freedoms" to 450,000,000 Chinese, ninety per cent of whom are illiterate.

In his column of July 30, 1942, Paul Mallon said that once Hitler "gets full possession of Europe and Asia . . . we will certainly face the typical Hitler effort to promote revolution within" and that "Nazi cunning will be devoted to promoting subtle disunity and dissatisfaction with our existing form of government."

New Objectives

The surrender of any part of our national sovereignty involved in "Union Now" with Britain, a "new world order," a world superstate, an international monetary standard, international corporations or the policing of foreign aggressors all imply an existing "dissatisfaction with our existing form of government." Otherwise, the agitation for these objectives is meaningless. Anyone who pursues these objectives, therefore, is "promoting subtle disunity and dissatisfaction with our existing form of government" and is an enemy of our form of government and is anticipating the desire of foreign enemies to "promote revolution within" our own borders.

Paul Mallon's Blueprint

In describing the threatened later strategy, Paul Mallon provides a blueprint that duplicates some the propaganda and strategy originating from Washington, D. C. This blueprint also shows clearly the Communist Daily Worker, the New York Post, the Washington Post, P. M. and the Chicago Sun. The New, The New Republic, The Nation, Look and Time - Life - Fortune of Henry R. Luce are already far advanced in performing Hitler's preliminary work in America. Every one of these periodicals has emblazoned its "dissatisfaction with our existing form of government" and has screamed its vituperation against those who would cling to the ways of the Founding Fathers. Mr. Wallace is no exception. He goes at the "milky way" as overworks himself to impede our war effort.

CONFIDENTIAL

ENCLOSURE 1 in

62-83818-378X

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-5778

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
PITTSBURGH, PA.	11-20-43	11-10-43	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, WAS.; THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: SMITH spoke to audience of approximately 800 persons at America First Rally 11-10-43 at Carnegie Lecture Hall, North Side, Pgh. Pa. SMITH presided over meeting and introduced other speakers on program, who were Dr. L. L. MARION, of Pontiac, Michigan, and MARIE I. LOHLE and CHARLES A. MADDEN, leaders of Defenders of George Washington's Principles, Pgh. Pa. SMITH denounced internationalism, the New Deal, President ROOSEVELT, WENDELL WILKIE, and HENRY WALLACE. Violently criticized communists and the book "UNDERCOVER", defending Father COUGHLIN and HENRY FORD against attacks contained in book.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAI
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/92 BY

REFERENCE: Letter from the Detroit Office dated 11-3-43.

DETAILS: On Wednesday, November 10, 1943 GERALD L. K. SMITH spoke before an audience of approximately 800 persons at an America First Rally at the Carnegie Lecture Hall, North Side, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Circulars advertising the Rally, together with tickets thereto, were mailed to various persons in the City of Pittsburgh several days prior to November 10, 1943. These printed circulars, approximately 10" x 8" in size, bore the pictures of GERALD L. K. SMITH and Dr. L. L. MARION. The circulars announced that Dr. MARION would speak on the subject "The Agents of the Anti-Christ" and would discuss the following topics:

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: H. K. Johnson SAC SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-379

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2 - Pittsburgh
1 - CCair 12/2/43 JRF

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206 OCT 12 1964

14 NOV 25 1943

"1. The Bible of the Anti-Christ.

2. Evil plan for world government.

3. The atheistic plan of the internationalists.

4. Will exhibit sensational 2000 page book which outlines destruction of Christianity."

These circulars also announced GERALD L. K. SMITH as "the most hated and loved man in America, hated by the internationalists - loved by the nationalists. Hated by the Nazis - Communists - loved by real Americans" and advertized that his subjects would be "Let's Take Off the Lid" and that he would discuss among other topics "OPA", The Book "Undercover", WILLKIE's speech, the Fourth Term, Bureaucratic Fascism, New Deal Communism, the Conspiracy of World Government, Report of Five Senators Just Returned from the Battle-Fronts." It was further announced that others participating in the program would be Mrs. MARIE LOHLE, reporting on her recent visit to Washington, and CHARLES A. MADDEN, American Legion leader.

It is to be noted that MADDEN is president and Mrs. LOHLE is secretary of an organization known as the Defenders of George Washington's Principles, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, which organization has sponsored SMITH on previous speaking engagements in the City of Pittsburgh and which organization at one of its meetings during the month of October 1943 at which Congressman CLAIRE HOFFMAN of Michigan was the featured speaker, distributed to all in attendance tickets advertising SMITH's speaking engagement on November 10, 1943. The wording of these tickets and the advertising matter thereon was similar to that set out in the aforementioned circulars, but in addition thereto it was stated on the ticket that the Rally was under the auspices of the America First Party.

The Rally at the North Side Carnegie Lecture Hall on November 10, 1943 was attended by Special Agent [redacted] of the Pittsburgh Office. b7c

The audience of approximately 800 persons consisted chiefly of men and women past middle age.

At the entrance of the lecture hall, Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH sold literature which included "The Cross and The Flag" and a pamphlet written by Congressman CLAIRE HOFFMAN entitled "Why Surrender Our Independence?".

The meeting was opened with an invocation by Father ALOYSIUS, a priest who has pronounced the invocation on previous occasions when SMITH has addressed audiences in Pittsburgh and whose church is located in Emsworth, Pennsylvania.

Mrs. LOHLE next introduced SMITH who after a few remarks of his own, called upon Mrs. LOHLE to make a few remarks. Mrs. LOHLE told of her recent visit to Washington, D. C. at which time she called upon various members of Congress to commend or criticize them in connection with their action on the Fullbright and Connolly Resolutions. Mrs. LOHLE stated that such a great amount of pressure was brought on Congressmen by the factions favoring these bills that many of them were afraid to vote against the bills. She urged those in attendance to back a movement to oppose this type of legislation and to put as much pressure on the members of Congress as those factions favoring these two bills had done.

CHARLES A. MADDEN was next introduced by SMITH as a member of the American Legion who had fought in World War I and who was a defender of real American democracy. SMITH in the course of his introduction of MADDEN stated that MADDEN would be one of the speakers at an America First Rally in Detroit in the near future and that Mrs. LOHLE would also participate in this rally.

MADDEN in a short talk criticized and denounced what he termed an "International Clique" whose plan it was to have this country join in some form of world government after the close of the present war. He attacked the communists and stated that STALIN planned to take over the world. His entire talk was an attack upon the communists, the New Deal, and exponents of world government.

SMITH next introduced Dr. L. L. MARION, pastor of a church in Pontiac, Michigan, as a member of the National Association of Christian Temperance. MARION then took the platform and after thanking SMITH for his introduction stated that in his 25 years of close association with SMITH he had never heard of or seen SMITH do anything other than the right thing. He stated that SMITH was America's

No. 1 Christian statesman. MARION stated that this country had strayed away from the daily religious principles of our forefathers and that in so doing we had lost the outstanding virtue of this country. He stated that if America was not saved soon, it would not be worth defending. In a violent attack upon communists and Russia's atheistic government, he stated that he would not believe STALIN "on a stack of Bibles". He talked of religious persecution in Russia and stated that communists had been known to have murdered whole families of persons who were found to have the Bible of Christ in their possession during the Spanish War. He next dwelled at length upon a book which he termed "The Bible of the Anti-Christ" which he stated was a volume entitled "The Bible in the Hands of Its Creator" written by one MOSES GUBBORY. He stated that the communist and atheist internationalists were working in this country to destroy religion, since only in that manner could they destroy the democracy created by our forefathers.

SMITH, who had introduced each of the foregoing speakers, next proceeded with a talk of his own. He stated that if as many as 10,000 priests and preachers in this country would devote only one Sunday in presenting to their congregations the principles of America First and would denounce internationalism they could almost entirely annihilate the evil forces presently at work in the United States. He stated that if all ministers could follow the example of Dr. MARION, the future greatness of America would be assured. He spoke of his recent western tour which took him to Minneapolis and Denver and stated that an attempt had been made at Denver by communists and Jews to keep him from speaking. He quoted a Scripps-Howard newspaper in Denver as authority for the statement that this attempt had been made by communists and Jews. He stated that the America First Party was gaining in strength everywhere as evidenced by the recent victory of JEFFERIES in the campaign for Mayor in Detroit, Michigan. He stated that the negroes in Detroit had been misled into voting against Jefferies through the efforts of the Communist Party. He stated that the ROOSEVELTS should be taken out of the public life of this country; that WENDELL WILLKIE should be deported to Moscow and that HENRY WALLACE should be sent to China. He violently denounced what he termed the communist leanings of the New Deal and its bureaucrats and internationalist conspirators. He stated that the internationalists who were backed by the international bankers and financiers, were planning to have us become a party to an international world order based on representation in a world legislative body where each country would have a vote based upon its population.

He then asked the audience if they wished to be ruled by legislation imposed upon them by the votes of millions of Chinese and Indians.

SMITH praised a book written by one J. EDWARD JONES, a former official of the Office of Price Administration, who he stated resigned from the OPA and was then prosecuted on framed-up charges but was finally vindicated when he carried his case to the Supreme Court. SMITH stated that this book entitled "SO THEY INDICTED ME" would be given free to all persons in the audience who contributed $2.00 or more toward defraying SMITH's expenses.

SMITH, in attacking the communists, stated that the communists were seeking to gain control of this country by revolution. He stated that the Young Communist League had recently changed its name to "Youth For Democracy" and that the Communist Party would undoubtedly attempt to change its name in the immediate future.

SMITH violently criticized and condemned the book "Under Cover", and he defended Father COUGHLIN and HENRY FORD against the accusations made against them in this book. He stated that there was a plot presently taking place to make this book required reading of the soldiers in all of the camps in the United States. He stated that such a book which branded persons high in our government as Nazis would break down the moral of the soldiers on the fighting fronts which we have tried so hard to build up. He predicted that there would be a Federal investigation of "Under Cover."

A collection of donations from the audience was taken up to defray the expenses of the meeting, and the meeting was closed with a prayer by Dr. L. H. MARION.

Copies of the circular and ticket distributed prior to the meeting advertising the same are being retained in the files of the Pittsburgh Field Division.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE
OFFICE OF ORIGIN

JPHa:lem
12-2-43
RECORDED 62-43818-379

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Tom Clark

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was.; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION; INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information in connection with your consideration of this case there are transmitted herewith copies of additional reports submitted as follows:

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated November 27, 1943, at Washington, D. C.; and

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated November 20, 1943, at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Enclosures

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-2 [illegible]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICTIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
☆ DEC 4 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

2 DEC 10 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Hoover
Miss Gandy
Files

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
November 2 - 1943

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Director, FBI

3 c

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,
with aliases Gerald L. K. Smith,
Gerald L. K. Schmidt;
THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C;
CUSTODIAL DETENTION
SEDITION.
(62-43818)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated October 18, 1943, in which letter the Bureau requested that the report prepared in this case by Special Agent [redacted] dated October 1, 1943, at Detroit, Michigan, be re-written in accordance with Bureau instructions.

b7c

In line with the Bureau's instructions there is being transmitted herewith the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated November 1, 1943 at Detroit, Michigan, in compliance with Bureau letter. There are also being enclosed herewith the three copies of the report dated October 1, 1943, which are being returned in accordance with Bureau instructions.

The offices receiving copies of this report have been advised to destroy the copies of the report dated October 1, 1943 and substitute instant report.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas, SAC

[redacted]:BJG
62-1126
Enclosures (2)

b7c

RECORDED 27 DEC 6 1943

62-43818-3

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

no enclosures received when opened
11/8/43

no enclosures rec'd by me

(5)

4-750 (2-7-79)

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12 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) DEPT OF THE ATTORNEY, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

JPHa:WMJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

DEFERRED

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

DECEMBER 7, 1943

Transmit the following message to SAC
DETROIT

GERALD L. K. SMITH, WAS, ET AL, INTERNAL SECURITY, SEDITION. REURTEL DECEMBER THREE LAST. EXPEDITE SUBMISSION OF REPORT CONCERNING SPRINGER'S ACTIVITIES AT DETROIT.

HOOVER

RECORDED 162-43818-38
FBI
29 DEC 8 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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SENT VIA 29 DEC 10 1943 7:09 P.M. Per

369

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 3 1943

TELETYPE

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

FBI DETROIT 12-3-43 11-21 PM EWT

DIRECTOR

EARN.

GERALD L. K. SMITH, WAS, ETAL, INTERNAL SECURITY - G, SEDITION. USA JOHN C. LEHR ADVISED THIS OFFICE TODAY THAT HE HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION TO THE EFFECT THAT THE CIVIL RIGHTS FEDERATION OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN HAD TODAY FORWARDED A LETTER TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DEMANDING AN IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION RELATIVE TO REVEREND HARVEY SPRINGER WHO IS PRESENTLY IN DETROIT, MICHIGAN. LEHR ADVISED FURTHER THAT A DELEGATION ALLEGEDLY REPRESENTING THE CIO UNION FROM PONTIAC, MICHIGAN HAD TODAY VISITED LEHR-S OFFICE AND DEMANDED AN INVESTIGATION OF SPRINGER. IT IS BEING NOTED THAT SPRINGER HAS BEEN CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH SUBJECT SMITH FOR SOME-TIME AND HAS ADDRESSED NUMEROUS MEETINGS FOR SMITH AND THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY. SPRINGER ALLEGEDLY MADE SEDITIOUS REMARKS AT A MEET-ING IN PONTIAC DURING THE PAST WEEK AND IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT THE CIO AND CIVIL RIGHTS FEDERATION ARE DEMANDING AN INVESTIGATION BY LEHR. MEETINGS ADDRESSED BY SPRINGER COVERED BY DETROIT INFOR-MANT AND BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED OF STATEMENTS MADE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED RE SPRINGER INASMUCH AS HE IS WELL KNOWN TO THE BUREAU.

RECORDED & INDEXED 162-43812 29 DEC 8 1943

BUGAS

ACK AND HOLD PLS

10 DEC 10 1943

FBI WASH DC GMW

JPEa:MMJ
62-43818

December 3, 1943

MR. LADD

RE: AVEDIS DERONIAN aka John Roy Carlson, etc.;
Author of the book, "Under Cover."

As a matter of information I thought you would be interested to know that according to information received from a technical surveillance at Detroit in connection with the Gerald L. K. Smith sedition investigation, Senator Gerald P. Nye's attorney recently reviewed the book, "Under Cover," and advised Smith that "nothing could be done about the book in the way of legal action by Smith."

Smith is, of course, mentioned a number of times throughout the book in a rather derogatory fashion and it would appear from the information received that Smith requested Senator Nye's attorney (name not revealed) to review those passages and advise him as to whether any basis appeared to exist for a libel action. It is noted, of course, that the attorney's alleged opinion, set forth in the first paragraph, apparently pertained solely to the remarks made in the book concerning Smith.

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch

not

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-9 GTS/mb

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

RECORDED
62-43818-38
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 7 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
November 30, 1943

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-8BTJ/mlc
ON 10/6/82

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was, et al.
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SEDITION
Bureau file 62-43818

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth below the substance of information obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, during the period from November 8, through November 28, 1943.

Informant advised under date of November 9, to the effect that Father COUGHLIN was allegedly entertaining a bishop from China, and that Father COUGHLIN was to make an important announcement concerning this matter.

On November 10, Informant advised that SMITH had received a communication from J. EDWARD JONES of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and that JONES inclosed a check for $650 for the alleged purpose of defraying the expenses of publishing JONES' book, "And So They Indicted Me."

It was ascertained through Informant that on approximately November 17 that the use of a hall in Buffalo, New York, had been denied to JOSEPH STOFFEL, SMITH's representative in Buffalo.

It was ascertained that Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER of Colorado came to Detroit on about the 19th of November for the purpose of conducting revival meetings in this area for a period of some time.

On that same date it was ascertained that Mrs. PATRICK KNOWLES, representing the mothers groups in this area had recently returned from Washington and advised SMITH that while in Washington she had various conferences with individuals who were going to investigate the book, "Undercover".

[redacted]

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

COPIES DESTROYED 20 OCT 12 1964

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP (S) OF DATE

62-43818-38

Op. 6

[redacted] b2c

It was ascertained that HARVEY SPRINGER was to address a city-wide rally in Pontiac on November 30. It was further ascertained that both SPRINGER and SMITH were attempting to organize the youth in this district and suggested the name "Youth for Christ" to combat the organization "Youth for Communists". SMITH made various calls to the local newspapers advising these local papers of the recent change of the YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE to its new organizational name, and at that time these calls were made, SMITH and other members of his group used various aliases and advised the newspapers that they were respectable citizens and that they were greatly perturbed over the new change made by the COMMUNISTS and as a result of this, the "Detroit Times" later came out with several articles allegedly exposing the plant of the YCL in their reorganization. It also pointed out to the people the fact that the new organization was nothing more than a substitute for the YCL.

It was ascertained through Informant that Dr. MARION of Pontiac, a long-time follower of SMITH, was apparently having some trouble with the OPA office in Pontiac, with regard to the number of gas coupons allotted to him by the OPA. At SMITH's instigation, Dr. MARION set up a picket line outside the offices of the OPA in Pontiac, said picket line allegedly being formed the expose the OPA's attitude toward the church. MARION claimed through the newspapers, that he was the head of the largest church group in Pontiac, Michigan, and that he had been advised by the local rationing official that the churches did not need the gas coupons; that the gas coupons could be used to better advantage by the war workers, et cetera. As a result of this picket line, the "Detroit Times" and other Detroit newspapers carried several feature articles with regard to the alleged discrimination shown by the OPA against the churches.

The picketing of the OPA took place on November 26, 1943, and at that time, although there was quite a great deal of publicity, no unusual incidents took place.

It was ascertained on November 25, 1943, that SMITH had allegedly enlisted the aid of ROGER BALDWIN, head of the AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION, with reference to the refusal of the Buffalo authorities to grant space for SMITH's meeting in Buffalo.

Informant related that Senator NYE's attorney had allegedly reviewed the Book, "Undercover" and had advised SMITH that nothing could

be done about the book in the way of legal action by SMITH.

Very truly yours,

John S Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS
SAC

[redacted]nam b7c
62-1126

3

JPHa:WMJ
RECORDED 12-6-43

62-43818-385

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your further information in connection with your consideration of this case, there are transmitted herewith photostatic copies of a press release dated November 3, 1943, written by Smith, and a letter dated November 1, 1943, written by Smith and addressed to the New York publication, "PM."

Smith is reportedly distributing copies of this press release and letter to his friends and other persons thought to be among his followers.

Enclosures 8

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8047/mc

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
RECEIVED 8
DEC - 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

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4 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):
PER YOUR 3/18/82 LETTER

☒ For your information: THE CROSS + THE FLAG + PRESS RELEASE

☒ The followiug number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-385

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FBI/DOJ

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EC 8

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—FREE

WASHI[redacted] MAIL
1943 CHRISTMAS

Mr. D. W. Ladd,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Room 1742, Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Reach necessary per Dwl 12/19/42

HPHa:WMJ
12-3-43

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Reference is made to our previous correspondence concerning subject Smith and to the several reports heretofore submitted to you.

For your additional information there are attached copies of further reports submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Chicago, Illinois, on November 5, 1943, and Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, on November 1, 1943.

b7c

Enclosures

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY

RECORDED

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62-43818-384

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 1 1943
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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JMJa:MJ
12-9-43
62-43818

RECORDED

Date: 62-43818-387

To: Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your information, there is attached a photostatic copy of a letter dated October, 1943, which has recently been distributed by subject Smith. You will note that this letter pertains principally to Smith's efforts toward selling a book, "And So They Indicted Me," written by J. Edward Jones of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. You will recall that data concerning Jones has previously been made available to the Criminal Division under the caption, [redacted] b7c

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/6/82 BY [illegible]

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
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PER YOUR LTR OF 3/1/82

☒ For your information: CLASS I DOF PLAC

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FBI/DOJ

ral Bureau of Investig

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
November 18, 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/92 BY SP-9600/ab

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH,
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;
INTERNAL SECURITY;
SEDITION.
(Bureau File 62-43818)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated November 1, 1943, and a letter from the Detroit Office to the Bureau dated November 9, 1943, in connection with the above-entitled matter.

Reference letter from the Bureau requested information relative to a certain book, which Subject SMITH was alleged to be selling at the time of his America First Meetings. In this connection there is being transmitted herewith a mimeographed article by Subject dated October 15, 1943, said article having been written on the letterhead "The Cross And The Flag." In view of the fact this particular communication refers to the book, which the Bureau was inquiring about and which book, in all probability, is a book by J. EDWARD JONES entitled "And So They Indicted Me," this communication is being forwarded to the Bureau at this time as a matter of possible interest to the Bureau. It is being pointed out at this time also that this particular communication allegedly went to all of the subscribers to Subject SMITH'S publication "The Cross And The Flag."

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

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INDEXED
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62-1126
Enclosure

Op. 18

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-22780 NPM

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
PHILADELPHIA, PA.	12/2/43	11/10,13,15, 17/43	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was, etal.	INTERNAL SECURITY - R CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 12/1/12 BY

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject addressed meeting sponsored by Mrs. JOHN BROWN and Mrs. LILLIAN PARKS, of the National Blue Star Mothers on November 12, 1943 at the Bellevue-Stratford. The speech was anti-Administration, anti-Semitic, anti-international cooperation, and pro-COUGHLINITE.

- RUC -

REFERENCE:

Letter from Detroit to Philadelphia dated 11/3/43.

DETAILS:

The following report on the meeting addressed by subject at the Bellevue Stratford Hotel, November 12, 1943, was submitted to this office by [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, who, in turn, received the report from [redacted] b7d

"Meeting--Bellevue Stratford Hotel
Cover Room--Friday eve. 8:15 P.M. Nov. 12, 1943
Sponsored by Blue Star Mothers of Penna.
Pres. Mrs. Catherine Brown. Sec. Mrs. Lillian Parks
1113 S. 54th St. Phila.
Description of Audience--Approx- number-550-Ages from 40 to 65--80% women--20% men.
Predominated--Catholic.
Room held--Clover--seats--arranged for 450--balance of the people were standing.
Arrangements made by Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Parks, with [redacted] Promotion Mgr. of Hotel. b7c

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-388 RECORDED & INDEXED

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Philadelphia File #100-22780

Rental—$100.00 plus $5.00 for microphone paid in advance. Cash.
Chairman of the Meeting - CHARLES EDWIN WALLINGTON, Attorney.

Speakers: Mr. WALLINGTON
Mrs. PARKS
Mrs. BROWN
Mr. GERALD SMITH, Detroit, Mich.

Organizations and individuals present:

Mothers and Daughters of Penna., headed by [redacted] and [redacted]

National Legion of Mothers, - [redacted] former agent for Social Justice, [redacted]

Seated on platform:

Mr. and Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH, Mr. and Mrs. BROWN, Mrs. LILLIAN PARKS and Mr. WALLINGTON.

WALLINGTON opened the meeting by telling of the good work the women in the Blue Star Mothers and the Crusading Mothers were doing and the interest they took in politics. He said that it was due to their efforts that such an outstanding man as GERALD L. K. SMITH was able to make a personal appearance in Philadelphia.

He said these women were donating their time and working hard for the cause of America First which meant the American Flag and the American way of life. He said they needed money to carry on their work which should include a lobby in Washington. Girls took up the collection through the audience. Mrs. PARKS left the platform to keep an eye on the collections and then returned.

The audience was then asked to stand and a boy about 16 years of age was called to the platform. His name was announced as EDWARD CONNORS. The audience was asked to give the pledge of allegiance to the flag under CONNORS' leadership.

Small postcards bearing the text of the Star Spangled Banner were lying on the chairs and WALLINGTON asked the audience to remain standing while they sang the first verse of the song. A soloist, a girl about 16,

introduced as ELAINE DELVECCHIO, led the singing with a piano accompanist. She later sang a solo "Morning".

The chairman WALLINGTON then introduced Mrs. PARKS. She recounted the difficulties which the Blue Star Mothers were faced with in their fight to perpetuate the liberties which were being stolen from us by the Internationalist minded and bureaucratic people in Washington.

She violently denounced the proposed draft of women saying it would break up homes. She opposed any draft of mothers and any effort of the state to supply institutions where children would be cared for. She said this sort of thing would break down family morale.

She also opposed rationing and said it would be inflicted upon us for years after the war unless Congressmen were prodded by their constituents and forced to do what the people wanted. She also said that at the present time we were losing at home exactly the same things as our boys were fighting for on foreign battlefields. She predicted that our present foreign policy was leading to a situation of internationalism which would require an international police force with our boys being the policemen. This ended Mrs. Parks' speech.

The chairman then introduced Mrs. CATHERINE BROWN.

"Mr. Chairman and Fellow Americans!

Everyone present this evening is, I hope, one hundred per cent patriotic American who will, each according to his or her ability and opportunity, aid in defending our Republic and Constitution against all of our enemies, either within or outside of our national boundaries.

Your main line of defense is the Congress of these United States, the members of which are our public representatives to make or unmake your laws, who will abide by your wishes if you adopt measures and a plan of action to enforce those wishes. If you fail to do so, we and the millions of unsuspecting citizens outside of this hall will richly deserve all the punishment the neglect of our public duties will involve.

It has been repeatedly said, many, many, times, that "Eternal Vigilance is the price of Liberty", and today we have reached the most critical period in the history of our Republic through being forced into a global folly of huge dimensions. WE MUST FIND OUT THE TRUTH and as patriotic citizens force our Congress to act accordingly.

The Philadelphia Branch of the Crusading Mothers of Pennsylvania, of which I have the honor to be President, is keenly interested in seeking the truth underlying our national and international problems and earnestly

asks for your substantial and practical support in our patriotic work. Our members volunteer their services and receive no compensation other than a sense of public duty to their fellow citizens.

A friendly Congressman told me while I was in Washington recently that we should maintain a lobby at Capitol Hill as being the most effective way to enforce demands upon Congress. Representatives are mostly just ordinary politicians, and are interested in votes. We do have a few real patriots in Congress who need your active support and who courageously act and speak as true Americans interested solely in the protection of our Republic and the high standards of its citizens. But as the lobby costs money it is up to you and your fellow patriots to finance it. We, the Crusading Mothers, will donate our services free if you will cover the unavoidable expenses. As an organization we insist that our Republic be protected from all enemies; that Congress and every public official of our government obey the Constitutional law and that offenders against our Constitution be suitably punished.

We are opposed to "Union Now", "World Federation", and World Bank, or any name or scheme which may be invented or proposed by the Internationalists which will in any way infringe upon the complete sovereignty of our Congress, Republic or our Constitution. We are opposed to Bureaucratic Government and its rationing menace. We are opposed to Senate Bill 666 which proposed to draft all men and women under the command of our global-minded President and we are opposed to any law under the excuse of a foreign emergency which infringes upon our Constitutional rights as free American citizens. The freedom we enjoyed before the New Deal started its war mongering we intend to regain and keep.

Yes; We are willing to help others as far as may be possible, but Not by sacrificing a single vestige of our sovereign authority as a republic or by the loss of our individual freedom as citizens, or by accepting the low standard of other nations which Mr. Roosevelt has told us is a part of our foreign policy.

You must see to it, THAT THE PRESIDENT REMAINS YOUR PUBLIC SERVANT, AND NOT YOUR DICTATORIAL MASTER. If you agree, then WHOLEHEARTEDLY and without fear, use a portion of your defense money, solicit money from other real Americans to fight to a finish for these patriotic purposes.

There are more than 30 million homes in this nation and at the door of every one stands a woman. The time has arrived when you must organize America's Womanhood against war and the things that pertain to war.

Modern wars are not fought for the welfare of womanhood. Modern wars are fought to pierce hearts with swords of sorrow. Statesmen not politicians recognize that women are the guardians of the home - guardians of its morality, of its goodness and its purse. You women of America can bring peace to this continent if you realize your strength and utilize it to its best advantage, because sometime in the days to come we are going to fight second war of independence from British domination. I take courage in the fact that in the coming revolt we are shackled only by gold bracelets that are already tarnished and worn thin by economic jangling. The tories with their long noses, branded the patriots with the word "Fascist" until it came to mean something despised and dishonorable. We patriots today, remembering how our Colonial ancestors died at Bunker Hill, froze at Valley Forge, resent the way our hard won independence has been handed back to the British Bankers on a gold platter through foreign entanglements and international money-lenders. But if we do redeem America from the Internationa to make our country once again the sweet land of liberty, we must carry the sti of "Fascist" we will bear it with the same spirit that lead Patric Henry to cry, "If this be treason, make the most of it."

Now that the veneer is wearing off, we see our future lies not in a military invasion by Hitler, but in ridding ourselves of the international bondage in which we have been kept unsuspecting prisoners for over a hundred years.

When these shackles have been broken; when the money control has been taken out of the hands of thirteen families and returned to the United States Congress, when all the military pacts with Britain have been abolished and replaced with trade treaties of the world, then again we patriots can raise our hearts as the venerable bell rings out the words inscribed around its base, "Proclaim Liberty throughout all the land to all the inhabitants thereof".

Let us recognize that we patriotic Americans are a distinct nationality of which every American, whatever his station or shade of belief is necessarily a member--ORGANIZE, ORGANIZE, ORGANIZE until every American must stand up and be counted--counted with us--or prove himself wittingly or unwittingly, of the few who are AGAINST THEIR OWN PEOPLE. Thank you.

Mrs. BROWN then introduced GERALD L. K. SMITH as the outstanding America Firster in the country a man who was not afraid to stand up and speak his views despite any criticism that was leveled at him.

SMITH'S speech lasted approximately 2 hours and 24 minutes including his sales talk at the end when he solicited money and subscriptions for the Cross and Flag.

His remarks drew prolonged applause. He finally asked the audience to stop applauding but they continued just the same after a short while.

At the first mention of Father Coughlin's name in the speech they almost brought the roof down. At the end he asked for a show of hands as to whether the truth had been told at the meeting and all hands went in the air. He then asked for the audience to say "Yes" and then asked for a louder "Yes" vote.

SMITH started his speech with compliments to Mrs. BROWN and Mrs. PARKS. He commended their patriotic activities and said that certain classes of people held them up to sensure. I have been attacked by radio commentators and columnists like Walter Lipschitz Winchell. It is an honor to be condemned or criticized by a man like that. A man who was brought forth in the journalistic world by the racketeers of New York City. How such a man could become a member of President Roosevelt's staff is something I could not stomach. I started a lower house investigation. I then forced the naval affairs committee of the House to investigate Winchell's commission, he was making $50,000 a year while commissioned, and retire him. (The audience laughed and roared approval) We are going to have a lot of fun here tonight and I am going to give you a lot of raw meat, right off the griddle.

Then he picked up a copy of "Under Cover". I want to tell you some things about this book, it's tripe that's what I call it. I never thought I would see the day when an old-fashioned Christian American from four generations of preachers of the gospel like myself would be held up for ridicule by people who cannot speak our native tongue without an accent. Not a day goes by when I am not faced with being forced to prove my Americanism to some one who can't speak decent English.

My father and mother are still living and have just celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary. When everything goes bad and I am being investigated by the FBI, OGPU, GIN and others I have one friend in whom I can always place confidence. She is the woman sitting on the platform with me, Mrs. SMITH and we have been married 21 years.

In a recent address in the City of Detroit this slimy CARLSON, a foreigner in the country only a short while, using seven aliases opened his speech with an attack on our first citizen of Detroit, Henry Ford. This man attacks men of the caliber of Ford who make it possible for such vermin to come to this country and get jobs to support themselves. Men like Mr. Ford who have made America a safe place for them to come to. I'd like to round up about a million of these rats put them on a boat and send them back where they came from. (A lot of applause and remarks from the audience about sending them half way back and on a sinking ship). I'm going to tell you the truth tonight and we are going to have a lot of fun. If you don't like it just get up and leave, but I know that some of you have to go to work at different hours so when you leave I will think that is what is making you go.

Philadelphia File #100-22780

I am going to talk a long time. At the end if we have time I will be glad to answer any intelligent questions from the floor. I do not like to talk politics when we are at war but our globe-girdling President with ideas of a super-state with him at the helm forces me to do so if I am going to defend the precious heritage of liberty which was fought for by our ancestors. Victory is in the air, we can feel it all around us and what happened all over the United States a week ago last Tuesday looks good to me.

With the present set of Internationalists and bureaucrats in power in Washington we must learn to love America all over again, the America which our forefathers designed and the sacred flag which is an undying symbol of our rights and heritages. I would have been against a third term for Abraham Lincoln, I was against a third term for Roosevelt and will be opposed to a fourth term if he should try to continue to usurp the office. Our forefathers, instilled with a spirit which no one can describe when they wrote the Constitution set up a system whereby the rights of the people were protected by a set of checks and balances. They designed the executive branch, the legislative branch and the judicial branch each one to check the other if one became too strong. If a President remains in office for three terms, the time arrives when he controls the Supreme Court. The men appointed are his friends and will interpret the laws passed by Congress the way he wants them to be interpreted and will favor any kind of international and bureaucratic schemes which he can prevail upon his subservient Congress to pass. This same dictatorial tyrant is looting the public treasury to further his control of your life, my life and that of every American through the system of bureaucratic government set up in Washington.

I would to God that there was no need for a third political party in the United States but when you have a family perpetuating a dynasty out of the U. S. treasury it is time we took drastic action.

This family whose sons are commissioned captains and colonels in the armed forces. If the President wanted to do something the American way his sons would line up at an induction center, take serial numbers like other American boys do, and earn any promotions which they could.

My son is on the high seas tonight. He is in the Army. God only knows where. He is 19 years old and I don't know what ocean he is on. But I do know that he knows that he is not fighting to elect Franklin Roosevelt to a fourth term. (Applause)

Now I do not like to talk politics in war time but if the time comes when we have to destroy all local tax collecting agencies and all state and county set-ups of local government and depend upon centralized form of government in Washington, it is a day of tyranny.

Philadelphia File #100-22780

We don't need any streamlined government in America. Hitler, Mussolini, Hirohito and Stalin have streamlined governments. If they get mad at you at 6 A.M. off comes your head at 6.15. In this country if the President gets mad at you, the displeasure comes down through Congress, the state government, the local government and the Sheriff who must pass you on the way to the barber shop every day and solicit your support at the polls every two or four years, just take the first step.

By that time the man at the head, the President may have cooled off or he may be dead or out of office. One of the most dangerous trends in America today is that towns and communities throughout the country are becoming more dependent on the Federal Treasury to get back some of the money they pay in. It is necessary to send some one who knew some one who knew some one to Washington to get a street paved in front of the post office. If Franklin Roosevelt is beaten and the tide turned back in November 1944 you can tell your children that you lived under Fascism in America in war time. You will know victory has come when the Roosevelt's are out of power and there is an end to rationing.

A meeting was recently being addressed by that card sharp ELY CULBERTSON, who developed his ability as a card player in jail, he had nothing else to do with his time. He is now using his contacts with wealthy wives of influential men who know what is going on in the nation to sponsor a world union plan. In addressing a meeting in New York recently he said, "My nomination for President of the world is Franklin D. Roosevelt."

My sentiment and honest belief is that he is echoing the ambitions of the President of the United States who wants to set up a super, super, duper government with him at the head and a super-duper Congress which could pass laws for the world. I am opposed to anyone other than an American having anything to say about any law which Americans must live under.

Now I don't like to talk politics but I have demanded an investigation of the use of a bomber to carry Eleanor to the Pacific. I don't know anything about the psychology of a wounded soldier. I never was wounded. But if I were wounded lying on my back on a cot on an island in the Pacific ocean and saw Eleanor's puss hovering over me I'm sure I would never get well.

We are dealing with a hard-boiled smart gal. If she doesn't like you she calls up and has your income tax investigated for the past ten years. We are dealing with a family that is introducing the element and technique of royalty into America. If President Roosevelt wanted to do something

why didn't his sons stand in line at an induction center instead of being commissioned. My boy is a handsome 6 footer with six years of military training but since his name is Gerald L. K. Smith, Jr., he will never get to be a private first class, no matter how long he stays in the Army. Tonight he is leading a mule somewhere.

With such people as Walter Winchell and Drew Pearson telling their stories to the public anything may happen. I know that if I go down today or tomorrow I will leave a hot flame that will not die until Bureaucracy and tyranny have been put out of America.

Here in the City of Philadelphia men like Washington and Jefferson and Franklin and Adams charted the course of this country 150 years ago. I always thought people on the eastern seaboard kept your eyes on national politics and were active. I thought you were as active as my friends on the West coast. I have been confining my activity to the Middle West and West Coast. I have more than 3 million signed followers. I have toured the area bounded by Pittsburgh, Buffalo, Rochester, St. Louis, Minneapolis, and Cincinnati.

Some time ago when I was in New York a westerner in high-heeled boots and high hat called and asked to talk to me. He said he wanted me to come to Denver and tell the people the truth about what was going on in the nation. They planned to hold the meeting in the City Hall and the rent was paid. I arrived the day before and got up early the next morning and ordered a paper.

On the front page was a story saying that the City Council had passed a resolution barring the use of the Hall. My backers got busy to counteract the poison of the Jews and the Communists who were trying to stop the meeting and it was finally held. After the meeting several members of the council came to me, congratulated me on my speech and the Mayor said he had never signed the resolution and was glad he didn't.

We America Firsters are the balance of power between the old parties. We are the balance in Ohio, Michigan and Indiana. Neither party can win without us and we will give our votes to the GOP if they do not give us another fake like Wilkie. If they do we will run a third party candidate.

Wilkie was glamorized by Hollywood, brought out by Wall Street and financed by the whisky trust. I could be satisfied with almost any old Republican for President. What we need is less President and more Congress. I hope there won't have to be any America First party. But if they try to foist Wilkie or something that looks or smells like him on us again, Father Charles E. Coughlin and I will call a convention and nominate some man like Reynolds, Nye, Wheeler or Lindberg.

I am going to Washington tomorrow and I will ask Senator Bob Reynolds to take the stump across the country and I hope you have an opportunity to hear him in Philadelphia.

We won't be caught without a spare tire this time. We have an organization in 34 states and are completing arrangements in the others. The ground work will be laid and if necessary we will be the spare party. I say to you tonight that Gerald L. K. Smith has no political ambitions. I am like an engineer in the Army who goes in front to test for bobby traps. If nothing happens to me it is all right for the others to come on.

I can only see the sweet consolation that only a true crusader can feel. I am a crusader and as long as there is a pulse in my wrist spirit in my breast a beat in my heart, I will fight to the death against any citizen of a foreign country who can make a law that my children will have to obey.

Roosevelt and Churchill met on the Atlantic Ocean and spawned the Atlantic Charter and four freedoms. I don't consider them one half as sacred as the Declaration of Independence written in this cradle of Liberty, Philadelphia, by Thomas Jefferson. Any deals they may have made may be considered as a military alliance and strictly a business deal like lend-lease. Listen, Mr. Churchill, we are going to win the war but we are not going back with your empire. In a speech at Harvard sponsored by educators and Rhodes Scholars, Mr. Churchill had the effrontery and boldness to suggest common citizenship in the British empire. We don't like it. (Applause)

This bureaucratic form of government with the internationalist minded people at the head of it have been responsible for war time rationing. Under this system I will give you some authentic happenings which most newspapers did not touch. Courageous papers like the Chicago Tribune, New York News, and Washington Times did print them.

When Harry Hopkins was married to a very rich lady and I saw him with a swelled eye and one foot in the grave which made me think he would never get married, after the honeymoon he came back to the White House and was having dinner with two-steak Bernie Baruch. You all know Baruch. He is always hanging around the White House. There is one thing I would like to know about Baruch and if anyone here can tell me I would welcome the information. How did he make his money? I have tried to find out but no one seems to know.

Mrs. Hopkins was sitting around the fireside chatting with the group. Mrs. Hopkins asked Baruch: "When are you going to give me that party?" And Mr. Hopkins was there.

"Right away", said Bernie. So in a few days the party was arranged at Washington's most swank hotel, the Carlton, where it costs you $10 a day for a room and you aren't allowed inside unless you have a reservation. Well they had this party at which 23 kinds of food were served, including 7 kinds of meat, with the country rationed. Favors consisted of perfume which sold for $40 an ounce. There were 40 people at the party which cost $110 a plate.

Leon Henderson drank champagne, ate and danced until 4 A.M. despite the fact that he has just given up his job with the OPA because of a bad back, and poor health. I don't know much about champagne but I do know that they had champagne of the 1926 vintage which is the best in the country and you couldn't get it in Paris. I guess the Nazis drank it all. They had $2,500 worth of it.

All this in honor of a man who had written a magazine article a few days before in which he told us that we must tighten our belts. Unless we throw these rascals out and we must do it quickly, the quicker the better, our standard of living will go lower than that of the countries which we now despise.

That is only one man in the President's cabinet. Let me tell you about another the mid-wife of rationing. Let me tell you about Mr. WICKARD, that farmer who interpreted rationing for us. An enterprising reporter for the Chicago Tribune, an honorable paper, went out to Wickard's farm in Indiana and asked for the Secretary. An old man met the reporter and told him Wickard was in Washington.

This old man was Wickard's father, raised in a different school where you were taught to tell the truth. The father showed the reporter around the farm, then took him to the deep freezer where he showed him 800 pounds of meat, 500 pounds of lard, and 500 pounds of butter. They were certainly ready for rationing, why shouldn't they be, Secretary Wickard had advance information.

I have counted that hoard in terms of the stamps in my ration book and believe it or not it would take all of my stamps for the next 7 years to acquire that amount of food. I know I speak a dangerous language and take my safety in my hands but I say that men like that should be serving time in a penitentiary.

This is not the only type of person which have swarmed around the New Deal in Washington. Communists have infested all branches of the government as well as industry. You find them in every federal bureau. These termites are in every high place as well as in factories. They are like an air

bubble in your system. In a leg and arm or in a body and it only requires one to reach the heart and stop it. They boast that they have people in every factory in Detroit and could stop work in any or all of the factories any time they want to.

This condition exists at home while the war goes on with a steadily rising casualty rate. If the war continues another year we can expect a casualty list of a million and a half men. When those men return some without an arm some without legs and find no work with idle factories, the communists will tell them the war was caused by capitalism, recruit them into street mobs and supply them the rest of the slogans.

But don't think that the ground swell of reaction has not set in. Let me tell you about the election we had in Detroit. We didn't have a messy affair like you had here in Philadelphia. In Detroit it was fought strictly on one issue.

SIDNEY HILLMAN, that New Deal favorite and leg-man for the fourth term, moved into Detroit and mapped the campaign against Mayor Jefferies. He had the so-called support of the liberal New Deal elements, the CIO and AFL. They applied the whip-lash of unionism to union members to force them to vote for this ticket but the members rebelled joined with the self respecting people and rolled up a huge majority. I am glad to speak for the forces of reaction which helped roll up this majority and it was not confined to the silk stocking wards.

What do you call that clothes line section of Philadelphia? Audience said "Main Line" and Smith said: "Oh Yes, the Main Line." The people on the main line sections throughout the country particularly in this section think it is cute to crawl in bed with the Communists and play their little ga Just because a man is making $50,000 a year doesn't say he is intelligent or has sense enough to join the right party. Oh No. I have 123,000 followers signed up in Detroit alone. The outcome of the elections in Detroit and elsewhere may be a prophecy. I say to Franklin D. Roosevelt you had better not run.

Then picked up a copy of "Under Cover".

This book is a great example of overstatement. It is such a great overstatement that it is unconvincing. If you say John Jones' wife stayed out all night you can convince some people and smear her but if you say she stayed out all night, held up a bank and robbed it on the way home and killed a policeman nobody will pay much attention to your statement.

I count it an honor to be smeared in the same book with these men who are vilified in this tripe. Henry Ford, Father Coughlin, Senator Bob Reynold Clare Hoffman, Gerald Nye, Burton K. Wheeler, Senator Lundeen, David I. Walsh

and Senator Hiram Johnson. I have heard from military men in Washington that this book has been ordered into the library of every military post in the country. (Audience shouted Oh No.)

I am going to say a word now and not appeal to any racial tendencies or loyalties. But I say to the Jewish observers present tell your rabbis to stop praising this book and urging their people to read it and there will be less trouble.

PM and Walter Winchell will make more Jew baiters and create more anti-semitism than any other organization in America. I can criticize a Methodist minister and he takes it in a friendly spirit, I can criticize a Baptist Minister and he takes it in a friendly spirit, I can criticize a Catholic priest and he takes it in a friendly spirit but if I say one word about Jew, I am anti-semitic and a cry of persecution is raised immediately.

Look at this tripe (he flared the pages) it does not contain the name of one jew from cover to cover. There are 5 million of them in the United States. Are they all perfect, is there not one imperfect one among them?

There is bible rationing because of the shortage of paper but there is no shortage of this tripe to lure our children into delinquency. If you want to turn the tide of anti-semitism I can tell you one thing among lots of things that will help, do not circulate this book.

Let me read a passage from the book. This alien of 7 aliases with a foreign accent has this to say of Father Coughlin and the Shrine of the Little Flower and it looked like Coney Island on a Sunday with Father Coughlin taking the roll of a barker. Does this slimy creature who went arou among good citizens trying to make them commit some seditious act realize that when he criticizes a priest he criticizes the whole Catholic Hierarchy. One word from them and the priest can be unfrocked and reduced to a non-entity.

In January we formed a spare tire party. In 1940 they gave me the horse laugh but I think the horse had long ears. (He spent 15 minutes on an article by James M. Wechsler on the Macinac conference) referred to Wechsler as the correspondent of internationalism. Said Chairman Spangler of the Republican party had his ear to the ground and nose in the dirt. He hears the trend knows what is coming and can smell our power. There are 50,000,000 people in the United States who think like me but will not speak out loud.

We deliver lend-lease goods to Britain under the arrangements of our internationally minded President. They take off the labels and send the

goods to other countries. The best America First speech made this year was delivered by the five senators who visited 64 battlefields on their world tour. Made up of two veteran New Dealers rubber stamp Mead, and a man from Georgia.

I tell you the aims of the America First committee are to retire to Roosevelt dynasty, send Wilkie to Moscow, and make Wallace a milkman in China. My name is Hot Poker Smith. I keep a hot poker on the backs of politicians and congressmen who forget you when the sun rises the day after the votes are counted. I tell them I am a tattle tale and I always have a big group of listeners in their districts back home.

Just as it is impossible to keep Congressmen on the job without prodding so it is impossible to get the truth from the editorial pages of your Philadelphia papers. No truth can be found on the editorial pages of the Inquirer, the Bulletin or the Record, but the truth can be found in the hearts of real Americans who are working without citizens.

When rats start to desert a sinking ship they do it because they can see disaster coming and they start for a better ship. They are like a lot of people who are deserting the New Deal and trying to get aboard our ship. Our problem is to prevent these mangy rascals from stealing the election getting aboard our ship and robbing the people of the victory again as they did in 1932. There are more conspirators and more underground techniques than any one man can anticipate.

I was a member of the clergy. I had a church where everybody was my friend but when this inner call to serve America came to me I decided to go out and set myself against these politicians and character assassins, knowing that only faith would work in the fight. "Faith like that of a little child, who looks into its mother's eyes expectantly and knows he will get the truth".

I have no desire to set any man against his belief or non-belief but no man has the right to close the Shrine of the Little Flower or silence Gerald L. K. Smith who puts Christ first and has the America nations interest at heart.

The New Deal communists and the internationalists have a way of controlling our way of life. They try to pull wool over our eyes. I quote from the remarks of Mark A. May, professor at Yale University printed in the public press that America must be prepared to see the flag of an international nature fly above the American flag. No flag representing any organization concoction of nations or any world union will ever go higher than old Glory if I have the power to tear it down.

I know there was a meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York where such a flag was designed. It bore the Union Jack, Hammer and Sickle and a yellow star. I jumped on this rag in Buffalo and Winchell accused me of trampling on the American Flag. A woman who was present and heard about it sent me a hand crocheted American flag. He produced the flag from his pocket. My wife estimated that it contains over 250,000 stitches.

Now do you want to take time out. How many would stay till midnight to hear the truth spoken. Everybody said yes so in about two seconds he was off again.

He picked up a book called "So they Indicted me", author Edward Jones of Scaredale, N. Y. He told the people the edition of the book was limited and he had secured quite a number of copies from Jones. Jones had a great deal of trouble getting it published after writing it. He had to start his own publishing company. It is just the book that true Americans should read.

This man was called to Washington to take some job under the NRA. He was a successful business man and told the New Dealers that the plan would not work and wanted to get out. In return he began to have a lot of trouble including some income tax investigations.

A man who said he was Colonel Miles Lascar, front man for Mrs. Roosevelt's business ventures including her column, came to his hotel and Jones asked him what it was all about. Jones pressed a little button and took a recording of the talk. Lascar volunteered to stop the investigation if $25,000 were paid immediately. It might take more but that much at least to start.

Jones refused, later he was visited by a man who had gone over his books and this man said he could stop the investigation for $10,000. The button was pressed on this conversation. Jones went home was indicted dragged through the courts and broke, but he has since recovered and is a successful business man.

What is America coming to when people like this are subjected to such treatment by those in power. Why your own Mrs. Brown was maligned viciously by Carlson the author of "Under Cover" when he spoke at the Book Fair in this city. This woman had no newspaper or radio to defend herself. Such remarks must have tortured her soul and made her suffer as the Blessed Christ suffered when the crowd shouted "Crucify him, Crucify him".

But things are different now. Those of us who did not know a year ago whether we faced victory or a concentration camp know after last Tuesday a week ago that we are going forward to a glorious victory. We must continue this work in Philadelphia. Hold more meetings and have such speakers as

Mrs. Lundeen, Senator Reynolds, Clare Hoffman, Gerald Nye and Burton K. Wheeler address them. The next one must fill the Grand Ballroom of this hotel, the next the Academy of Music and the last one Convention Hall.

He then asked every one who thought the truth had been spoken to say Yes then say it louder, then raise their right hand. All hands went up.

He then proceeded to sell his magazine saying that many meetings just ended and the people went home and did not know what to do. Now I will tell you. He called the girls and had them pass out envelopes. On the back of the envelope if you wanted invitations to the next meeting you wrote your name and the number of invitations which you wanted. They were to be passed out wisely.

On the front you again wrote your name and subscribed to Cross and Flag for 6 months for $1 a year for $2. If you took it for a year you got Jones book "So they indicted me" for a premium absolutely free. Subscribers were cautioned not to worry about the magazine it was sometimes delayed due to the fact that the postmaster read it first. The government was always interested in anything he did.

Any other contribution which you wanted to make to further the work of America First you were asked to place in the envelope and then seal it. The envelopes were then passed to the aisle and collected by the girls.

He then held up a bundle of Cross and Flag magazines. Announced that he only had this limited number of copies with him but they would be at the door and anyone who wanted a copy could have it for whatever donation they left in the basket. He would stay on the platform and shake hands with everybody in the audience who wished to meet him. By the time I got to the door the copies were exhausted but the people were still dropping donations in the basket. Mrs. Parks presided over the money as quickly as she could make the table.

The following comments were made by [redacted] b

[redacted]

SMITH himself is potentially a dangerous man. He is a rabble-rouser and can sway a crowd. He has no regard for the truth as witnessed by the fact at one time he said his son was on the ocean, another time leading a m

He plays on emotions and is very careful at the start to see that he has his feet on the ground. At the start he groped around a bit told one story about a tri-weekly train schedule in Kentucky. You got to a town and then tried to get away from it. It didn't go so big. Then he made the remark about Eleanor's puss hovering over wounded men and the crowd roared.

A minute later he told them to stop applauding practically took over the meeting for he now knew what they wanted despite the fact there were many older women present. After that he would say something and in a cocksure way say "Now you can applaud that if you want to" and he never failed to get a big hand. He knew he had them with him.

Many of the people who attended were almost fanatical in their applause and other displays of emotion. This was true particularly among the men who were near me.

I was surprised at this crowd. They are not a lot of riff-raff as I expected. They are mostly older people, well-dressed and apparently of some means. Badly mislead by this crowd who are supposed to be looking after their interests."

[redacted] b7

[redacted] b7 b7

[redacted], advised that on the morning before the meeting, [redacted] came to him with some tickets for the meeting saying that with these tickets [redacted] would be able to send one of his detectives in to listen to the speech. According to [redacted] also took tickets to the Pennsylvania State Police for the same purpose.

[redacted]

The Detroit Office is advised that [redacted] has long been known to the Philadelphia Field Division as a "hanger on" to the fringes of law enforcement and a notorious "double dealer". b7c

On November 11, 1945, [redacted] of the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel, advised the writer that he had been called upon by a committee that day who demanded that the hotel revoke its agreement with Mrs. BROWN for the use of a room for subject's address. [redacted] advised that he had refused to talk with this committee and had suggested that they should take the matter up with the Philadelphia Police Department. The writer was advised by [redacted] mentioned herein above, that this committee, [redacted] who is known by this office to have Communistic tendencies, presented themselves at the office of the Superintendent of the Philadelphia Police Department. They stated that he was hostile to the United States Government and alleged that he is anti-Semitic, anti-Catholic, and anti-Negro and requested that the police prevent SMITH from speaking in this City. The names of the various members of this committee were submitted to this office by the Philadelphia Police and a review of the indices indicates that all have been active in Communist enterprises and organizations. The Philadelphia Police Department declined to act in this matter and referred the committee to the Courts.

b

It was learned from [redacted] that while in Philadelphia, SMITH made the following telephone calls: The United Press, Philadelphia Daily News, Associated Press, Philadelphia Record, [redacted] Philadelphia, Pa.; Adams 0088, Washington, D. C.; Lenox 8920 Detroit, Michigan; Executive 1000, Wash., D. C.; and Mrs. JOHN BROWN, Darby, Pennsylvania.

b7

b

The calls made to the newspapers and press associations were for the purpose of giving a press release, a copy of which was furnished to this office by [redacted] of the Philadelphia Daily News and is as follows:

b7

GERALD L. K. SMITH, National Director of the "America First Party" and Editor of the magazine, "The Cross and Flag" visited Philadelphia today. Purpose: To address 400 of his leaders in Eastern Pennsylvania.

The National Headquarters of Mr. SMITH'S activities is Detroit, Michigan where a staff of 25 Assistants handles his mail and public activities.

SMITH announced today that committees have been formed in 34 states and ground work has been formed in every State of the Union. "We hope", said SMITH, "We can support the Republican Party in the coming election, but if the Party follows (?)-----leadership, our Party will be on the ballot with the candidate. BOB REYNOLDS would suit me."

PhiladelphiaFile #100-22780

SMITH stated in his address in Philadelphia tonight he would expose the atrocities in the book "Under Cover". He stated he would go from Philadelphia to prepare for a Senate investigation of the force behind "this diabolical book."

A permanent "America First Party Committee" is being formed in Philadelphia.

1. We support the War Effort 100%
2. We oppose World Government
3. We fight political Facism
4. We fight New Deal Communism.

I have instructed my leaders over all the United States to cooperate with me on all "Stop-Wilkie" movements."

The indices of the Philadelphia Office are negative as to [redacted] b7c

ENCLOSURE:

TO THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

Two newspaper clippings dated 11/13/43, concerning speech given by subject on 11/12/43, at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel, Philadelphia.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

Philadelphia File #100-22780

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Will ascertain the identity of the subscribers for telephone numbers Adams 0088 and Executive 1000 and will advise the Detroit Field Division thereon.

Philadelphia File #100-22780

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

[redacted] -

b7c, b7D

JPHa:WMJ
12-11-43
62-43818 - 388

RECORDED

Date:

To: Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your additional information in connection with your consideration of the investigation of this subject there is attached a copy of a further report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on December 1, 1943.

b2c

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
DEC 14 1943 P.M.
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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
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RECEIVED READING ROOM
DEC 13 6 03 PM '43

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-8486

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
WASHINGTON, D. C.	11/27/43	10/28;11/22, 23/43	[redacted] [redacted] jc

TITLE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION

CHARACTER OF CASE
SECURITY MATTER - C
SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted] b7c b7D

He stated that SMITH was anti-Communist, anti-C.I.O. and anti-New deal, but thought he was not pro-Fascist. He advised SMITH was a good rabble-rouser, but favored neither German nor Italians. He furnished a copy of a pamphlet of the Committee of One Million, and a copy of a speech of subject SMITH.

- END -

REFERENCE: (62-43818) Report of Special Agent [redacted] b7c
dated September 14, 1943, at New York, New York.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-6-03 BY SP-2 BTJ

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

[redacted] at which time subject was head of The Committee of One Million, with offices in the Pennsylvania Hotel. [redacted], subject was continuously looking for a financial backing. He advised that in this regard subject was helped by [redacted] and [redacted], of whose whereabouts [redacted] is not presently aware. [redacted] advised that these men made contacts for SMITH and arranged for him to meet people. b7c

~~INDEXED RECORDING~~

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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62 43818-389

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[redacted] stated that at one time arrangements were made for SMITH to meet [redacted] of the German-American Bund, but that the meeting never took place to his knowledge. He stated that SMITH bought and used part of Father COUGHLIN's radio time, [redacted] In connection with the Committee for One Million, he stated that the purpose of the Committee was to bring American feeling to the American people. It is noted that [redacted] was rather bitter towards SMITH, [redacted] To his recollection he advised that SMITH gave speeches to labor unions in Akron, Ohio, and for the Seiberling Rubber Company. He stated that subject was definitely anti-Communist, anti-C.I.O., and also anti-New Deal. However, he advised that to his knowledge he was not anti-Semitic nor pro-Fascist and favored neither the Germans nor Italians. [redacted] stated that, in fact, subject SMITH favored only himself. He stated that to a certain extent SMITH attempted to follow the principles of HUEY LONG, but advised that at best SMITH was a good rabble-rouser. He advised that he last heard of subject SMITH as being in Detroit, Michigan, and he has no idea what happened to The Committee of One Million.

[redacted] advised that [redacted], was a heavy contributor to SMITH's enterprises, and that the American Petroleum Institute, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City, also contributed fund's to SMITH. He advised that to his recollection, [redacted] was the go-between for SMITH and the American Petroleum Institute. He stated that he believed [redacted] to be connected with the Petroleum Institute as a public relations employee.

[redacted] stated that although there was no question in his mind as to the ability of the subject to sway and arouse large crowds, however, he advised, that to the best of his recollection SMITH was pro-America and had never left himself open to criticism in this regard. [redacted] made available a copy of a small pamphlet put out by The Committee of One Million, which solicited membership, and he also made available a copy of a radio address entitled "America, Awake!" This material is being transmitted with instant report to the Detroit Field Division.

<u>ENCLOSURES</u> to the Detroit Field Division:

1 copy of a pamphlet of The Committee of One Million
1 copy of a speech of subject SMITH.

- <u>REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN</u> -

b7c, b7D

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

AT NEW YORK CITY

Will, if deemed advisable, contact [redacted] b7

[redacted], it being noted that [redacted] stated that [redacted] contributed to subject SMITH's enterprises.

Will ascertain if subject SMITH received payment for speeches on behalf of the American Petroleum Institute, 30 Rockefeller Center, New York City.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-8486

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
WASHINGTON, D.C.	12-15-43	12-9-43	[redacted] [redacted]:BGW

b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was; ET AL	SECURITY MATTER - G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Listings of telephone number ADams 0088 and EXecutive 1000 set forth.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated December 1, 1943 at Philadelphia, Pa.

b7c

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

The telephone directory lists EXecutive 1000 to the Statler Hotel, 16th and K Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C.; and ADams 0088 is listed to [redacted]. It is noted that [redacted] is also known as [redacted] and is a socially prominent person in Washington, D.C.

b7c

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8BW/mc

DEFERRED RECORDING

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: Guy Hollis SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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537

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
December 16, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,
with aliases et al.
INTERNAL SECURITY - G, et al.
Bureau file 62-43818.

Dear Sir:

There are being transmitted herewith the enclosures mentioned in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated December 13, 1943 at Detroit, Michigan in the above entitled case. b7c

These enclosures were inadvertently omitted when the Bureau's copies of instant report were mailed and are, therefore, being transmitted herewith.

Very truly yours,

John S Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC.

[redacted] b7c
62-1126
Enclosure

all this package
- all marked
marked [illegible]

memo AAG Clark
(12-27-43)
SPHa
SAC - Detroit
12-29-43
SPHa

RECORDED 62-43818-391
F B I
28 DEC 30 1943

(5) - [illegible]

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DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8810 [illegible]

21 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-7463

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CLEVELAND, OHIO	12-13-43	12-1-43	[redacted] DQ

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with alias Gerald L. K. Schmidt The Committee of 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: On 12-1-43 at Hotel Secor, Toledo, Ohio, SMITH addressed approximately 400 persons. SMITH related the New Deal defeats in November 1943, adding that the America First Party was to a great extent responsible. SMITH attacked WINCHELL and CHURCHILL as meddling in U.S. politics and denounced WILKIE and ROOSEVELT as bureaucratic and international politicians. Guest speaker HARVEY H. SPRINGER of Denver, Colorado condemned Communism, world government and the changing of quotations in the Bible which depict the Jews in an unfavorable light. SPRINGER belittled the operation of the rationing programs, opposed lend lease aid and condemned England and Russia for their world domination aspirations.

-RUC-

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/6/82 BY SP8BTJ

Reference: Bureau file 62-43818.

Details: This investigation is predicated upon information received from [redacted] that the America Front Party under the leadership of GERALD L. K. SMITH would hold a rally at the Secor Hotel, Toledo, Ohio on December 1, 1943. b7C b7D

~~SUPPRESSED RECORDING~~

AT TOLEDO, OHIO

At 8:15 P.M. on December 1, 1943 GERALD L. K. SMITH, National Director of the America First Party, addressed an audience of approximately 400 persons in the Wedgewood Room of the Hotel Secor located at Jefferson and Superior

APPROVED AND FORWARDED L. V. Boardman SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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62-43818-1X F 392

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5 Bureau
4 Detroit (1 USA)
2 Cleveland

cc - AAG Clark (12-27-43) JPHa

Op. 1

23 DEC 13 1943

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59 JAN 7 1944

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CV F.O.
100-7463

Streets in Toledo, Ohio. To gain admission to the hall, it was necessary to present a card of admission. An extra admission card was obtained and is being placed in the 1A envelope of instant file in the Cleveland Field Office.

On the platform, in addition to Mr. SMITH, was Rev. HARVEY H. SPRINGER, Pastor of the First Baptist Church and Tabernacle, Englewood, Colorado and editor of "Western Voice", who was a speaker at the meeting. Mrs. SPRINGER also sat with her husband on the platform.

SMITH opened the meeting with a few words outlining the program. He then entered directly into his speech. During the course of his speech, the Lord's Prayer was recited and two stanzas of "America" were sung. At the conclusion of the meeting SMITH asked all to stand and pledge allegiance to the United States flag. He stated that of the three conventional methods in saluting the flag he uses the hand over the heart method. He said that another method is the military salute, and still another is extending one's arm the full length with the palm upward. However, Mr. SMITH stated that he would never use this latter method because his enemies would accuse him of saluting in the Fascist manner with the palm turned downward.

SMITH reviewed the New Deal defeats in the November 2nd elections and stated that he felt the America First Party was largely responsible for these. He passed out mimeograph copies of the November 15, 1943 article of Mr. RAY TUCKER, noted Washington, D.C. news correspondent, which praised SMITH as a spectacular orator, a strong political power, and a vigorous anti-New Deal campaigner who has been reaching every class of the electorate during the past year. A copy of this mimeograph article was obtained and is being maintained in the 1A envelope of instant file.

SMITH then attacked WALTER WINCHELL stating that WINCHELL's real name was WALTER LIPSCHITZ which drew a great response from the audience. He stated that men like WINCHELL were really responsible for the rising tide of anti-Semitism in the U.S. and that he, along with several others, were responsible for the Navy Department's action in taking WINCHELL out of uniform and placing him in a retired status.

SMITH then went into a long attack on CHURCHILL and England, reviewing America's fight to be free from England and the vicious attacks that England has made on this country in the past. He repeated CHURCHILL's statements that England owes America no war debts, that if America would have stayed out of the last war England would have won it sooner and with the loss of fewer men, and that England is keeping no lend lease books, that they have

done away with that "nasty business" of keeping lend lease books reflecting how much England owes the U.S. and hopes to continue on the same basis after the war. He opposed the World Government plan as a tool of England and the international bankers with whom ROOSEVELT and WILKIE are affiliated. SMITH constantly referred to the latter two men as "TWEEDLE-DEE WILKIE" and "TWEEDLE-DUM ROOSEVELT."

SMITH criticized the ROOSEVELT family as being over ambitious and attempting to set up a "Roosevelt Dynasty" in the U.S. He also criticized WINSTON CHURCHILL for entering politics in the U.S. and referred specifically to his speech at Cambridge, Mass. and also the speech made by CHURCHILL in England on November 9, 1943 in which SMITH alleged CHURCHILL told the people that if ROOSEVELT was not re-elected, it would be a calamity.

SMITH advised all Jews to stop their vicious attacks and to commence to create good will or suffer the consequences. He then introduced HARVEY H. SPRINGER, Editor of the "Western Voice" and Baptist Minister.

Mr. SPRINGER, a 6' 6" Westerner, who claimed to be a cowboy, ranchman, preacher and editor, started out by stating that he was not interested in politics, knew nothing about politics and was not going to mention politics in his speech, then proceeded to give an hour and half entirely political talk.

SPRINGER belittled the rationing program as being mishandled, unnecessary and a punishment of the American people. He stated that oilwells out his way were only allowed to produce 20 barrels of oil per day when they could produce a 1000 barrels a day for the next 1000 years. He stated that several years ago, Mr. ROOSEVELT had bought the best cattle on his ranch and ordered them shot in their tracks, allowed no one to remove any meat and decreed that they should just lay until they rotted away. He accused the rich and the bureaucrats of having plenty of all rationed goods and stated that there was in reality no shortage of anything in America but that the Bureaucrats were using the rationing program as a sword over the heads of the people.

SPRINGER condemned the world government plan and stated that one reason for his opposition to it was "because England is for it". He stated that England has never done one thing for the U.S. in the past except cheat us out of everything but our skins and that anything involving England and the U.S. which England favored would be much more to her benefit than the benefit of the United States. He opposed the replacement of the American flag by the flag of the "Internationalists" which contains a yellow star, the union jack and American red and white stripes and stated that as long as he breathes no flag will supplant "Old Glory".

CV F.O.
100-7463

SPRINGER opposed the changing of the Bible by the Jews, such as he alleged was being done, to remove all anti-Semetic passages. He quoted a number of Bible passages which he alleged had recently, due to Jewish pressure, been removed from the several million new Bibles recently printed for distribution to American service men.

SPRINGER condemned Fascism, Communism, and all other "isms" and rebuked England and Russia for their policies of World Domination stating that today in this country Russia is preparing for the day of a revolution at which time the U.S. will be converted to Communism. He opposed any lend lease aid as long as MACARTHUR wants for a single bullet. He stated that if England and Russia considered themselves such great nations with immense wealth and the best forms of government, why then not let them foot the bill for the present war instead of America.

SMITH again took the stand and belittled the administration for about 5 minutes during which time he had envelopes for the subscriptions to his magazine "The Cross and the Flag" passed out. SMITH also passed out contribution envelopes and announced that all should contribute to the utmost for his patriotic crusade. He announced that in the near future he intended to have Rep. CLARE HOFFMAN accompany him on a tour. SMITH also stated that at the door all could obtain, for a nominal sum, copies of the latest issue of the "Cross and the Flag" and copies of the newspaper of HARVEY H. SPRINGER, "The Western Voice". Copies of both these publications were obtained by the writer and are being maintained in the files of the Cleveland office.

The morning after the meeting the writer was contacted by [redacted] who stated that he just that day received an invitation to the SMITH meeting, and on his admission card was specially typed, "Come and hear about the perfidy of England". [redacted] stated that SMITH should be barred from all hotels in Toledo and should be tried for treason against England. The admission card received by [redacted] was obtained and is being maintained in the files of the Cleveland Field Office.

b7

b7

-REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN-

JPHa:LWO
(12-27-43)
62-43818

Date:

8142

To: Assistant Attorney General
Tom C. Clark

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

RECORDED 62-43818-392

Reference is made to our previous correspondence concerning subject Smith and to the several reports heretofore made available to you.

For your further information there are attached to this memorandum copies of the following additional reports submitted concerning Smith:

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated December 13, 1943, at Cleveland, Ohio, entitled "GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with alias, Gerald L. K. Schmidt, The Committee of 1,000,000 INTERNAL SECURITY - G; SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION." b7c

Report of Special Agent [redacted], dated December 13, 1943, at Detroit, Michigan, entitled "GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was; AMERICA FIRST PARTY INTERNAL SECURITY - G; SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION." b7c

Also attached are copies of the following enclosures referred to in Special Agent Wolf's report:

1. Photostatic copy of a "Release" headed "OPA DENIES GASOLINE TO MINISTER."
2. Photostatic copy of a "PETITION TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT."
3. Photostatic copy of leaflet headed "OPA TYRANNY!"
4. Copy of September, 1943, issue of "THE CROSS AND THE FLAG."
5. Photostatic copies of the [illegible]ber and November, 1943 issues of "The CRO[illegible] FLAG."

Enclosures

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 6
DEC 30 1943
FBI
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
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Mumford
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Quinn Tamm
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Tanky

53 JAN 1 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY

JPHa:LVO
62-43818-

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY

December 29, 1943

SAC - Detroit

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/24/57

In connection with the report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on December 13, 1943, it is noted that the character of the case includes the designation "Custodial Detention."

In compliance with previous Bureau instructions as to the supplanting of the caption "Custodial Detention" with the term "Security Matter" it is desired that all Offices receiving copies of this letter appropriately amend the character of Special Agent [redacted] report to read "Internal Security - G; Security Matter; Sedition."

RECORDED 62-43818-393

Please see to it that this caption is uniformly followed in connection with further reports submitted in the Smith case.

DEC 31 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

cc - Denver
New York City

38 JAN 1 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 22

PAGES REVIEWED: 80

PAGES RELEASED: 60

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/6/82 BY SP6 604 PMS 204,433.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN — DETROIT FILE NO. 62-1126

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	12/13/43	10/2, 9,16,23,30; 11/6,13,20,27; 12/4/43	[redacted] b7c RES

TITLE CHANGED:
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases: Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; AMERICA FIRST PARTY

CHARACTER OF CASE
INTERNAL SECURITY - G; ~~CUSTODIAL DETENTION~~; SEDITION; SECURITY MATTER

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: ~~STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

Information received from [redacted] to the effect that SMITH was making arrangements with J. E. JONES of Louisiana for SMITH to handle publication of JONES' book "And So They Indicted Me" in Detroit. Informant also states SMITH assisted [redacted] of Pontiac, Michigan, in picketing OPA office at Pontiac after [redacted] had been refused gas ration coupons. Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER of Colorado came to Detroit about November 19, 1943, for purpose of addressing various revival meetings and may possibly still be in Detroit. SPRINGER addressed a protest meeting in Pontiac, Michigan, for MARION and at that time more or less ridiculed OPA for alleged discrimination against MARION. SPRINGER also claims he has been persecuted by OPA in Colorado. [redacted] advises SPRINGER'S speeches anti-administration and anti-Semitic and details of his speeches set forth herein. b2D

~~ENCLOSURE IN BULKY FILE~~
BULKY DESTROYED PER FORM 4-341 DATED 5-26-69
DESTROYED 6-20-69 REC

REFERENCE: (62-43818) Report of Special Agent [redacted] b7c dated November 1, 1943, at Detroit, Michigan.

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

DETAILS: The title of this case is being marked changed to delete "The Committee of One Million" as it is dissolved and to add the "AMERICA FIRST PARTY."

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: John S. Burger, SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES: 62-43818-394 RECORDED & INDEXED

COPIES DESTROYED 205 OCT 12 1964

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
5 - Bureau
2 - New York (100-19707)
1 - Denver
3 - Detroit

DEC 27 1943

[redacted] submitted to the Detroit Office reports reflecting his observations while in attendance at these meetings. These reports are being set forth verbatim in so far as they pertain to the instant case. [redacted]

"America First Meeting, Maccabees Building,
September 28, 8:15 p.m.

[redacted]

"Smith appeared on the stage amid applause and announced that he just wanted to test the microphone. The meeting began shortly afterward with the singing of the first and last stanzas of 'America'. This was followed by the Lord's Prayer.

"Smith began his evening's talk with the assertion that America had become a decadent nation, that we had lost our fundamental morality. That the church was dominated by weak-kneed modernists who were scared of everything but the collection plate. Our morals, he asserted, were dictated by 60 Jews on the PBX Board in Hollywood, who advised young people on how to kiss, how to have sexual intercourse out of wedlock, how to embezzle bank funds and get away with it. He said the movies could be a wholesome form of entertainment and education, but the men in control made this impossible.

"We are confronted with a conspiracy to take Christ away from us. With the Christmas season coming up, from the Boulevard down to the river, we could not find a store carrying Christmas cards with the name of Christ on it. 'They' had conspired to substitute the X for Christ, a sleigh for the manger, reindeer for the humble donkey, and Santa Claus for the person of Christ. Dr. Meyer, pastor of one of the largest congregations in America in St. Louis and conductor of the Lutheran Hour over the radio had been visiting Smith in his home, and Smith had told him that if he would urge the people over the radio and if every priest and preacher would join him in this - to refuse to buy these cards, they could soon put Christ back in Christmas.

ALL
b7D

"He spoke again of a committee of Communists and Jews who had tried and succeeded in getting the government to exclude certain parts of the New Testament from the testaments going to the soldiers.

"He quoted from a copy of the Washington Post (saying that if he hadn't seen it in black and white, he wouldn't have believed it) to the effect that Mrs. Roosevelt had been invited to speak before the Optimist Club in Johnson City, Tennessee. They guaranteed her $1,000.00 to speak and spent $500.00 to advertise the meeting. But they could not sell the tickets and up to the time of the meeting had raised only $300.00. It was necessary to raise $1,200.00 more to pay for the advertising and Mrs. Roosevelt's fee. They told their problem to Mrs. Roosevelt, and she said she could not speak unless she received the amount guaranteed. So they got the money from a local bank and signed a note for thirty days for the money. They were unable to raise enough to meet it, and had to get permission to hold a lottery for a car. So the postman got a car for $1.00, and the natives of Johnson City call it Eleanor's car.

"Smith said he was not an admirer of royalty, but could his audience imagine the Queen of England demanding $1,000.00 to address the poor people of some English mining town,

"But this incident, he said, was typical of the Roosevelt dynasty, of New Deal Communism, bureaucratic fascism and materialistic nazism of the present administration.

"Smith said that by next summer we would be experiencing starvation, that there would be many days when we would know what it was to go to bed hungry. While the communists of Russia and other aliens were eating butter, we would have oleo. Our boys were not depriving us of one mouthful of food. They were getting no more than was necessary themselves.

"The shortage was due to the New Dealers defying the laws of God, the laws of nature, the natural law of supply and demand. If we were governed by natural law there would be no shortages. During the years of plenty, the New Deal plowed under our surpluses, killed the little pigs and limited acreage.

"He repeated events of his visit with the governor of Louisiana on the train during his last western trip, reported previously. He then began the prelude to the Waltz of the Dollars.

"He spoke of having met J. Edward Jones at the airport in Detroit where the latter stopped briefly during a recent trip. He reminded the audience of his last speech in the Crystal Ballroom of the Book-Cadillac where he had previously mentioned Jones. He repeated the story of the efforts of Harold

Ickes to 'get' Jones after he (Jones) had resigned as oil co-ordinator for the independent oil producers under NRA. The name of Mrs. Roosevelt's personal secretary who attempted to 'shake down' Jones to 'fix' his indictment was Col. Miles Lasker.

"Ickes is still holding the grudge, his latest deviltry being to call Jones to Washington to explain using several 'bullets' without priority to bring in a well of high octane gas so vitally needed for our air force, and in which Mr. Jones Louisiana oil fields abound.

"He said that Ed had told him he could have all the copies of his book, "And So They Indicted Me" that were left. Tonight, Smith said, all donors of five dollars or more would receive a copy of that book. Jones could not find a publisher fearless enough to publish the book, nor a printer to print it; so he had to set up a printing press of his own to run it off. Then the New Dealers banned it from the bookstands.

"On the envelope provided, contributors were to mark down the number of tickets they wanted for the next meeting in the Maccabees Building on October 7 when the Hon. John Loughman of Chicago would discuss "International Intrigue in the Light of Current Events."

"Before introducing the speaker of the evening, Dr. Harvey H. Springer of Denver, Smith cautioned the audience that the meeting did not end with the message of the evening. This was for the benefit of strangers as the 'regulars' knew enough not to start out until the meeting was formally closed.

"We were fortunate, said Smith, in having such a dynamic representative of America First principles in the west as Dr. Springer. Mr. Smith has taken Springer into some of the best hotels and restaurants in the country and what he liked about the doctor was that no matter where they were, he was not ashamed to bow his head and thank his God before each meal.

"Dr. Springer had personally underwritten the entire expense of the Denver meeting, and Smith wanted every person in the auditorium to show his appreciation by subscribing to Springer's weekly, 'The Western Voice.' 'He does not chisel on his subscribers like I do,' Smith said; 'He gets out his paper every week; while mine is published only once a month.'

"Acknowledging Smith's introduction, Springer stated that he feared he had been over-advertised, that he was only 5' 17" tall and weighed 195 pounds. He was just a Bible-believin', God-fearin', gospel-preachin', rootin'-tootin' son of a backwoods bowboy preacher. He was substantially correct in his physical appraisal of himself. He is loose-jointed, lanky-limbed with enormous hands that swing loosely from long arms. Speaking, he sometimes bends at the knees, body tilted slightly backward, right hand cocked in the air

pointing upward; in this stance he is the conventional cowboy letting loose with a 'yipee-ki-yi-yo.' His face is oval with olive complexion, smooth black hair. When he approached the microphone, he cocked his head to one side next to it as if he were going to dance with it cheek to cheek. He smiled a half-moon smile, displaying a good set of white teeth. At that moment he looked like the best of the photographs which were exhibited at the previous meeting advertising his coming. He is an effective poseur.

"He told his audience that before he spoke he always asked God to bless the sermon to His best ends. He hoped that his audience would pardon this if some of them were not believers. And so he prayed for the blessing of God on the evening's proceedings. He thanked God for such 'Christian statesmen' as 'Doctor' Smith. His prayer, in effect, was that of the Pharisee. Substantially, he thanked God he and 'Doctor' Smith were not as other men were, Democrats and sinners.

"Following the prayer, he thanked the unbelieving portion of his audience for their indulgence. He too reviewed the meeting in Denver, which the communistic City Council, headed by Rosenthal, had tried to stop. Then he gave something of his political background. He said he had never believed in mixing politics with religion, that he had never tried to influence the vote of his congregation. He had voted against Roosevelt because he had brought liquor back, but not until the last two years had he engaged actively in politics.

"Later in his address, Springer stated, 'You can take anything I've got, but don't mess around with my wife or my religion.' But his reasons for entering politics were: 1. He couldn't get gas for his car when he had eight new tires. 2. After turning in the extra four of his new tires and one of the others had blown out, all he got after waiting four weeks was 'one little old measly recap that wouldn't last five miles.' 3. His wife couldn't get thirty pounds of sugar for canning. He was in Old Mexico when the tire rationing program went into effect. He bought four new tires there, not because he was a hoarder but because he always made a habit of having a reserve as he was used to driving fast to get from one place to another in the wide open spaces. When gas rationing went into effect, his local board wouldn't let him have gas, saying he wouldn't be in business more than four weeks. Then his wife applied for thirty pounds of sugar for canning, but they said, 'No sugar for Harvey Springer.' He assured his audience that the time was coming when people would be refused food unless they voted 'right.'

"He related his experience in trying to build a tabernacle in Denver. The communist council (whom Springer resolved to put out of office at the next election) refused him a permit. So he built the tabernacle just outside the city limits. Then he asked the city for lighting facilities. All that was needed was a forty foot extension from the nearest pole. But that was refused. But a member of his congregation donated a special unit of the

type used on farms; so they were supplied with lighting. That was enough for Harvey Springer. He was convinced there was a conspiracy to undermine the preaching of the gospel of Christ. So he told his wife he was going to fight, he was going to get into politics. The first thing he did to acquire a political education was to spend $9.00 for the Congressional Record.

"That was the introduction to his speech. During it he indulged in a two-minute epithetical description in quaint coined words (supposedly of cowboy origin) of his anti-Christian adversaries. He spoke at the top of his voice and did not take a single breath until he was finished; and he was not winded.

"The subject of his talk was 'The Internationalists and the Wide Open Spaces', and his Biblical text was from the Old Testament, 'Remove not the ancient landmarks thy fathers have set up.' Both subject and text were never again referred to. The main topic was well-organized, however, and was undisguised anti-Semitism, interlarded by such remarks as 'They'd better not fight with me; I don't fight fair - I fight to win', 'Amen, Brother Springer! Thank you, Harvey!'

"The first evidence of the Jewish conspiracy presented by Springer was the Detroit Times, 'your own paper', containing the testimony of 'your own congressman,' Representative George Bradley. Bradley denounced the Austin-Wadsworth Bill S666 as setting up an American Gestapo which would put Hitler's to shame. He alleged it would make unwitting agents of the block-leaders of the OCD. The number of the bill, Springer declared, was no mere coincidence but was plainly prophecied in the Book of Revelations, 'And they shall neither buy nor sell except they bear the mark of the beast.' (Note: The number 666, many fundamentalist interpreters of Biblical prophecy declare is the sacred number of the Revelations; however, the same interpreters once said the Blue Eagle of NRA was 'the mark of the beast' foretold by John.)

"Springer referred to the bill as a slave labor bill, violating the thirteenth amendment prohibiting involuntary servitude. Springer had wired both the senators from his home state to vote against passage of the bill. He read their replies. He ridiculed Senator Milliken's statement that he would not vote for it unless he was convinced that it was absolutely necessary to win the war. Milliken said he would follow the debate attentively, listen to all the evidence presented, father all the facts he could get and vote accordingly.

"Although he said he seldom agreed with Senator Johnson, Springer praised Johnson's unequivocal denunciation of the bill. If anyone had proposed such a bill thirty years ago, he would have been kicked out of office and tarred and feathered. Although the bill is still in debate, the objectives have been attained in some degree.

"Springer's brother was an engineer with the Emerson Electric Co. in St. Louis. The doctor told his wife that she must go west. So her brother sent his family out and asked his company for a transfer. They refused and threatened that if he left, they would have him slapped into the army the very next day. 'But,' said Springer, 'my brother is little like me. He did just as I would have done. He joined his family.'

"Springer cited another similar instance of a carpenter in Muskegon who had three children and a wife who had been in the hospital three years with tuberculosis. His company had him taken into the army and he did not even get the opportunity to say good-bye to his wife.

"What is behind all this? Springer asked his audience rhetorically if anyone of them thought in 1936 that we were to be involved in a war. Although his question did not require an answer, there were several volunteers and numerous cries of 'I did.' Another said, 'In 1933.' Springer went on. He asked his listeners to write the Superintendent of Public Documents in Washington and ask for No. 944, Section 4. This he read. It anticipated a war, proposing an industrial mobilization plan and military conscription. Then Springer burst his bombshell. No one he said could have known there was going to be a war - unless he had planned it. The report he cited was written by none other than the Jewish international financier, Bernard M. Baruch. The audience booed.

"I'm a Christian,' said Springer, and added his bible-believin' routine; 'I believe in being charitable. I believe if Baruch is going to run the country they ought to give him a nice soft pillow for that park bench where he runs it.'

"Springer denied being anti-Semitic although people always said he was. He said after one meeting, two Jews came down the aisle and said, 'We don't like what you just said about the Jews.' 'But I didn't say a word about the Jews,' Springer remonstrated. 'Yes you did,' they insisted; 'You attacked Bernard Baruch.' Springer said that he had also attacked Roosevelt, Wallace, Willkie, Hopkins, but no one accused him of being anti-Gentile.

"He quoted from a petition circulated by the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, using his own manufactured adjectives to describe that 'modernist' organization. The petition was sent to clergymen to get their aid in combatting anti-Semitism and the teaching that the Jews killed Christ. Springer used the term 'Christ-killers' in connection with the Jews. That the Jews did not kill Christ, Springer asserted, was not recorded in <u>his</u> Bible, and he quoted from the Book of Acts, 'And Peter said, 'The Jews killed him.' (It would be interesting to obtain this Bible-believer's opinion of such texts as that from Christ himself: 'He who curses Israel I will curse him; he that blesseth I will bless.' Paul: 'I am a Hebrew of the Hebrews'. The song of the angels: 'And thou Bethlehem in the

land of Judah art not the least among the princes of Judah, for out of thee shall come a governor which shall rule my people Israel.' Christ himself was a Jew. God forbade the prophet Balasm to prophecy against the Jews for 'A Star shall come out of Israel.' Balasm would not curse even a small part of the Jews who may have been all that is vicious and unholy when the king who requested the prophecy said to him: 'Come over to this window. There are only a few there. Curse me them from there.' Perhaps these so-called fundamentalists who so freely predict that the self-confessed atheists Stalin and Hitler are the personification of the anti-Christ should read this from John: 'He that saith he is in the light and hateth his brother is in darkness even until now.' Fundamentalists believe in the power of prayer. Yet these so-called fundamentalists obviously believe that the prayer of the Son of God on the Cross went unanswered: 'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.')

Springer uses all the scurrilous technique of the professional anti-Semite, the principal one being that of using Jewish names as a condemnation in themselves. He did not spare Walter 'Lipschitz' Winchell. He quoted from B'Nai B'Rith boasting that they had stopped the vaudeville concept of the conventional Jew and had eliminated his personality from the movies. Said Springer, 'You never see a Jewish villian in the movies.' He said 'B'Nai B'Rith or Needa Bath or whatever it is.' He said that they had removed 'THE Merchant of Venice" from the schools.

"The outline of Springer's address then is this: 1. He outlined the conspiracy. 2. He told its source (The Baruch Report). 3. He deduced from the race of the author of that report the people who planned the war. 4. He launched a vicious attack against them under the guise of defending his own faith from them.

"He closed his address with a tearful story of his brother's escape from death on the beach of Salerno. If his brother dies, and his voice was breaking as only a sawdust-trailer's can, he would want his body wrapped in that flag, and he pointed to the Stars and Stripes.

[redacted] b7D

"Evangelistic" service at "Brother" Love's tabernacle in Hazel Park

[redacted] Marion was there and Mr. and Mrs. Smith and Wallace Gamber, the 'faithful friend' who always accompanies Smith. Marion was introduced by Love but not Smith. However, Springer, the chief speaker, spoke of his good friend, Gerald L. K. Smith and bowed in his direction. There was no response from the audience. Love has a glued-on smile and he reddens easily. [redacted] b7D

[redacted]. Love said 'Amen' and 'That's right' at intervals throughout Brother Springer's talk. b7D

"Springer denounced Stalin and Russia and said it was our destiny to fight Russia. His sermon was not evangelistic. He never appealed for lost souls and gave no invitation at the close. He spoke from the book of Isaiah, especially the 18th chapter, which he says is prophetic of America, the clean-shaven men being the Indians 'beyond the rivers of Ethiopia.' However the 18th chapter of the King James version of Isiah does not refer to any 'clean-shaven men' but I hardly think Springer would dare to manufacture his own scriptures. Since he used the whole book, it is possible the quotation may be found in some other chapter. He said this portion of the book described the stripping of America's resources. He said we should get rid of the dictators, prime ministers, presidents, and the Roose-(He paused, but there was not audience reaction), the Roseensteins, and Roosevelts and Rosenbergs.

"When he denounced Russia and said our destiny was to fight her, somone behind my wife said, 'Heil Hitler' but whether they were sarcastic communists or grateful nazis could not be determined. However, there were five strong-arm looking gentlemen directly behind. After the meeting, American Mothers distributed more of 'Wake Up, Americans' leaflets.

"Meeting in Maccabees Building October 7

"Smith arrived on the platform about 8:10. He announced that the speaker of the evening, Mr. Loughman of Chicago, had not arrived nor was he likely to. This was the first time in his public career that Smith had announced a speaker and he had failed to show up. But as he had done a little speaking himself in his time (laughter) the meeting would go on. This evening's meeting has been a test of the faithful. None of them had probably ever heard of Loughman, and Smith had purposely not advertised him just to see how many people would be there. Our fidelity was to be rewarded. Mr. and Mrs. Doman were even now stamping special tickets to the next meeting when Dean Smith would address us. Only those with these special tickets would be admitted before eight o'clock; then the meeting would be opened to those with plain tickets.

"Smith took over the evening's program himself. As usual, he lauded such sterling Americans as Lindbergh, Coughlin, Captain Earl Southerd, Nye, Luce, Hoffman, Springer and Mrs. Lundeen. Most of these 'jewels' were going to be present at a future meeting, a sort of gathering of the clan. Smith's aplomb was somewhat upset by the non-arrival of the announced speaker, but unfortunately that did not shorten the program. Aided by frequent references to current events, mainly the attempt to 'kick Marshall upstairs' and the junket of five 'fellow-travellers', he carried on at length.

"About the former event, the Marshall controversey, he said that a plot was on foot to unseat Marshall and replace him with Hopkins' friend, Somervell. The plan was instigated by Frankfurter and involved placing the spending of the war budget and lend-lease funds in the hands of the Jews. If we ever gave 22 billion dollars to the Jews, Smith said, we could kiss the republic good-bye.

"About the peregrinations of the Senate's solemn solons, Smith said that they had gone out New Dealers (Russell, Mead and Chandler) and had returned America Firsters. He heralded their revelations of Britain's hoarding oil at our expense, of Russia's refusal to grant us bases for war on Japan costing a million American lives, etc. He also discussed Mrs. Roosevelt's trip to Australia and said, 'If I were wounded, I'd hate to have to look up at a puss like that.'

"He had been in touch that afternoon by wire with Washington, one of his reliable Capitol sources. He said he was informed by this 'reliable source' that 'Maine's eagle-eyed Senator Brewster' and other senators wanted to release some very vital information to the public which they had obtained on their trip. Looking over the following morning's Free Press, I was surprised to read that Drew Pearson had also referred to 'Maine's eagle-eyed Senator Brewster.' Since Smith had previously said that the President's designation of Pearson as a 'chronic liar' was substantially correct; and Roosevelt is an accepted authority on what constitutes a liar, this seemed very odd; that Smith's 'reliable source' should be a chronic prevaricator.

"In announcing the speaker for October 19, Smith said that Dean E. Smith had for twenty years been Standard Oil's representative in the Orient. While he held no brief for the operations of Standard Oil, Smith said he was forced to admit that in order to rise such a long way with so large an organization, the oil Smith must have something on the ball. The subject of the address would be perfidious Albion's wicked intentions with regard to the Four Freedom's in Asia. Britain wanted to keep China in a subordinate position, the better to exploit her, etc.

"When the collection was taken, the premium offered was a review of Carlson's book, 'Undercover.' Smith asked if his audience had heard of it. He said he was not afraid of any of the book's overstatements and invited all to read it. Most of his audience had heard of it, however, especially Mrs. Knowles, who gestured angrily in her conversation with Mrs. Doman and said, 'They're even reading it in the schools.' Apparently she does not share Smith's equanimity with regard to its contents. This may be quite naturally so since Carlson doesn't spare her.

[redacted]

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[redacted] b2c b2D

"Smith also had words of praise for Monseigneur Fulton J. Sheen of Catholic University and the Catholic hour of radio fame. Every time Smith speaks, he exposes the clay feet of another idol. First it was Meyers of the Lutheran Hour, now Monseigneur Sheen. According to Smith, Sheen implied that Russia may not be fighting at all, may have 'gone to bed' with the enemy, since she will not allow American observers at the front. Sheen also said that he was subject to 57 different varieties of censorship in preparing his radio talks.

"The questions asked of Mr. Smith during the question period were of no particular significance, all relating to a common prejudice against Jews and Roosevelt. One of them was 'Why are there no Jewish names on the casualty lists.' Smith said, that he did not think this was true, that many Jews had been killed or wounded in action.

"Dedication of Marion's Christian Temple in Birmingham

"Dr. Leland L. Marion dedicated his new temple in Birmingham last Sunday, October 10. Motion pictures were taken of the ceremonies, and I enclose an announcement of the occasion from the local paper.

"The speakers included Rev. William F. Rugg, pastor of the Garfield Avenue Christian Church in Indianapolis; Mayor Marts, referred to by Smith as Mayor 'Martin', much to the mayor's discomfiture; Rev. A. J. Turvey of Capac, Michigan, a self-styled authority on Biblical prophecy; and one Gerald L. K. Smith, described by himself as a controversial figure in public life who is called by his first name by 100 congressmen and by several other names by the other 300.

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"Smith commended Marion to Mayor 'Martin' as one who always paid his bills and who was not merely establishing a 'fly by night' church, but a real building of testimony for Christ. He said he had known Marion for 25 years, that the latter had been pastor in a small town when Smith was a theological student and going with a Miss Sorenson, who later became his wife. In those days a young lady did not give her lips to a young mar unless

they had reached a marriage agreement. If there were a wedding ceremony for every kiss the previous night, Smith said, all the ministers in Birmingham would spend from now 'til doomsday marrying people. 'Amen', said the man behind me.

"Coincidentally Marion in the afternoon and Turvey in the evening referred to rationing as 'the mark of the beast' spoken of in Revelations as the mark of the anti-Christ, without which he can 'neither buy nor sell.' [redacted] These people change their anti-Christ so often that a neophyte in fundamentalists might be tempted to lose his faith in the devil. b7D

"Rugg spoke Tuesday evening in the temple. Main item of note in his sermon was: 'Go on, you F.B.I. men and friends of the F.B.I., get up and go out now, call up the F.B.I. Tell them Rugg's in town.'

"Subject: American First Party Meeting, Grand Ballroom, Hotel Book-Cadillac, Detroit, October 19, 1943, 8:15 P.M.

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[redacted] She said that one didn't really become anti-British until he had read history. I agreed with her. I told her that the reason the British didn't like the Irish was that about two thousand years ago, the Romans had disarmed the Britons for about three hundred years, and when they were forced to leave (Britain) the Irish saw a fine opportunity and jumped on the unarmed Britons. For that, I said, the English think Cromwell's treatment of Ireland was none too harsh. But all this happened about 1700 years ago, and yet, the English feel very hurt that we have not forgotten 1776. She agreed. In fact, she argued, you don't have to go back as far as 1776. It was only 1919 when Churchill had said that if we hadn't entered the war, it would have been over six months sooner. I was properly aghast and said our entry ended the war six months sooner, and that the right side had won, inferring that such would not have been the case if we had not entered (which is undoubtedly true, but such speculation on what might have been is like arguing

how many angels can stand on the point of a pin; nobody knows.)

"Dean Smith is an elderly, typical business man, iron grey, average height, straight-forward, huskily built (evidently the twenty pounds he claims he lost in his recent peregrinations were excess), and ill-disposed only toward the British. The meeting opened in the usual manner, singing the first and last verses of "America", the last to be sung as a prayer but with vigor; and this was followed by the Lord's Prayer as our mothers taught us.

"All of Smith's dissertation was a repeat of previous utterances. In fact, he said, 'Now I will tell you something you didn't know,' and then went on to tell of the 'findings' of the senatorial travellers which he had told us about at the previous meeting. The only additions to his repertoire was an attack on Willkie's Sunday night speech, which he had told his Minneapolis meeting he would answer in advance. 'All you need to know', he said, 'is who Willkie's backers are.' He said they were Wall Street, the international bankers, Hollywood, and his audience said, 'Jews.' Another item, of course, would be Carlson's talk at the Fisher Theater, Wednesday, at 11:00 a.m. when he would discuss Detroit's fifth column. Smith said he would challenge Carlson to a public debate. He said Carlson was an imported Communist, and said it was too bad 'they' had to import foreigners to attack good Americans. Not that he had anything against foreigners; both Mrs. Smith's parents came from Denmark. He also advertised Mrs. Knowles' Christmas cards and told what a hard time she had in finding suitable cards for Christians. The Jews have conspired to eliminate Christ from Christmas, etc. He said Mrs. Knowles' organization of American Mothers had been attacked by Carlson. These fine American women composed an organization of mothers of boys in the service; one could not belong unless she had a son in the service, and Carlson, the character assassin, had attacked her.

"Dean Smith's talk was a recounting of his odyssey after the fall of Singapore, in which he blasted the British for not permitting the Chinese to defend Burma until it was too late and then using 10,000 Chinese troops to cover their retreat into India. Incidentally, British troops covered Mr. Smith's retreat until he was safely aboard ship bound for America. The oil Smith is not a fluent speaker and like most business men is a repetitious one, especially repeating phrases which sound good to his own ears.

"He said that the Japanese despise us because we sold them scrap and tried to appease them, because they like a strong enemy. He told of the British hoarding oil at our expense. He said the Chinese were more like us as a people than any other nation on earth. That one Chinese could take the place of ten American soldiers if given a minimum of medium equipment. That the British do not like republics, and China is a republic. That the chief grievance the Chinese have against Japan is that Japan has divided the Chinese

people. That we ought to hate England because English propaganda has divided us, first on the lend-lease issue and now on post-war issues. His own brother won't speak to him. Old friends have forsaken him, all because of the propagandistic machinations of perfidious Albion.

"When he was through speaking, he answered questions, his sponsor first explaining to the audience that his hesitation during the speech was because the New Dealers had met met him at the dock and told him he could not say certain things. Time did not allow Mr. Smith to answer all the questions, but he will be in Detroit on Sunday, November 7 to finish with those he did not have time for and tell all about the Sassoons of Shanghai, who own the town.

[redacted]

[redacted] Ordinarily, I believe both from his callous view of the Pope's situation and from Assistant Turvey's shouted "Hurray for Luther" that Dr. Marion and his associates are anti-Catholic. In fact, a review of the subject to date would show that America Firsters are firm believers in Democracy - for everyone except Jews, Negroes, Catholics, Modernists and Democrats.

"Subject: America First Party; Picketing of Lecture by John Roy Carlson at Town Hall Series in Fisher Theater, Wednesday, October 27.

[redacted]

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[redacted] I did not see G. L. K. S. all day, but he was there.

[redacted]

[redacted]

"When people asked what the literature and who we were, Mr. Linsell would say, 'We're for America First. That's what my boy's fighting for. We're against Communism. Carlson's a Communist.'

"Mrs. Smith's was 'America First - In War - In Peace.' Others were 'Carlson - Anti-Christian'; 'Why Isn't Carlson in the Army?'; 'Carlson Atheist'; 'Carlson is a Fake'; 'Carlson Communist'; 'What is Carlson's Real Name?'.

"Mr. Gamber divided his time between the two picketing groups until Mr. Smith instructed that we join forces and march from the theater entrance to the Boulevard entrance around the corner and back, ad infinitum. Mrs. Smith led.

"Of those who took our leaflet, most were of Dr. Gallup's undecided vote. Only two definite opinions were expressed. A large, rather over-dressed matron said, 'I think it's a disgrace to Detroit.' And the ladies in the picket parade laughed derisively. A well-dressed business man of about 40 shouted 'Good work! I'm for ya!' And we all felt very proud that we had such a fine-looking man supporting us.

"During the question and answer period following Carlson's talk, Mr. (Beatrice) Knowles asked the first question because as he put it, he wanted to be the first to thank Carlson for coming to Detroit; that he had

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told us of his association with Dr. Leon M. Birkhead, so we knew who was supporting him; did Mr. Carlson mean to put the patriotism of L. M. Birkhead ahead of that of such men as Henry Ford, Charles A. Lindbergh, Father Coughlin and others? [redacted]

"The office occupies the 20th floor of the Industrial Bank Building. Room 206. [redacted]

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"At least fifty percent of the attendance at America First meetings in Detroit are women of Mrs. Knowles' group. They are extremely active, and a meeting seldom passes that they do not hand out some type of literature such as the exhibits previously submitted. [redacted]

[redacted] Smith who referred to him as a long-time supporter, named Louis Assab or Assam of St. Louis, Michigan. Smith said he was stationed in North Carolina. Smith also averred he was a Christian. I gathered from conversation later with the young man that he was of the prophetical school of fundamentalist which doesn't greatly care about the way of salvation as long as he can converse glibly on the meaning of the number and color of the feathers in the dragon's tail in Revelations. He said that the war would end and so would the world. He also stated that his comrades were beginning to see the light.

[redacted]

"Mr. Smith's audiences are always capacity crowds. This was no exception. The Maccabees auditorium seats about 450 and about 50 were standing. [redacted] In 'Undercover' Carlson wrote that there were about a thousand at the Maccabees meeting he attended. [redacted]

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crowd, because newspaper accounts will say 'capacity crowd' and no one knows how many the auditorium holds.

"As usual, the crowd was more than 60% women and on the average well past middle age. Socially, they belong to that group which would like to indulge their modest social tastes fully in time of war but points the finger of scorn at the socialites who would pamper their more luxurious tastes to the same limit and at those whose war wages now make it possible to indulge those 'homely joys' which 'Ambition mocks.'

"At this meeting, although it was Sunday, Smith forgot to begin with the Lord's Prayer as our mother's taught us. He also omitted the singing of 'America' and the salute to the Flag.

"Smith will write that the Communists are trying to create fear of food shortages and in his meetings will preach toward the same end, and Dr. Marion will describe ration books as a 'type' of the Mark of the Beast. Smith will cry over freedom of the press and later damn the press because it is owned or controlled by Jews. He protested the picketing of his Denver meeting but picketed Carlson's. He will condemn Drew Pearson but will quote verbatim from his column to substantiate his own statements. He will write or allow the distribution of literature which proclaims that Chaing-Kai Chek is communistic but his speaker, Dean E. Smith will aver that the generalissimo is our greatest friend. He will say we should distrust Russia now because after the millenium (the 1000 years of peace) we must do battle with the hordes of Gog of Magog (Russia); but Dean Smith states that Russia is fighting our battles in the west. None of these contradictions is apparent to Smith's followers.

"He began by saying that because Mr. Dean E. Smith must make train connections for Oklahoma, his introductory remarks would have to be shortened and the promised report on the insidious Sasoons of Shanghai would have to be postponed along with the question and answer period. Obviously, this would call for a return of the speaker to Detroit at a later date.

"He then analyzed the previous Tuesday's election results. He had never been an admirer of Mayor Jeffries, but it appears that recently the Mayor has changed considerably due to the pressure of real Americans. The Mayor has developed a backbone and has become a real America Firster. It was not that Smith was anti-union, he said; on the contrary he was for the unions, but he objected to racketeering in the unions and he did not want the city of Detroit operated by a puppet with union racketeers pulling the strings. And he did not want white folks crowded off the sidewalks by the colored people.

"He next discussed the New York election of a lieutenant governor. He himself knew nothing about the qualifications of the Democratic candidate. For all he knew, he might be a very good America; the result of

the election in New York, therefore, was not a pro-Republican movement, but a definite repudiation of the New Deal. This, in New York, Smith continued, was very heartening because everyone knows there are some mighty queer people in New York. But even New York going Republican was conceivable, but when Kentucky also turned against the New Deal, that was something. Kentucky, the home of 'Dear Alben' Barkley, the president's pet who comes up for re-election next year. The New Deal had wasted millions of dollars on federal projects to re-elect Barkley the last time.

"At this point Smith paused to thank us who picketed Carlson's meeting. He reviewed Carlson's aliases. Said that he was a sincere Nazi-Communist. He said that when Mr. Knowles asked him if he put the patriotism of L. M. Birkhead ahead of that of Ford, Coughlin, Lindbergh, Nye, et al, that Carlson replied that he did (which he did not).

"Smith then drew attention to the soldier on the platform. [redacted] b7D

In referring to Private Assab, Smith was reminded that there was a group organizing in the west to back a constitutional amendment of the amendment establishing an income tax. They would limit the tax to a flat 25% in all instances. The way things stood now, it was impossible for a young farm boy like Private Assab to aspire to the presidency of a large corporation. The present income tax took all the surplus, and although it was supposed to be emergency taxation, anyone knows that when the politicians start taking money, they never release any of it; this applied to Republicans as well as Democrats. We, said Mr. Smith, are going to back that group to the limit.

"Smith repeated his previous review of the globe-trotting senators revelations. He said that Senator Russell of Georgia had recently asked if it was treason to look after the resources and interests of America. He discussed the Moscow conference and said he had some confidential information which he would reveal later. Now, however, all he would say was that he thought the war was begun because Poland was invaded. Why was nothing said at the conference about Poland's boundaries?

"The Sunday services resumed the usual pattern when it came time for the offering; this Smith did not forget. A donation of ten dollars entitled the donor to a simulated leather bound volume of complete issues of The Cross And The Flag to date with the rare first edition autographed and the donor's name in gold on the cover. Any giving two dollars or more would receive a book, 'The Constituion of the United States.' [redacted]

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"Smith then announced the coming meeting November 19 in the Cass Technical High School auditorium when he, Harvey Springer, Mrs. Knowles, Capt. Earl Southard of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Chicago who had been wounded 19 times in the last war; Dr. L. L. Marion; and Charles A. Madden of the American Legion of Pittsburgh, who could recite the Constitution from beginning to end--would speak.

"Gerald Smith then introduced the speaker, Mr. Dean E. Smith, formerly representative of the Standard Oil Co. in the Far East for 20 years. He was not to be confused with a college dean, one of those braintrusters with a mortar board. His first name was Dean; it was not a title.

"Dean Smith began his talk with the same quotation he used in his previous talk at the Book Cadillac--that alleged to have been written on the walls by the Chinese as they came down into Burma to cover the British retreat, which they knew would be read by their Japanese pursuers:

'"The thing we hold against you Japanese above all else (the rape of our women, the destruction of our cities, the murder of our children) is that you have divided us against ourselves, and for this alone, we will settle our score with you 'though it takes a thousand years.'

"Mr. Smith then produced an outline which he said he had 'run across' some years before but 'had thought nothing of it at the time.' The outline contained twelve points toward the building and maintenance of an empire. Some of these points were the dissemination of propaganda to divide the people of the country to be conquered; the fostering of weak leadership in that country; the damning of those who held out against or protested against the propaganda and the weak leadership; the invasion in military force to maintain the weak domestic leadership; the jailing of the opposition leaders; the exploitation and final servitude of the masses of the conquered country. The implications of this outline were that the British were dividing us against ourselves by their propaganda, that they were supporting the weak Roosevelt leadership, that they planned eventually to invade America to maintain that leadership. However, Dean Smith said that this applied to all empires, whether Dutch, Belgian, French, Japanese, German or British. He said it was the pattern of Japanese activity in Asia.

"This was not the fault of the people who run empires because that was their purpose--to maintain their empires; that was the reason the present war was being fought. Imperialists, he said, despise republics. In their dominions they do not permit the natives to mention republics except in the most opprobrious terms. In the mother country, there is no semblance of democracy; the people have no voice whatever in national affairs, no vote except on purely local questions. He stated that some people think that the Englishman awoke one morning and found himself with an empire. That may have

been true of the average Englishman who has no voice in his government but it was not true of those who 'planned it that way.'

"He said the British could not be blamed for being what they were. They have many fine points. Mr. Smith wished that we would emulate them. For one of their virtues is loyalty. They are absolutely loyal to the British Empire. It is said that Britain has no eternal enemies and no eternal friends, but she has her eternal interests; and history proves the truth of this. And to those interests the Englishman is steadfastly devoted.

"One of the first things the Standard Oil Company does with a new employee in the Far East is to call him into a private consultation to warn him against giving out any information to the British employees of the company, because they were sure to convey it to the British authorities if it was advantageous to the Empire. He said that because of their activities in this respect, all the British employees of the National City Bank of New York had been fired in January, 1941, and the bank had them employed in branches all over the world; the bank gave these employees one, two or three years' salary when they let them go, and thought it well worth it.

"The British propagandists themselves could not be blaimed for their activity in America; that was their duty, but it was their American friends we should be on our guard against. 'The lowest rat that slinks along the gutters of our streets today is the sneaking, slimy Anglophile,' said Mr. Smith. This drew such a round of applause that he repeated it twice later; so I got it verbatim.

"There are two classes of Anglophiles, said Mr. Smith; those who would like to get us back into the British Empire and those who merely think the British can do no wrong. (It may be merely coincidence, but neither of the Messrs. Smith have anything to say against the countries with whom we are at war nor their agents in America except in very general terms; they reserve their choicest darts for those with whom we are allied.) At the previous meeting, Dean Smith had confessed admiration for the German candor in saying that although they might lose this war, they had confidence in their stronger leadership eventually to win them mastery of the world. He also admired the Japanese because they liked a strong opponent and despised a weak one.)

"Dean Smith advised against losing our perspective. We need not be 'pro' British because we were allied with them. We need be 'pro' nothing and 'anti' nothing, but should always be pro-American. He quoted numerous catch phrases and epigrams designed to make us lose our perspective. He cited the opposite phrases. He told of an experience he had in Burma when their guide's horse was bogged down in the middle of a river. They had to get him another and stronger horse. Ever after that, he has always said that

'the best place to change horses is in the middle of a stream.' Mr. Dean Smith ended with an appeal for the people to select strong leadership to preserve their freedom.

"Gerald L. K. Smith then took over. He said, 'So now you know how empires are created. By the way, Mr. Smith, may I have a copy of that outline. Who write it?' The other Smith actually stammered before saying, 'I did.'

"The outline of how empires are created which he had 'run across a few years ago but thought nothing of it at the time' was of his own manufacture. One suspects most of Dean Smith's revelations are of similar manufacture. However, Gerald Smith passed over the incident with a quaint bit of circumlocution in which he said how much we admired Mr. Smith's 'candor'.

[redacted]

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"The Mothers and Mr. Knowles handed out Congressional Record reprints of Congresswoman Rankin's speech on the anniversary of Pearl Harbor, uring recipients to pass them on by mail to out-of-towners.

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"Dr. Marion's Discussion of the Moscow Conference:

"Dr. Marion took his text from the book of Daniel (a prophetical book). The part he quoted said in effect: 'And they will sit down with us at our tables and lies and deceit will be on their lips.'

"He said he wouldn't trust 'that Joe Stalin' if he swore on a stack of Bibles as high 'as this temple'. He reminded his audience of what the Bolsheviks had done to the czar's family. (A little study of the czarist regimes might prompt one to ask, 'Is that good or bad?')

"Dr. Marion had just come back from a tour of American army camps. In one camp he said he had supper with the officers, but in touring the camp found that 75 pork chops had been thrown away that night, and there were only 23,000 soldiers stationed in the camp, '11,000 white and 12,000 black'. Dr. Marion does not want to deny our boys food but such things as this must stop. He took up the matter with the camp authorities and they wanted him to discuss it with a lieutenant, but he refused, 'I don't want to talk with any lieutenants; I want to talk to the man in charge.'

"He finally talked with a major although he was told if the interview lasted five minutes, he was lucky. He talked for forty-five and before he was through, according to Dr. Marion, the major was in tears. My informant does not remember the name of the camp, but thinks it was Oglethorpe, but it was somewhere in the south.

"Dr. Marion also had unkind words for the American Gestapo (the FBI). These blackguards, he said, are hounding him no end. He expects that within the next year or so he will be in a concentration camp. In fact, most of us will, with a little rope around our respective necks.

* * * *

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"There were approximately 1200 people present in an auditorium seating 3300. It was the usual crowd, with a few curiosity seekers who had heard the last-minute radio appeal made in an attempt to bolster the crowd. Six were very tough looking gentlemen in work clothes, who walked in like Coxey's army, all in a line.

[redacted] b7D

"The meeting was opened by the singing of the first and last verses of 'America'. Then Marion gave the invocation. This was the much-heralded array of 'jewels'. It started with a glowing promise of at least twenty prominent America Firsters on the stage, including Nye, Hoffman, Mrs. Lundeen. It ended with tickets printed for the appearance of Capt. Earl Southard of Chicago, Chas A. Madden of Pittsburgh, Mrs. Beatrice Knowles, Gerald L. K. Smith, Dr. Leland L. Marion, with Harvey Springer as the piece de resistance. Of these, Earl Southard failed to put in an appearance.

"Smith followed with a review of current events, his usual denunciation of the Chicago Sun, Walter Winchell, the uptown Daily Worker (P.M.), Marshall Field; then he read an article from the downtown Daily Worker, libelling such noble Americans as Gerald L. K. Smith, Chas A. Lindbergh, Senators Wheeler & Nye , Representatives Fish & Hoffman, Chas. Coughlin, et al.

[redacted] rose to his feet, strode down the aisle a few paces, cupped his mouth with his hands, and moved that we start suit for 'slander' against the Communist mouthpiece. A suit for slander against a newspaper would be interesting. I was disappointed no one seconded the motion, and Smith said that [redacted] was in fine fettle tonight, no doubt overjoyed that his sailor son was home, but we shouldn't get into a gutter fight with a rat. Springer jumped to his feet, bent to the microphone and said, 'nor a spittin' contest with a skunk.' b7C

"Charles Madden was the first of the 'jewels' imported from 'the dark unfathomed caves of ocean' and placed resplendant on the America First crown. Before reciting the Declaration, however, he condemned world government and asked with what sort of governments we were being asked to ally ourselves. He began with the Chinese. The regime of Chiang Kai Chek was as dictatorial and ruthless as that of any other dictator in any part of

the world. He was put in power by the Sassoons and other mercenary interests which wanted to keep the Chinese people in a subordinate position. When the generalissimo came to power, in the twenties, he purged the opposition as only a bloody dictator can. Then Madden turned his attention to 'Bloddy Joe' Stalin, who, he said, had killed off all the Christians (leaving only a scant 180,000,000 Russians, all atheists).

"Next Mr. Madden discussed England. There was not a country in Europe, he stated, whose government had not got progressively worse since the American Revolution, and Britain was no exception. Now came the Declaration of Independence, designed to show how perfidious Albion was in 1776, and since she was grown progressively worse, how infamous she must be today.

"He then gave Mrs. Knowles three minutes to speak. She asked permission to run over her time. She said that her audience had probably read of her fight with the school board to put the 'Merchant of Venice' back on the curricula, and the removal of a current events leaflet which the children studied and which was definitely Communistic. It actually had recommended the reading of 'Undercover.'

"Mrs. Knowles said she had a definite interest in 'that book' because she was mentioned in it several times. Her home, she said, is open with hospitality to everyone but she just wished that Derounian or whatever he calls himself would come back some day.

"When the offering was taken, the same premiums were offered as at the previous meeting. The Cross and The Flag up-to-date with the rare first edition autographed for $10.00. A copy of 'The Constitution' for any above $2.00.

"Smith gave Springer practically the same introduction as he did at Springer's first appearance. He also called attention to the presence of two of Springer's old friends, Rev. Love of the Hazel Park tabernacle and the Rev. Bob Farr of the Gilead Baptist Church on Fort Street. The cowboy evangelist, the voice from out of the Rockies, who could thrown a steer as well as he could throw a bureaucrat, etc., etc., was in fine form, histronically speaking. Shortly after he began his talk, his sponsor came down into the audience and talked with Doman. Then he went back up to the platform.

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] Springer was discussing the 'smart bunch' in Washington. 'Maybe this rationing is necessary,' he said, 'but I don't believe it.'

"He told about government men shooting his father-in-law's cattle on their Colorado ranch. (This was probably during the hoof-and-mouth disease epidemic, and was so reported by Philip Adler in the Detroit News, covering the same speech in the Christian Temple in Pontiac, but Springer never mentions the epidemic.) 'It's the same brainpower that's running the OPA that killed those cattle,' he stated; 'It's a smart bunch we have down in Washington. Ya know, I'm not very smart; I jest happen to have a little horse sense. That is, I have a stable mind.'

"He reminisced on 'the good old days'. (All this is an act designed to amuse his audience and to create dissatisfaction with rationing. These seemingly extemporaneous homely, nostalgic reminiscenses are part of a repertoire which he later repeated, word for word, gesture for gesture, at the protest meeting for the Christian Temple in Pontiac. 'Remember the good old days when you could drive your car sixty miles an hour and skin your tires against the curb if you wanted to? Remember when your boy came home from school and could have all the butter he wanted?' (Business of sticking a hungry tongue out of his mouth and slapping an imaginary knife with sweeping strokes across an imaginary slice of bread). 'Now you can't even get a decent hamburger. Yep, it's a smart bunch we have down in Washington.'

"He quoted from the Baruch report of 1936 on rationing to show who was to blame for it all. His prize exhibit was a series of photostats made in Buckingham Palance, planning as early as 1901 for a world government. He also had a map of the world divided into five spheres of influence which he said he had taken to eminent map makers throughout the United States and all had agreed it was the work of Moscow.

"Springer then dropped into his 'crying voice'. He pointed to the Stars and Stripes and said he didn't want to live under any other flag. Under that flag he could argue with his neighbor about politics without fear of arrest, under that flag his brother-in-law stormed the Sicilian beaches, and he knew that his brother-in-law wanted to be buried with that flag draped about his coffin.

"After Springer had finished, Smith announced that the meeting no doubt would show a deficit and contributions would be welcome. At the

(DE 62-1126)

exits would be displayed the 'Western Voice' and 'The Cross and the Flag'.

[redacted]

"Marion closed the meeting with the benediction. [redacted]

[redacted]

b2c
&
b7D

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

"Mr. Smith took over from there and naturally an offering was taken in the Cross and the Flag envelopes. Mrs. Smith was on the platform with him. Petitions were passed out. Smith said he had no concern with Diebel as he was not interested in local politics. He himself was a 'controversial figure' who had known Dr. Marion for many years; in fact, Marion had been best man at his wedding 21 years ago, and he knew Dr. Marion would not lie, and that any man who would say 'hell' and 'damn' and 'G. D.' as Diebel had in the presence of 'this man of God' ought summarily be dismissed from his position of power. But he would not 'dabble with Diebel; no one wants to dabble with Diebel; perhaps the Devil is dabbling with Diebel.' Smith's concern was this local manifestation of a national disease. He said it was all part of a fourth term conspiracy. He wanted to introduce someone who would tell more of the symptoms of that disease, and what actually was behind it. Smith held that the executive bungling was intentional so the Communistic powers that are could say, 'Democracy doesn't work; we'll have to take over.'

"He introduced Springer in previously used terms and Springer responded with a previously used speech. His text was the same as that used in his first Detroit address. The words of Solomon, 'Remove not the ancient landmarks thy fathers have set up.' The text of the speech itself was exactly the same as the Cass Tech speech including the Buckingham photostats and the map from Moscow. After Springer's speech the assistant pastor of the Hazel Park Tabernacle gave the benediction. Love is speaking in Denver at Springer's church.

"The temple had been full. Someone told me it seats two thousand, but it doesn't seat over six hundred even with the overflow room open.

* * * * *

[redacted]

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FBI/DOJ

[redacted]

[redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, related the following information: b2D

Informant stated that SMITH had been in touch with EDWARD JONES of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and that in fact JONES had sent a check to SMITH in the amount of $650.00 for the alleged purpose of defering the expenses of publishing JONES' book "And So They Indicted Me." Informant related that apparently JONES had had a great deal of difficulty in having his book published in New York or Louisiana and that SMITH had volunteered to have the book published in Detroit, Michigan, and that in fact the book was in the course of being published at the present time under SMITH'S supervision.

Informant related that MRS. BEATRICE KNOWLES, a long-time follower of SMITH and interested in the various mothers' groups in this area, [redacted] b7c

This same informant advised the Detroit Field Office that SMITH and HARVEY SPRINGER were attempting to organize the youth in the City of Detroit to combat the new organization which was formerly known as the Young Communists League. SMITH and SPRINGER proposed to organize the youth in this area under the name "Youth for Christ" and in this connection informant advised that both MR. and MRS. SMITH had made various calls to local newspapers in the Detroit area pointing out to the newspapers the fact that the Young Communists League was organizing again under an assumed name. As a result of this quite a great deal of newspaper publicity has been given to the change-over by the Young Communists League.

Through this same informant information was received to the effect that DR. LELAND MARION of Pontiac, Michigan, a long-time follower of SMITH, was apparently having some difficulty with the local OPA office in Pontiac with regard to the number of gasoline coupons allotted to him by the OPA. After the OPA had refused to increase MARION'S gasoline allottment, SMITH advised MARION to set up a picket line outside the offices of the OPA in Pontiac, said picket line allegedly being formed for the purpose ofopposing the OPA's attitude toward the church. MARION claimed through the newspapers that he was the head of the largest church group in Pontiac, Michigan, and that he had been advised by the local rationing official that the churches did not need gasoline coupons; that the gasoline coupons could be

used to better advantage by war workers, etc. Actual picketing of the OPA office in Pontiac took place on November 26th and at that time although there was quite a great deal of publicity no unusual incidents took place. The informant further related that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had allegedly enlisted the aid of ROGER BALDWIN, head of the American Civil Liberties Union, with reference to the refusal of the Buffalo authorities to grant space for SMITH'S meeting in Buffalo.

This informant related that Senator NYE's attorney had allegedly reviewed the book "Undercover" and had advised that nothing could be done by SMITH in the way of any legal action. SMITH recently contacted Congressman JOHN RANKIN in Washington, D. C., at which time SMITH advised RANKIN relative to his interpretation of the recent municipal election in Detroit, Michigan. SMITH expressed the opinion at this time that it was the most phenomenal election held north of the Mason-Dixon line.

In a discussion with Reverend LELAND MARION of Pontiac, MARION advised that he had recently visited his nephew at Camp Sutton in North Carolina and cited the waste of food and the poor morale of the soldiers and also cited the fact that his nephew was receiving very poor medical treatment. MARION stated that all the firearms had been taken away from the men except the police for fear of rioting against the negroes. This same informant also advised that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had recently advised Captain EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago that SOUTHARD and he might work out some sort of a budget so that SOUTHARD might have a weekly drawing account with SMITH.

At the time JOHN ROY CARLSON, author of the book "Undercover" was to speak at a Town Hall meeting at the Fisher Theatre Building in Detroit on October 27, 1943, SMITH made arrangements for a picket line to be set up outside the Fisher Theater Building. In this connection informant related that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had communicated with the office of [redacted] at the Ford Motor Company, at which time SMITH advised [redacted] that in his opinion [redacted] should send some men to cover the meeting to be addressed by CARLSON. b7c

Informant related further that SMITH recently had been in touch with a DR. ROBERT RETCHUM (phonetic) of a Detroit Baptist Church, at which time SMITH expressed great admiration for the doctor's viewpoint and at that time advised the doctor that he (SMITH) would make arrangements for the doctor to be introduced to MR. HENRY FORD inasmuch as he (SMITH) was of the opinion FORD would be interested in his ideas.

[redacted] b7D

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[redacted]

b7c
b7D

A review of the instant file reflects that [redacted] of the German-American Bund, stated during the course of an interview that sometime during the latter part of 1937 or the early part of 1938 [redacted] of New York communicated with him [redacted] arranging for a conference to be held with Subject SMITH at the Pennsylvania Hotel in New York City. [redacted] allegedly accepted this invitation but when he arrived at the hotel SMITH was not present. [redacted] stated that he had had several minutes conversation with [redacted] at which time [redacted] attempted to describe some type of internal dissention or disagreement within SMITH'S organization, although [redacted] was unable to give detailed information in this regard. [redacted] however, was under the impression that [redacted] wanted him [redacted] to exhibit his influence and prestige with SMITH apparently in [redacted] behalf. [redacted] allegedly met with [redacted] and SMITH at the Pennsylvania Hotel later on in the afternoon on that same day but he only discussed general matters with SMITH for approximately five or ten minutes. He stated neither [redacted] nor his organization were associated with SMITH and his only contact with SMITH was as set forth above. [redacted] stated that he had met [redacted] on four or five occasions prior to the above meeting.

b7c
b7D

The file further reflects that under date of November 24, 1943, [redacted] advised the Detroit Office that [redacted] for Bernard Doman, office manager for GERALD L. K. SMITH. [redacted] advised that all payments for these services were made by DOMAN with a check bearing the stamp, "America First Committee."

b7c
b7D

Under date of December 4, 1943, the Detroit Office received a letter from MR. JOHN C. LEHR, United States Attorney at Detroit, Michigan, at which time MR. LEHR advised that on December 3, 1943, he had been contacted

by a delegation of CIO representatives headed by [redacted] and that the delegation was complaining of statements made by Reverend SPRINGER at a church function in Pontiac, Michigan, the Tuesday evening preceding. MR. LEHR advised in his letter that as far as his office was concerned the matters with reference to the OPA difficulties encountered by Reverend MARION would be appropriately handled by the Office of Price Administration. The delegation also showed to MR. LEHR at that time a copy of a letter which they had written to the Attorney General demanding a Federal Grand Jury investigation of this matter. MR. LEHR stated in his letter that he had advised the group that in the event the Department felt the information set forth in their communication was such to justify an investigation that the authorities would act accordingly.

b2c

[redacted]

[redacted]

b7D

The various informants contacted during the course of the instant investigation turned over to the Detroit Office a great deal of miscellaneous literature published by SMITH during the time this investigation was conducted. These particular publications are not being described in detail at this point but are being sent as enclosures to the Bureau with its copies of this report.

ENCLOSURES: TO THE BUREAU

Miscellaneous publications distributed by Subject SMITH.

- PENDING -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE NEW YORK OFFICE at New York, New York

* Will interview [redacted] for pertinent information in their files concerning GERALD L. K. SMITH.

* Will contact the law firm, Field and Field, 60 East 42nd Street, New York City, and secure a copy of the statement which EDWARD ANTHONY (PAT) POWERS advised he made to this law firm in connection with his suit against subject for back salary of $1,300.00 and determine the dates of POWERS' employment by subject.

Will conduct appropriate investigation and attempt to locate [redacted] as requested by the Bureau.

THE DETROIT OFFICE at Detroit, Michigan

Will maintain contact with confidential informants previously developed during the course of the investigation of this case and submit information received from them in appropriate report form.

ALL DTL

- PENDING -

(DE 62-1126)

INFORMANTS

[redacted]

b7c
b2D

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

TITLE:
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH
with aliases; Gerald L. K.
Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY

CHARACTER
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SEDITION; SECURITY MATTER

SA [redacted]

b7c

DATE: 12-13-43

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JPHa:WHJ

RECORDED 62-43818 — 395

Date: December 31, 1943

To: SAC, Detroit

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was, et al;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C; SEDITION.

Reference is made to your letter of November 30, 1943, setting forth

[redacted]

The Bureau is very much interested in [redacted]

b7D

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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JAN 1 1944 P.M.
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

NY FILE NO. 100-19707 MVR

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK, NEW YORK	12/27/43	11/19,22; 12/10/43	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was. THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY-G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Details of suit against GERALD L.K. SMITH by EDWARD A. POWERS set out. Correspondence between SMITH and POWERS reflected method of working and outline of document describing the formation and sources of financial support of the COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION summarized. [redacted] for [redacted] but unavailable for interview. b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8 BTS/[illegible]

P

REFERENCES: BUREAU FILE NO. 62-43818.
Bureau letter dated 10/15/43 to New York.
Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 9/14/43 at New York, NY.
Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 11/27/43 at Washington, D.C.
Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 10/11/43 at New York, N.Y. b7c

ENCL 29

DETAILS: AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

At the New York Supreme Court, New York City, file number 18687(1937) relating to the case of EDWARD A. POWERS vs. GERALD L.K.SMITH was reviewed by the writer and the following information noted:

A complaint dated May 24, 1937 was filed on August 30,1937 which alleged (1) that on or about November 15, 1936 the plaintiff and defendant entered into a joint venture or co-partnership under the firm name and style of "COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION", for the purpose of engaging in the business of combing a large group of citizens of this country into one group under the leadership of the defendant

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: E.E. Conroy SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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-New York

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for the purpose of combating certain subversive activities and political theories now in this country.....and for the further purpose of collecting membership dues, contributions of money, lecture administrative fees, and the further purpose of selling printed speeches and other literature pertaining to the activities of said business.

It was also allegated that the plaintiff and the defendant entered into the business under an agreement that the same should continue for an indefinite period until dissolved by mutual consent, that the plaintiff should contribute his business experience and training and that the defendant should make the necessary lectures and speeches designated to encourage and promote the business, also to attract members and to secure contributions, and that the plaintiff and defendant should divide the net profits against which the plaintiff was to receive a drawing account to be agreed upon.

Second, that on or about the 15th day of April 1937 the defendant took exclusive possession of the partnership books and assets and then ever since has prevented the plaintiff from having access thereto.

Third, that one of the principal items of income to the said venture or co-partnership was the subsidies or contributions of certain prominent persons in the city of New York and elsewhere, whose names were disclosed to the plaintiff by the defendant, who were of the opinion that the activities of the COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION would inhere to and benefit or promote their political views. The amounts so received by the COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION was kept secret by the defendant to whom such payments were made and until there is an accounting, the plaintiff has no way of forming an accurate opinion of the amount of these subsidies and contributions.

Fourth, that the plaintiff and defendant collected as contributions and lecture administrative fees approximately the sum of $11,610 and that the expenses were approximately $3800.

The complaint goes on to allege that the plaintiff has performed his agreement, but has received only $357 and the business has earned approximately $7800, but that these estimates are only approximate since the defendant refused to account for the profits. The plaintiff demanded that the joint venture or co-partnership be adjudged dissolved, that an accounting be had and that the assets be divided after the payment of debts and costs.

The defendant filed an answer in which he denied every allegation in the complaint except that the plaintiff received $357.

The defendant served a demand for a verified bill of particulars on the plaintiff, but according to the records, it was never filed. On January 31, 1938 a stipulation was filed agreeing that the action should be discontinued

62-43818-396

without costs.

It was ascertained that REGINALD FIELD attorney of the firm of FIELD & FIELD, 60 East 42nd Street, who was the attorney for EDWARD O. POWERS, is now serving in the United States Army. It was learned, however, that his files are in the possession of [redacted] b

[redacted] was contacted and after obtaining permission from the wife of REGINALD FIELD made available the file in the case entitled "EDWARD A. POWERS vs. GERALD L. K. SMITH.

A reveiw of this file reflected the following items which are believed to be of interest to this investigation:

A memorandum dated April 1, 1937 addressed to Mr. GERALD L.K.SMIT signed by EDWARD A. POWERS, states," As a result of meeting last night with the five Action Group Leaders, one representing each Borough of the city, plans were laid for a big meeting in Jamaica. JAMES G. LAW, a former member of the Veterans Reserve Corps will be keyman in the building of this meeting. He will combine the 115 men of the Reserve Corps, who live in Queens, with other organizations in that Borough, and our action committee men who live there will be put to work in building up this meeting. This will be our meeting, we will direct it and control through our action group.

"I believe that we can take in, as a result of this meeting, the 115 men of the Veterans Reserve Corps and a great many new members which our action groups will develop between now and this meeting."

An unsigned memorandum to POWERS dated March 24, 1937 states, "Concerning use of the city workers. No outside worker shall be appointed permanently until he has passed through an experimentalperiod which shall be characterized as follows: (1) He must submit his own application for approval. (2) He must submit five other applications for approval secured by him. (3) He must then proceed to arrange a meeting to be addressed either by Mr. SMITH or someone whom Mr. SMITH will designate. All names collected by the prospective worker shall be forwarded to the COMMITTEE headquarters to Mr. GERALD L.K.SMITH, for the purpose of legitimate bookkeeping. However, the total amount from his first 50 applications will be returned to him by check signed by the treasurer of the committee. If he continues his work in the next 150 applications, one-half of the dues shall be returned to him. After he has secured 200 applications, he shall then submit himself for a new and permanent agreement with the COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION."

A memorandum dated April 1, 1937 addressed to SMITH from POWERS referred to a proposed meeting to be held at St. Veronica's School Auditorium, New York City, on April 15, 1937. It states that Mr. DAN MALONEY, who is the

president and founder of the GUILD OF HONOR, an organization of Catholic men, was calling together his group with wives and families, which should approximate about 750 to 1000. The memorandum requests that no members of the staff other than Mr. REILLEY and POWERS be assigned to handle the details of this meeting. The title of the proposed talk was "RELIGION VS. COMMUNISM." POWERS stated,"I believe that this is a good title and will cause a lot of favorable publication for our movement." He added that "the 500 members of the Guild of Honor will unquestionably become Action Group Members after your talk."

A letter dated April 1, 1937 to SMITH from POWERS enclosing a letter from IRA HARRELSON, an attorney at Atlanta, Ga., which POWERS characterized "one of the most important documents we have received here in this office to date." This letter dated March 30, 1937 calls attention to the Federal Statute making it a criminal offense to create a scheme or a device to defraud or in any manner use the mails in furtherance thereof. It suggests that if there is any way that JIM FARLEY could publish the leader "our movement would not hesitate to do so." The writer advised POWERS to keep his files under lock and key and to refuse to give any information to postal inspectors or Federal officers, and warned him that such information would be used against him.

The file also contained a typewritten document which outlines POWERS' first meeting and his subsequent association with GERALD L.K.SMITH. Photostatic copies of this document are being furnished to the Bureau and the office of origin with this report, and one copy is being retained in the New York file of this case. The following is a summary of its contents:

POWERS first met GERALD L.K. SMITH through THOMAS J. FARRELL, publisher of the WORLD DIGEST, in October 1936. SMITH told POWERS that he was contemplating the development of a national organization to fight communism and requested POWERS to"see what you can get me for $75,000 in the way of a radio network", and that "some of his very good friends were considering subsidizing his organization after Election Day."

On November 7th or 8th POWERS submitted a complete plan for a National Broadcast. Thereafter he had almost daily meetings with SMITH for the purpose of discussing developments of Smith's plans for the proposed organization.

During this period SMITH told POWERS of his very good friends with whom he was negotiating to subsidize the organization. He stated that the keyman of this group was BELL, President of the American Cynamid Co. and Treasurer of the Republican Party, and that some of the members of the group were BROWN, President of Johns-Manville, and MARSH, an Insurance executive. He stated this was the main group from which he hoped to obtain subsidy. He stated that he did not solicit them but that they called him and asked if he

would organize such an organization as he and POWERS then contemplated.

SMITH later told POWERS that he was going to be subsidized by BELL and a group of his associates, but that he would have to wait until BELL returned to New York from California, where he was ill. POWERS induced SMITH to start the organization in a small way before BELL returned and at SMITH's suggestion contacted one [redacted] nd [redacted] With the assistance of these men, a small meeting was organized to hear the plans and purposes of the COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION. The first meeting was held on or about February 15, 1937 and was attended by approximately thirty people, all of whom were brought through POWERS' personal efforts.

Shortly before this meeting [redacted] and a [redacted] visited SMITH, obviously for the purpose of telling him that [redacted] was saying that he had to pay off to GERALD SMITH on the income from the slot machine racket in New Orleans to keep SMITH from exposing the situation. SMITH and POWERS discussed the advisability of his "cutting in on the take" and POWERS advised SMITH against it. SMITH finally accepted POWERS advice but stated that he was justified in taking such money as he used it for the development of the COMMITTEE and that besides this money was being used to fight his political friends in Louisiana.

The COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION was financed in the beginning by $1000, which was paid by [redacted] for SMITH's efforts in his behalf to obtain the trucking business of the UNITED FRUIT COMPANY. The payment was made in two $500 checks made payable to cash which were endorsed by EDWARD POWERS. (Smith allegedly asked POWERS to try and get the money on the checks without endorsement, so that the records could be made to show the money as a contribution to the COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION.)

When BELL returned to New York City, SMITH met him at the Union League Club. After this meeting SMITH had told POWERS in private that BELL had said the only thing which prevented him from providing subsidy was to devise a method by which he could get the money to SMITH without destroying both of them. After that SMITH became very secretive with POWERS and told him he was to forget that he had ever mentioned BELL's name and that he had sworn an oath to hold the contact with him in absolute confidence.

POWERS wrote a brochure entitled "REBUILDING AMERICA", which was used by the Committee for the promotion of membership. He also claimed credit for devising such expressions as "action committee men", "action group","action group leader" and other terms used by the Committee. After the first meeting, daily meetings were held at the HOtel Pennsylvania for four weeks. On one occasion when POWERS met SMITH in a restaurant for a private meeting, he opposed him on the policy which he was following, and SMITH allegedly became

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quite indignant and stated that he was running the organization and that his ideas were the only ones to be considered. This, according to POWERS, was the beginning of the split between SMITH and him and after that SMITH was cool towards POWERS and insisted on sending orders to him through other persons in the office.

[redacted] was located at [redacted] telephonically advised that he was perfectly willing to co-operate in this matter and that he would furnish any information which is available. He stated, however, that he is working at the United States Post Office in New York City, and requested that the interview with him be postponed until after the Christmas season. [redacted] stated that he makes this request because he is presently working more than twelve hours a day and is on the night shift at the Post Office. b7c b7

It has been ascertained that HENRY W. MARSH, for whom a lead was set out to interview in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 11/27/43 at Washington, D.C., is deceased. It is deemed unadvisable to cover the lead to ascertain from the American Petroleum Institute, 30 Rockefeller Center, New York City if SMITH received payment for speeches in behalf of that organization. This lead will not be covered by the New York office unless requested by the Bureau or by the office of origin. b7c

P E N D I N G

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

b7c

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK-Will interview [redacted] New York City, for complete information concerning his association with GERALD L.K. SMITH, and ascertain particularly if he has any knowledge of SMITH's connection with subversive groups or individuals.

110-19207

My first meeting with Gerald L.K.Smith was brought about through the efforts of Thomas J.Farrell,publisher of the World Digest,sometime during the early part of October 1936. The first meeting between us took place in the Waldorf - Astoria where I was Mr. Smith's guest for luncheon. He was accompanied by who he identified as his secretary and I was accompanied by an associate from the office of the Frank Presbrey Company where I was employed as an advertising account exective. At this meeting Smith told me that he was contemplating thedevelopment of a national organization to fight communism and talked to me a great length of putting together a radio network. He said to me "See what you can get me for $75,000.00" at the same time telling me that some of "his very good friends" were considering subsidizing his organization after Election Day.

Shortly after this meeting I attended at Smith's request a meeting at the New York Hippodrome where he spoke on the subject of "The New Deal and world Communism". After this meeting accompanied by Mr.Farrell I visited Smith in his apartment in the Warwick Hotel,where he discussed in the presence of Mr.Farrell his organization and the plans to be developed.

A few days later he left for a speaking tour to return Nov 5th. at which time he asked me to have the radio plan ready for him. He returned to New York on the 7th. of Nov. and I saw him either that day or on the 8th. at which time I sub-

mitted to him a complete radio plan for national broadcast together with schedule and budgets of costs. I also submitted a series of radio maps which are now hanging on the wall of his headquarters in the Hotel Pennsylvania.

Almost daily meetings followed this one for the purpose of discussing the devlopments of his plans for the proposed organization. It was during this time that we began to develop definite ideas about the type and technique to be employed. The week following Thanksgiving I was discharged from the Presbrey Company. Immediately after this I had a serious talk with Smith concerning my future connection with the organization I told him that I could not afford to work for nothing and that I must know definitely if he was contemplating employing me in the completed organization. He replied in the affirmative but stated that at that time there were no funds available to pay me and suggested that I continue working and as soon as we got organized or obtained subsidy money I would be paid for all services I had furnished, the amount of weekly salary to be agreed upon later and to be retroactive. I agreed to proceed with the work on that understanding.

On two different occasions after this meeting Smith suggested that we should draw up an agreement between us covering our understanding. I answered that we should wait until the organization really got under way as I felt that the time to enter any such contract was when we knew just how much salary could be paid.

During this period Smith told me of his very good friends with whom he was then negotiating to subsidize the organization.

covering our understanding. I answered that we should wait until the organization got under way as that was the time to draw an agreement that would have a permanent value that to draw and agreement at that particular moment would be unfair to both of us.

During this period Smith told me of "his very good" friends who he was then negotiating with to subsidize his organization. Sometime along in the early part of Novemeber at a meeting in the late afternoon at a restaurant on Sixth Avenue, next to the Warwick Hotel, he told me who these very good friends were. He had just come from a meeting in the Union League Club with them and was very enthusiastic over the possibility of a quick subsidy. He stated that the key man of his group was Bell, president of the American Cynamid Co. and Treasurer of the Republican Party and that some of the members of the group were Brown, President of Johns-Mansville and Marsh and Insurance executive. This, he stated was the main group from which he hoped to obtain subsidy. He stated that he did not solicit them but that they had called him and asked if he would organize such an organization as we then contemplated.

It was during this period that together we evolved the name for the organization of the "Committee of 1,000,000" This was arrived at during an afternoon meeting in the Ambassador Hotel sometime during the middle of November, when I submitted to him the first draft of an organization chart which I had work out at his suggestion over a period of two weeks.

At no time during this period did Smith ever give me money yet I worked consistently for his plan, by laying out

ideas suggestions, budgets and organization plans. First I would devise a rough draft and then we would discuss the subject and I would then finish. Everything done during this period was turned over to Smith and they were designed primarily to interest the above mentioned men in making up the necessary subsidy. The amount discussed by Smith and myself at that time was $25,000 for a three months period and I so drew a budget, setting the starting territory in the State of Ohio. Substantiation of my working with Smith over this period can be had from the following people who knew of my operations and to whom I introduced Smith.

[redacted]

T.J.Farrell

[redacted]

Smith left New York one week before Christmas to spend the holidays in the west with his family. Before he left I told him that I had spent considerable money of my own on this work and that in order to complete the prospectus he had asked me to do that I would have to spend more and that at that time I did not have it. I suggested that he give me about $50 to $60 and he said that he couldn't at that moment but would wire it to me from Chicago, within a few days. This he failed to do but upon his return to New York on the 2nd. of Jan 1937 he gave me $20.00 saying that he was expecting more shortly and would let me have some. It was at this time that he showed me a newspaper from Beloit Wisconsin containing a front page story about said organization.

We immediately plunged into the work of completing

the plan of organization and working on the final presentation of the prospectus for the subsidation group. At this time I wrote a brochure which is now being used by the Committee for promotion memberships. The title of this brochure is "Rebuilding America". Also during the first part of Janurary I designed the emblem now used by the Committee, having perviously during the holiday season written a complete organization set-up, devising such expressions as are now used by the Committee as Action Committeemen, Action Group, Action Groups Leader, and other terms now used by the Committee of 1,000,000 and Mr. Smith in his organization work. In fact, a complete terminology was originated by me for Smith in this work, including a technique of orgnaization by geometrical progression from one person to five in an almost automatic sequence.

Upon the completion of all these plans and ideas I started negotiations with the Marstin Press of 245 East 45th Street through a very close friend of mine for a long period of time by the name of , for the printing of the Brochures, Membership Application Blanks, Membership Cards, Letter heads, and other printed matter necessary to the complete setting up of the organization . I brought to Mr. Smith's apartment in the Warwick Hotel and as a result of this visit . was given the order for printing, signed by Smith on Jan 26th. 1937, although several proofs had been worked on by firm about a week previous to the actual placing of the order.

Also about this time I introduced Smith to a former associate of mine with the Presbrey Company

who was anxious to join with Mr. Smith and myself in setting up and operating the Committee. Mr Smith told him at breakfast one morning in the Warwick Hotel that he was going to be subsidized by Bell and a group of his associates., but also stated that at that time Bell was sick in California and was expected back in New York about the 15th.of Feb. at which time we would be in a position to go a head.

A few days after this meeting with , while Mr. Smith and myself were at breakfast with Mrs.Smith I convinced him of the wisdom of not waiting until Bell came back to New York but to start organization in a small way so that we could test our technique with small group meetings held at the hotel in which he was living. Accordingly I contacted , at Mr. Smith's suggestion one who lives at the University Club with a view towards having him call a meeting os a few friends so that they could hear the plans and purposes of the Committee of 1,000,000 from Smith. agreed to do this and promised that he would get in touch with me at the Warwick Hotel.

At about this time I was introduced to a by Mr. Smith who again identified me as chief worker in organization of his plan. Several talks with ensued culminating with his joining Mr. Smith and myself in the development of our first meeting., at which he was present as an active worker. This meeting took place or or about Feb.15th.1937. and was attended by about 30 people all of them brought as a result of my personal efforts. I introduced Mr.Smith at this meeting and at many subsequent meetings.

About a week pervious to this meeting Smith had ~~introduced me to a~~

introduced me to a [redacted] after telling me that he had come to his apartment in the Warwick Hotel in company with A [redacted] who is supposed to be an alderman from the lower east side of New York. The purpose of this visit was to tell Mr.Smith that [redacted] was saying that he had to pay off to Gerald Smith on the income from the slotmachine racket in New Orleans to keep Gerald Smith from exposing the situation. I was entirely unfamiliar with the situation and knew only at that time what Smith told me. He exstablished [redacted] as being interested in having Smith talk to [redacted] pres of the United Fruit with a view of ~~[illegible]~~ obtaining for [redacted] trucking concern the business of the United Fruit Company. Smith told me to talk to [redacted] about this matter and to make some arrangments with [redacted] whereby it would be profitable for us to do this for him . [redacted] and myself had two meetings in Mr.Smith's apartment at the Warwick Hotel and discussed the arrangments to be made. I insisted that [redacted] pay $1000.00 for the services of Smith in soliciting [redacted] in advance and that if he obtained the trucking business as a result of Smith's efforts he would pay an additional $2500.00 The transaction was to be in cash and he agreed to these terms stating that he would have the cash in my hands on the 13th. of Feb.

It was at this time and the day following the first meetin in the Hotel Warwick that we were asked to vacate the hotel by the management. Through the accquaintainship of [redacted] who by now was active in the work of the Committee along with [redacted] we contracted for organization headquarters in the Hotel

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Pennsylvania, opening same on or about Feb, 18th headquarters in Room 131 and 132 at the hotel.

The negotiations proceeded with , after Mr. Smith accompanied by myself made a visit to , office on or about Feb 11th. at which time we spent about an hour in his office at Pier 7 No River. while Mr. Smith endeavored to have award the business to telling him that had done a great favor for him(Smith) and that in return he would like to see profit with the trucking business. I came away from this meeting very much unimpressed with Mr.Smith's ability to swing this deal. the final upshot of this conference was to have tell us to see a regarding this situation and if we did not receive satisfaction to bring to meet him personally.

I reported the results of this meeting to in the organization headquarters room on the Pennsylvania on or about Feb.20th. at which time he in the presence of his treasurer gave me a check made to the order of cash for $500.00 as the first part of the agreed price of Smith's services of $1000,00. The following day I met at his bank in the Woolworth buliding where he identified me to the cashier for the cashing of the check. ~~I endorsed the check contrary to Smith's instruction not to do so but felt that the deal was made in good faith and if it was ever needed to prove why or if I did get the money I was covered by check endorsement~~ Smith asked me to go and get the money on the check without my endorsement so that the records could be made to show the money as a contribution to the campaign of a million

One week later accompanied by I visited in the United Fruit Company offices and he turned the deal down flat.

I reported this meeting to without holding anything back and told him that the only thing to do was to have Smith bring him direct to . This he agreed was the next step. The next day he sent the balnace of $500.00 to me in another check made out to cash. This check was also endoresed by me after I had been identified at s bank, the Irving Trust Company Woolworth Building Branch, and I received payment.

All this money was kept by me and spent on the business of the Committee of 1,000,000 although had stated in the presence of his attorney that he doen't care who got the money and the only thing he put it up for was for the services of Gerald Smith in obtaining that business for him. has also stated that he did not recognize me in the transaction except in so far as I represented Smith and that Smith had told him that any deal I made would be entirely staisfactory to him. and that he would carry through on the terms. At no time did Smith ever discuss money with

With Smith's knowledge and consent I had another conference with relative to the slot machine business in New Orleans. Smith and I discussed the advisability to his cutting in on the take and I advised him against it. Very reluctanly he accepted my decision, saying that he was justified in taking such money if he used it for the developemtn of the Committee and that besides this money was being used to fight his friends politically in Louisianna. Nothing ever developed out of this situation for I never did discuss it again with Smith or anyone else.

During this period all the arrangements with the Pennsylvania Hotel were made by me in Smith's name and the Hotel people recognized me as the operating director of the organization, responsbile for the payment of bills and all that went on in the hedaquarters rooms. I issued orders to the hotel and hired members of the staff including who was general secretary. All the members including, looked to me for and followed order issued by me without in any way checking with Mr. Smith I handled all cash and paid all bills. Immediately upon the receipt of the money from I purchased in my name as director of the Committee of 1,000,000 $386,00 worth of office equipment from the Regan Office Furniture Co. at 18 East 40th.Street. Mr. Smith never saw the furniture until one week after it had been delivered at the headqparters. I bouth this furniture on a deferrsi payment plan paying $85.00 down and giving my notes for the blance in three equal payments signing them as director of the Committee making myself personally responsible for the entire transaction.

During the entire period of organization I was in touch with three advertising accounts I had served while with the Presbrey company although having no income whatsoever from them. In discusssin with over income from the work of the Committee he suggested that I contact The Wilson H.Lee Company and advertsising and printing concern with a view towrads having them handle these accounts and that they would pay me for them. In accordance with this arranged

a meeting with Mr.Griswold,president of Rogers-Kellogg-Stillson Company a New York affiliate of the Lee Company and Mr.John Demarest,president of the Lee Company. After discussion an agreement was made between myself and Mr Demarest that I would turn these accounts,namely the Mailliard Candy Co. World Digest and the Dominician Republic over to the Lee Company and in return I would be paid $900.00 at the rate of $150.00 per week. It was also agreed that I would devote all my time to building up the Committee of 1,000,000 and that they would assign one of their men to handle the above mentioned business. Accordingly I wrote to each one of these accounts telling them of my affiliation with the Lee Company and urging themto place their business through them,which Mailliard Candy company did, and after a meeting with the World Digest it was found out that the Lee Company could not meet their terms and business did not materialize. It was also agreed that I would use whatever influence I might have with the Committe to place all printing business through the Lee Company,or any radio business and for this I was to receive a percentage of the profits of the company,which I was to split with and Smith. Smith was fully aware of the conditions of this arrangements and at the time I told him about it commented that I would work for the committee with a free mind and that my salary would be made up to me when money was available. For two weeks Smith cashed my check for $150.00 so that he was fully aware of the amount and terms. This agreement was consumated sometime around the early part of Feb.

About one week after the opening of headquarters in the Pennsylvania I hired at Mr.Smith's suggestion a as publicity director. Mr. Smith after interviewing

told him that his salary arrangements would have to be made with me as I was in entire charge of the office. I accordingly made arrangement that he was to be paid $100.00 per week,but would only draw $45.00 and that the remaining would be retro active. I asked Mr.Smith about this arrangement and he consented

At this time it was agreed to bring up to New York from Louisiana, I accordingly sent him $56.00 for transportation.He arrived in New York on the 21st. of Feb. Upon his arrival here Smith told him that he would have to work under me as I was in complete charge of the New York Office.

All during this period we held daily meeting in the Pennsylvania Hotel and for many nights in a row I would not reach my home until one or two o'clock in the morning and be back in my office at nine. This kept up for four weeks until at a meeting with Smith in Child's restaurant one night I opposed him on the policy he was following. He grew wuite indignant that I should oppose him and stated that he was running the organization and that his ideas were the only ones to be considered. This was the begginiing of the split between us and after that he was cold towards me and insisted on sending me orders through other people in the office. That night I told him that money was running out and that we would have to get some more soon. He again referred to the fact that Bell was due back in town within a few days and that then our troubles about money would be over.

Bell arrived in town within a few days after that an an appointment was set for Smith to meet him at the Union League Club. After this meeting Smith took me in a private

room and told me that Bell had said that the only thing that would hold him up as far as subsidy was concerned was to devise some way to get the money to Smith without destroying both. After this Smith became very secretive with me and covered up by stating that I was to forget that he ever mentioned Bell's name to me that he had sworn an oath to hold the contact with him in absolute confidence.

Shortly after this [redacted] who had been with us all this time as a member of our staff introduced me to a [redacted] who he recommended very highly from the standpoint of rasing money for organization work. I took [redacted] over to Mr. Smith and they had a long conference at breakfast. Mr Smith told me on the telephone that [redacted] was alright and that we should try him out with a few contacts to see what he could do. I told [redacted] of this decision and he asked me for a letter indicating his authority to solicit support for the organization. When Mr.Smith heard of this letter he became very indignantand recovered the letter from [redacted] but placed [redacted] on a salary of $50.00 per week to sell tickets for our Town Hall meeting paying him his first week's salary when tickets which he was to sell and get the money.

After this incident I was completely on the outside with Mr.Smith. He ignored me and gave order over my head to other members of the staff.

It was at this time that he set my salary at $100.00 per week with $66.00 to be paid out of the subsidy and the rest out of income produced by the Committee.

JPHa:WHJ
1-6-44

RECORDED 62-75875-398

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

35789

For your further information in connection with your consideration of this case, there is attached a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at New York City on December 27, 1943.

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A photostatic copy of the typewritten document mentioned in the second paragraph of page four of the report is also attached for your further information.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/6/82 BY SP-8 OTS/MC

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
☆ JAN 7 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Laird
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/24/57

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 23

PAGES REVIEWED: 99

PAGES RELEASED: 86

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

13a JPHa:

62-43818
SAC, Detroit

January 14, 1944

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

You will recall that in recent reports submitted in this case several references have been made to a book entitled, "And So They Indicted Me," written by one J. Edward Jones. Subject Smith is apparently very much interested in this book and has reportedly gone to the extent of assisting in arranging for its publication and distribution. You will recall that in your letter of November 18, 1943, you furnished a copy of a leaflet distributed by Smith under date of October 15, 1943, making particular reference to the book.

The Bureau desires that you secure a copy of this book as soon as possible for transmittal to the Bureau. The Bureau would further appreciate your furnishing any other data now available to you indicating the exact part played by Smith in connection with arranging for the publication of the book. Although it is clear that Smith in connection with selling subscriptions for his magazine, "The Cross and the Flag," has disseminated copies of the book and he apparently assisted Jones to some extent in arranging for the publication of the book, it is not definitely clear from the data heretofore submitted as to whether Smith himself actually published the book for Jones or merely perfected certain preliminary arrangements toward its publication.

Please furnish a copy of the book and the data requested as soon as possible.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-PAC/ab

62-43518-399
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 17 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Gesse

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
JAN 1 1944 P.M.
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

55

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Laird
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Searles
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
December 27, 1943

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-8BTJ/MLW
ON 10/6/82

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; Et al
INTERNAL SECURITY (G); SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth below the substance of information obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, during the period from November 29 through December 19, 1943.

Informant advised under date of December 1, 1943, SMITH was in contact with Congressman CLARE HOFFMANN relative to the dispute which Reverend LELAND MARION, of Pontiac, Michigan, had with the Office of Price Administration relative to his gasoline allowance. At this time HOFFMANN advised SMITH that his constituents were more or less becoming disturbed because of the fact HOFFMANN was "tying up" with SMITH. HOFFMANN at this time also advised SMITH that he had had inserted in the Congressional Record the facts relative to MARION's dispute.

It is being noted at this time that all during MARION's dispute with the Office of Price Administration he has consistently appealed to SMITH for advice and SMITH has more or less advised MARION relative to the procedure to be followed by MARION in the entire course of this dispute.

It was ascertained through Informant that SMITH has been in communication with HARVEY SPRINGER at Chicago, Illinois, and SMITH advised SPRINGER that Congressman SMITH, who was investigating the OPA, wanted Reverend MARION to come to Washington to testify before his committee relative to the activities of the OPA.

On December 7, 1943, it was ascertained through Informant that [redacted]

RECORDED & INDEXED 162-7318-46
JAN 14 1944

Informant advised that under date of December 16, 1943, SMITH was to hold a meeting of the America First Party at the Macabbees Hall in Detroit, Michigan, and that Reverend MARION was to address this meeting.

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JAN 20 1944

This meeting was actually conducted and results of same will be set forth in report form.

Informant advised under date of December 10, 1943, that SMITH had received a form letter from the office of the Attorney General of the United States requesting SMITH to submit copies of his magazine, "The Cross and the Flag" for perusal by the Department of Justice.

In this same connection SMITH was in communication with HARVEY SPRINGER at Denver, Colorado, on December 11, and at that time Reverend SPRINGER stated that he also had been requested by Washington to send a list of his publications. SMITH advised SPRINGER to submit all of his publications as supplementary publications.

It was ascertained through Informant that SMITH was recently contacted by a [redacted] (phonetic), a reporter from St. Louis, Missouri, who apparently was in Detroit, Michigan, for the purpose of writing an article concerning the activities of SMITH and his group in this area. It was also ascertained through this same Informant that SMITH had been contacted by [redacted] connected with the Ford Motor Company, and at that time SMITH advised [redacted] that there was an individual named JOE who was in Detroit for the purpose of writing a series of articles allegedly exposing the activities of the Communist Party in Detroit, Michigan. Informant stated that SMITH was under the impression that this individual was going to favor SMITH's policies and defend him against the Communist critics.

[redacted]

It has been ascertained that the individual referred to as JOE was undoubtedly [redacted] connected with the Constitutional Educational League in New York City. This individual apparently was to receive a great deal of material from the Ford Motor Company relative to Communist activities. [redacted] was also supposed to be writing a book in rebuttal to the book "Undercover".

Informant related that he had received information to the effect that Colonel McCORMACK was to appear in Detroit, Michigan, to give a speech before the Detroit Athletic Club on December 15, 1943. It was also ascertained that SMITH attempted through the Ford Motor Company to attend this luncheon, with negative results.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted]
62-1126

HLC
b7c

CC-285a

JPHa:rb

Date: January 13, 1944

To: SAC, Detroit

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/8/92 BY SP6BJALDMS 204,433

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

For your information there are attached photostatic copies of an article relative to subject captioned "Ford Pays Bodyguard for Fascist Gerald K. Smith," which appeared in the January 2, 1944, issue of the newspaper "The Worker."

Enclosures

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 7
JAN 13 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-401

JAN 14 1944

9 JAN 22 1944

FILE

Ford Pays Bodyguard for Fascist Gerald K. Smith

Klan Leaders Also On Ford Payroll

By John Meldon

Who do you think pays the wages of the personal bodyguard of fascist Gerald L. K. Smith, head of the revived "America First Party" and an avowed enemy of the entire effort?

Gerald K. L. Smith's gunman bodyguard, The Worker is able to report exclusively, is paid by Henry Ford!

G. L. K. SMITH

It is well that we know these things, and it is necessary that all progressives begin to search deeper into the make-up of America's Fifth Column, especially since the historic decisions reached at Tehran—for the decisions of Tehran can only be carried out if fascism here and abroad is investigated, identified, held up to public exposure and then wiped out.

Gerald L. K. Smith is not simply a fascist provocateur operating freely within the American body politic. Smith is performing an es-

(Just one day after this article was written and was going to press, it was announced in Detroit that Mr. Bugas had quit the FBI and had become chief assistant to Harry Bennett. The Civil Rights Federation of Michigan immediately demanded of U. S. Attorney General Francis Biddle that he investigate "the relationship" of the Ford Empire and Mr. Bugas during the past few years.—Editor's Note.)

This is a clipping from page 1 Sec. 1 of THE WORKER

Date Jan. 2, 1944

Clipped at the seat of Government

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/8/82 BY SP3JJA/ONS 204, 433

c c to Sac-Detroit 1/13/44 JPlla

(5)

62-43818-401

ENCLOSURE

"FAVE"

HENRY FORD

HARRY BENNETT

sential function for the fascist-minded wing of the Republican Party—the Hoover wing—which seeks at all costs to prevent a Republican Presidential nominee like Willkie. Smith's function is to smear Willkie and to threaten a "third party" revolt against his possible nomination. Smith's ultimate aim, is of course, a Fascist America.

The man who is carrying out this dirty work in the 1944 elections meanwhile, is protected by a bodyguard paid for by Ford's Harry Bennett.

The Ford Empire has been, and remains a source of strength for virtually every stripe of American fifth columnist and the fact that Smith's gunman is paid directly from Henry Ford's payroll through Ford's fascist-minded aide, Harry Bennett, should be convincing proof of this charge.

There is no need for us to go into [illegible] regarding Ford's earlier pro-[illegible] activities—the notorious [illegible] of the Protocols of Zion; [illegible] employment of Fritz Kuhn; [illegible] employment of Charles [illegible] his long bloody terror against the efforts of the CIO to organize this giant industrial empire.

We need only to look into the Ford plants of today to find proof that Ford remains a protector and provides a base of operations for fascist-minded criminals.

Here are the present-day facts:

Following the public clamor and protest against the activities of the Ku Klux Klan after the disgraceful Sojourner Truth housing riots, leaders of the Klan changed the

(Continued on Page 6)

(Continued from Page 1)

name of the Detroit branch of the fascist outfit to the "United Sons of America" and continued its activities, especially in the direction of stirring up race hatred between white and Negro workers.

Leader of the camouflaged Klan outfit is one E. E. Maxie. He's president of the "United Sons of America."

He is employed by Henry Ford.

Secretary-treasurer of the "United Sons of America" is David Cole. He has a job in the Ford River Rouge plant.

A secret off-shoot of the Klan's "United Sons of America" has been formed, known as the "United Sons of America of Michigan." A man named Ward E. Long heads the state organization. He works directly for Harry Bennett in the Ford Personnel Department.

Meanwhile, Albert Kahn, one of the hard-hitting co-authors of the best selling book "Sabotage" who exposed the whole fascist setup in Detroit and Ford's connections, reveals in the latest issue of the publication "New Currents" that the leader of the whole Michigan Klan and one of the forces behind the horrible Detroit race riots is one Charles E. Spare.

"He is employed by a 'detective agency' which derives its income from supplying labor spies to the Ford Motor Company," Kahn writes.

Another direct tie-in between fascist Gerald L. K. Smith and Ford is one William Nowell, renegade Negro, who functions as Smith's "advisor" on fomenting discord and strife between whites and Negroes in the Detroit area. Nowell is employed by Ford in Bennett's Personnel Department.

At this point, this writer would like to raise a pointed question and direct it to J. Edgar Hoover, head of the FBI. This writer was told by an unimpeachable source that the head of the Detroit bureau of the FBI, Mr. John S. Bugas, is an intimate friend of Harry Bennett. Strangely enough, when the FBI investigated the recent bloody Detroit race riots, neither Ford nor Bennett were even remotely connected with that disastrous affair which dealt a body blow to our war effort.

Doesn't the FBI know that some of the chief inciters of the riots, the Klan chiefs mentioned above, are on Ford's payroll?

Some time ago, Ralph Rimar, formerly one of Bennett's chief spies, turned on the Ford Gestapo set-up and wrote a book which publishers all over the country were either afraid of, or considered too hot to publish. Rimar's book never saw print in book form and is still seeking a publisher. In his introduction, he charged that Ford has intimate ties with every brand of fascism, and that Bennett worked his spies and provocateurs "night and day" to stir up race riots in Detroit as a means of weakening the CIO in preparation of smashing it.

Are we to have more race riots in Detroit? Are the real forces behind the scenes to be whitewashed, as they have been up to the present moment? Are the organizers of these Nazi-like acts to be given haven and support from Ford's payroll?

We don't only demand an answer. We demand action!

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
January 8, 1944

DECLASSIFIED BY SP.3BTJ/MLW
ON 10/6/82

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~
AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lack
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

Dear Sir:

This is to advise that [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised the Detroit Field Office on January 6, 1944, Subject SMITH in a conversation with GERALD WINROD of Wichita, Kansas, SMITH advised WINROD that he wanted to congratulate WINROD on his being honored (apparently referring to his indictment in Washington recently by Federal Grand Jury).

SMITH advised WINROD that he had information to the effect that the Chicago Tribune had an excellent editorial which related the entire thing as an outright violation of the Civil Liberties Statute. WINROD said that he had been in contact with his Washington counsel who had things in hand, that no warrant had been issued and that he probably would not be arrested.

WINROD advised further that his bond would be transferred and his attorneys would attack the indictment as soon as they had access to certain parts of the Grand Jury records. WINROD stated that his attorneys felt the indictment was vulnerable and that the position of the prosecutors would be precarious once his attorneys started to attack. WINROD added that he was not nearly so disturbed with this indictment as he had been with the two previous indictments returned against WINROD.

DEFERRED HANDLING

SMITH commented that he had been watching the PM and other alleged radical newspapers and that they had been quietly continued for the purpose of returning more indictments against others. WINROD mentioned the fact that a Mr. DENNIS had been indicted and was wondering whether or not this might mean some high type of counsel would be engaged by the defense. WINROD mentioned as a possibility along these lines [redacted] (phonetic) as an example. SMITH termed this individual as a traditional isolationist.

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

COPIES DESTROYED
205 OCT 13 1964

37 JAN 22 1944

RECORDED
F B I
29 JAN 15 1944

SMITH commented relative to an alleged statement made by Senator WHEELER that if these men had been as bad as all that why did it take the Government three and one-half years to find it out and let the people know about it. This statement was supposed to have appeared in the Chicago Tribune under date of January 5, 1944. SMITH requested that WINROD take a thousand copies of his new book and that WINROD stated he wanted his Wichita counsel to read it for suggestions as to procedure to follow in WINROD'S pending legal difficulties.

There is a possiblity that WINROD and SMITH might have been referring to the book edited by EDWARD JONES entitled "And So They Indicted Me." In connection with this particular book SMITH pointed out to WINROD that it might be advisable for WINROD to read chapter forty-two, which particular chapter apparently dealt with the personal manager of Mrs. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT. SMITH suggested that this particular book might be a good model for WINROD to follow in his present difficulties.

The above is being forwarded to the Bureau at this time for the Bureau's information in view of WINROD'S indictment by the Federal Grand Jury in Washington.

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted]
62-1126

b7c

~~SENTIAL~~

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Wick
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gandy
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
January 6, 1944

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-8 BTJ/MLW
ON 10/6/82

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

62-43818

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth below the substance of information obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, during the period from December 20, 1943 through January 5, 1944.

b7D

Informant advised that SMITH has been quite active in furnishing information to Reverend LELAND MARION of Pontiac, Michigan, relative to the difficulties MARION is encountering with the local O. P. A. office in connection with his gasoline allotment. Informant related that SMITH has instructed MARION in practically every move he has made with reference to this particular matter. Informant advised under date of December 25, 1943 that SMITH was contacted by someone who described himself as a doctor and at that time SMITH was advised that the doctor had four Brazilian aviators visiting him and that he had something very important to tell SMITH. The doctor also advised that he had just beaten the Time magazine on a libel suit in the Supreme Court in Brazil.

INDEXED RECORDED

Informant was advised by EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago, Illinois, to the effect that there was a young man by the name of MATHESON (phonetic) who was going about the country and that this individual allegedly represented some of the Communist papers and that SMITH had better watch out for him.

Informant advised under date of December 29, 1943 that SMITH was going to start some activity relative to the question of contacting Congressmen, and so forth, in an effort to secure some mustering out pay for the soldiers discharged from active duty. SMITH stated at this time that he intended to circulate his America First Committee in this connection and that he also intended to circulate petitions; that in this way he could secure new names for his committee without arousing suspicion. In this same connection, SMITH contacted Senator NYE and at that time suggested the possibility of some members of the America First Committee appearing before his sub-committee, in Washington, regarding the legislation of the soldiers' mustering out pay.

COPIES DESTROYED
205 OCT 13 1964

[redacted]

b7C, b7D

It was ascertained through this same informant that SMITH had advised the local United Press Bureau to the effect that he intended meeting with a few of his people in St. Louis on about January 14, at which time plans were to be drawn up for a St. Louis meeting of the America First Committee. It was also ascertained through informant that SMITH was planning a meeting in Detroit, Michigan, which meeting was tentatively set for January 18.

On January 3, 1944, it was ascertained through informant that SMITH was telephonically contacted by an unknown female, at which time it was requested that a hundred copies of the book by EDWARD JONES be forwarded to GERALD WINROD at Wichita, Kansas. Informant advised that SMITH had recently been in contact with [redacted] (phonetic) of the Legal Department of the General Motors Corporation and that [redacted] has indicated sympathy with SMITH's cause. SMITH received from [redacted] a list of all of the Republican politicians all over the United States. [redacted] at that time advised SMITH that he had a complete list of both Republican and Democratic politicians and that he made no distinction with regard to race, color, creed or political beliefs. SMITH advised [redacted] that he intended to hear Governor BRICKER of Ohio speak in Detroit, Michigan, and that there was a great possibility that FRANK GANNETT would also be present at the time BRICKER spoke. SMITH stated at this time that he belonged to the same lodge. GANNETT was a well-known newspaper publisher and alleged by SMITH to be a member of the same lodge as SMITH. SMITH also referred to GANNETT in this connection as being a U. C. man, meaning under-cover man, which he likewise termed himself.

During a conversation with [redacted] SMITH condemned the recent public statements of J. L. LEWIS, GREEN and other labor leaders, which statements they allegedly made against both the President and General MARSHALL. SMITH commented that in his opinion he didn't know of any one of the fifteen known seditionists who were recently indicted in Washington, D. C. who would attack the President as Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces. SMITH explained that the seditionists had been attacking the President solely on political grounds; that politics is a profession just like law or medicine.

Under date of January 4, 1944, SMITH advised EARL SOUTHARD that he intended to go to St. Louis for a conference and that at this conference he was to meet one [redacted] who was coming back from the South, and that at this particular conference some statements would be released for publication of national publicity. SMITH also

AL ✓
DTC ✓

advised SOUTHARD that he had received letters from fifteen United States Senators saying they did not favor the use of the Connally Resolution by the President to take us into any world government without the approval of two-thirds of the Senate and that copies of those letters would be published in SMITH's magazine in the immediate future.

It was ascertained through informant that SMITH was making arrangements to address a meeting of his committee in the Anthony Hotel in Fort Wayne, Indiana, on the night of January 13. This same informant advised that SMITH had recently been contacted by [redacted] [redacted] The Colliers Magazine, and that [redacted] was apparently in Detroit, Michigan, for the purpose of interviewing SMITH. b7c

Very truly yours,

John S. Bugas

JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

[redacted] b1

CONFIDENTIAL [redacted] c

HQ - 15818-403

Mr. William J. Bradley
The American Embassy
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

ROUTINE

RE GERALD L. K. SMITH; AMERICA FIRST PARTY - INTERNAL SECURITY - C - SEDITION.

BUREAU CONDUCTING EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION CONCERNING SMITH'S ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION RECEIVED INDICATED THAT ON [redacted] c SMITH WAS CONTACTED BY INDIVIDUAL WHO DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS "DOCTOR" AND AT THAT TIME SMITH WAS ADVISED THAT "DOCTOR" HAD FOUR BRAZILIAN AVIATORS VISITING HIM AND THAT HE HAD SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT TO TELL SMITH. "DOCTOR" ALSO ADVISED THAT HE HAD JUST BEATEN "TIME MAGAZINE" ON LIBEL SUIT IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRAZIL.

[redacted] b1

[redacted] c

[redacted] c b1 Time MLD. 2025 Rm 1950-2030.

Checked Filed by

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

[redacted] b1

Serial #658
Rad #504029

CLASS. BY SP-8 GTJ/mlw
DATE OF REVIEW DOR 10/6/92

E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Tolson

CONFIDENTIAL

Bureau Radio [redacted] c b1 5:26 PM

6649

JPHa:WMJ

62-43818 - 403

SAC, Detroit

January 28, 1944

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

Reference is made to your letter bearing the date of January 6, 1944, wherein you furnished the Bureau the substance of information pertaining to subject made available to you by [redacted] during the period from December 20, 1943, through January 5, 1944. b7D

In the fourth paragraph of your letter you stated that information was received from the informant to the effect that during the latter part of December Smith indicated he intended to initiate some type of activity toward recommending mustering out pay for soldiers discharged from active duty. In this connection your letter continued, "Smith stated at this time that he intended to circulate his America First Committee in this connection and that he also intended to circulate petitions; that in this way he could secure new names for his committee without arousing suspicion."

The Bureau is interested in any activity of this type in which subject may engage and, accordingly, you should remain alert for additional data pertaining to such activities, promptly making such information available to the Bureau. If Smith actually goes through with his plans in this regard, the Bureau is especially interested in knowing whether he directly contacts men who have been discharged from the service and, if so, whether he attempts to organize such individuals or otherwise appeal to them on a mass basis.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ JAN 29 1944 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/92 BY SP-8STP/LP

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

56 FEB 8 1944

FBI
RECEIVED-MAIL ROOM
JAN 30 1944

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) DEPT OF THE ARMY, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☑ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-404

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FBI/DOJ

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) *originating* with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

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☐ For your information: _____

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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-404X

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FBI/DOJ

b7D

RUSSIA AS I SAW IT

The above will be the subject of an address to be delivered by Mrs. Joseph Richard who recently returned from Russia after being there six years.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

8 p. m.

BOOK CADILLAC HOTEL

(See hotel bulletin board for exact location)

Our second meeting for the new year will be held in the BOOK CADILLAC HOTEL Tuesday night, February 1.

Our guest speaker will be Mrs. Joseph Richard who recently returned from Russia. Mrs. Richard is the wife of a prominent businessman in Chicago and spent nearly six years in the Soviet Union.

Mrs. Richard will tell us in a most interesting and intelligent manner facts concerning the Soviet Union which we should know in this critical hour.

Recently Mrs. Richard spoke under the auspices of our Committee in Chicago. She was warmly received, and I am informed by Captain Earl Southard, our Chicago leader, that she is one of the most interesting speakers he has ever heard.

Mrs. Richard will speak on the subject: "RUSSIA AS I SAW IT."

This will be our most critical year. November, 1944, will answer the big question: "What about America's future?" "Will America come under the rule of bureaucratic dictatorship? or will we preserve our national independence?"

The second front in Europe is being opened. We are told that nearly 1,000,000 men will be wounded, killed or captured. Will this bloody sacrifice be followed by world government which will saddle upon us the yoke of slavery? or will we have the fighting courage this year to preserve our Nation at home while our boys fight abroad?

We have reached the place now where we must get down to 'brass tacks' and, believe me, I expect to talk 'cold turkey' to you the night of February 1.

This will be a closed meeting, which means that you are to be very careful about your invitations and place them wisely in the hands of only good, loyal Americans. I enclose some extra invitations.

Sincerely yours,

Gerald L. K. Smith

GERALD L. K. SMITH

P. S. Come prepared to hear some startling news.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. This petition can be signed by any American citizen over 18 years of age.
2. Do not delay petition. Fill it up at the earliest possible moment and rush it in. Additional petitions may be received by addressing your request as follows: VETERAN'S PETITION COMMITTEE, P. O. BOX 459, DETROIT 31, MICHIGAN.
3. If signer is a veteran, put the letter "V" in front of his name.
4. Mail this petition in as soon as it contains five or more names.
5. This petition should be circulated in churches, schools, shops and offices.
6. The one circulating this petition should sign first so that his or her name can be entered in a special file when it is presented to Congress.

Campaign Slogan: "AMERICAN VETERANS FIRST"

13i

PETITION

TO CONGRESS IN BEHALF OF WAR VETERANS

WHEREAS, thousands and thousands of veterans of this war are now being mustered out of the service because of wounds, medical discharges, and various other reasons;

WHEREAS, billions of dollars are now being spent for non-military purposes on the citizens of foreign countries;

WHEREAS, veterans mustered out of the Armed Services are returning home virtually penniless;

We, the undersigned citizens of the United States of America, petition Congress to pass such legislation as will provide not only a cash payment upon being mustered out, but a rehabilitation bonus that will help the veteran to re-establish himself in the community.

NAME	CITY—STREET	STATE	ZONE
(First line reserved for person circulating petition)			

J. P. HAURATTY:WMJ
1-31-44

GERALD L. K. SMITH

The following information has recently been received concerning the activities of Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit, Michigan:

According to a confidential source of information, Smith, at a meeting of his "America First Party" held at Detroit on the evening of January 18, 1944, announced that he and the "America First Party," using the name "Veteran's Petition Committee," planned to circulate petitions calling for substantial payments to personnel mustered out of the Armed Forces.

Reportedly Smith, while speaking at the meeting, claimed that he and his organization were largely responsible for the increased rate of pay now allowed enlisted personnel inasmuch as he some time ago sent 80,000 signatures to Congress demanding a pay raise for enlisted personnel. Continuing in this vein, Smith urged his followers to circulate and cause to be signed the instant petitions, and apparently when a sufficient number of petitions have been executed, they will be forwarded to Congress en masse.

Smith, while speaking in behalf of his plan for increased mustering out pay, described in the petition, allegedly asserted that "a measly $300" is not sufficient for our servicemen, especially in view "of the fact that America can give every person in the 22 South American republics the sum of $50." Smith reportedly commented that every month 70,000 men are being mustered out of the service even at the present time and that due to financial difficulties and physical defects incident to their participation in the war, they are facing hardships which could be alleviated by the designation of more substantial payments for them.

The source of information in this matter also advised that according to Smith, Collier's Magazine plans to carry a story in the near future concerning Smith and the "America First Party." Smith has allegedly revealed that [redacted] of Collier's Magazine recently visited him for the purpose of [redacted] material to form the basis of this article. In this connection the source of information has further reported that photographers for Collier's Magazine were present at the meeting held on January 18, 1944, and at Smith's request made several pictures of mothers who have sons in the Armed Forces. Reportedly, these women posed in groups displaying Smith's "Petition to Congress" and it is the opinion of the source of information that the article in Collier's, if it actually appears, will deal to some degree with Smith's latest plan for circulating petitions calling for greater mustering out pay.

b7c

From the information furnished by the Confidential Source it does not appear that Smith has to date taken any steps toward founding or organizing any type of veterans' organization. As indicated, his contemplated procedure is reportedly that of causing these petitions to be signed and then forwarding the petitions to Congress.

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Candy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-4875/mc

RECORDED
INDEXED

62-43818-403

FEB 33 1944

J Harm J
1-31-44

RECORDED 62-43818-405

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Honorable James Barnes
Administrative Assistant
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Barnes:

You will recall that on January 27, 1944, you telephoned Mr. L. A. Tamm of this Bureau concerning a report that Gerald L. K. Smith has been making efforts to form a new veterans' organization and is sending certain forms or petitions to personnel discharged from the Armed Forces.

As you will note from the attached summary memorandum setting forth the substance of data received by this Bureau concerning Smith's activities in this regard, it appears that Smith, using the name "Veteran's Petition Committee, P. O. Box 459, Detroit 31, Michigan," is circulating "Petitions to Congress" calling for a "rehabilitation bonus" for personnel discharged from the Armed Forces. Reportedly he has taken no action as yet toward forming an organization of war veterans and is disseminating these petitions among his following with the thought that they will be signed and subsequently forwarded to Congress en masse.

b2c

[redacted]

For your further information I am attaching hereto photostatic copies of the petition being circulated by Smith, and as you were informed by Mr. Tamm, the information developed with reference to this matter is being referred to the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Deleted Copy Sent
Letter 3-8-76
Per FOIA Request

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F B I
U S DEPT OF JUSTICE
JAN 31 9 41 PM '44

U S DEPT OF JUSTICE
F B I
RECEIVED-MAIL ROOM

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
FEB 1 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

34 FEB 4 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/92 BY SP-8BT/TAC

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

C-287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

[redacted] lem

January 28, 1944

Time: 3:05 to 3:07 p.m.
4:28 to 4:32 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
The America First Party
Internal Security - Sedition

In response to a call from SA J. A. Sizoo, SA [redacted] of the Detroit office called and stated that that office was in possession of a copy of the petition which Smith is circulating.

[redacted] said that copies of this petition are being circulated at various meetings but as yet the Detroit office had no information as to whether he was sending any through the mail. Smith has, however, been in contact with several Congressmen, one of them being Congressman Reynolds of the House Military Affairs Committee.

The aforementioned petition [redacted] described as approximately 15 inches in length and 10 inches in width. In essence the petition states that its purpose is to urge Congress to provide mustering-out pay and rehabilitation expenses to army veterans. The petition may be signed by any American citizen over 18 years of age and instructions are contained thereon to send it to the following address:

Veterans Petition Committee
Post Office Box 459
Detroit 31, Michigan

[redacted] indicated that no information has been received indicating that Smith is attempting to form an association of War Veterans.

ACTION: SA [redacted] was advised to forward this petition to the Bureau by air mail, special delivery and to keep the Bureau advised of any additional information the Detroit office received concerning Smith's activities in connection with a possible veterans organization.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY

ALL
b7C

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch

FOR VICTORY
BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

Pertinent to Rosen and my Bounce while Hs. 2/4/44

62-43815-406

RECORDED & INDEXED

21 FEB 5 1944

(5)

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

CONFIDENTIAL

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

RBY:mes

TO : D. M. LADD

FROM : G. C. CALLAHAN

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
PROPOSED REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION

CLASS. BY SP-8ATJ/mk

DATE OF REVIEW 10/6/82

DATE: JANUARY 25, 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

[redacted]

INDEXED 62-43818-407

ACTION: This data is called to your attention in order that you may be advised should a further request for the investigation be received from the White House.

7 FEB 9 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

We have no previous knowledge of this activity

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE NO. 100-4754

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA	1/29/44	1/13,26/44	[redacted] b7c JL

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, WITH ALIASES	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: GERALD L. K. SMITH ADDRESSED A GROUP OF 175 PEOPLE AT FORT WAYNE, IND. ON 1-13-43. SPEECH CONSISTED OF RELATING HIS ACTIVITIES AND PLANS AND THE NEED FOR DEFEATING THE NEW DEAL AND REMOVING ROOSEVELT FROM PUBLIC OFFICE.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/6/82 BY SP8TJ/mk

REFERENCE: BUREAU FILE: 62-43,818.
DETROIT LETTER TO INDIANAPOLIS DATED 1/10/44.

DETAILS: THIS IS A JOINT REPORT OF SA [redacted] b7c AND THE WRITER.

AT FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

ON JANUARY 13, 1944, GERALD L. K. SMITH CONDUCTED A MEETING AT HOTEL ANTHONY, FORT WAYNE, INDIANA. THIS MEETING WAS NOT PUBLICIZED IN FORT WAYNE IN ANY WAY AND SMITH ADVISED AT THE OUTSET OF HIS TALK THAT HE HAD ORIGINALLY INTENDED ON COMING TO FORT WAYNE TO SPEAK TO A FEW FOLLOWERS BUT HAD LATER DECIDED TO HAVE AN OPEN MEETING, AND HAD SENT NOTICES TO A FEW OF HIS FRIENDS.

SMITH STATED THAT CAPTAIN EARL SOUTHARD OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, HAD BEEN SCHEDULED TO ADDRESS THE ASSEMBLY BUT CAPTAIN SOUTHARD HAD BEEN PREVENTED FROM BEING THERE BECAUSE OF SERIOUS ILLNESS IN HIS FAMILY.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED D. S. Hostetler SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-408

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
5 - BUREAU
2 - DETROIT (62-1126)
2 - INDIANAPOLIS

COPIES DESTROYED 2050CT 13 1964

19 JAN 31 1944

RECORDED

100-4754
INDPLS.

SMITH INDICATED THAT THE ONLY PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS FOR HIM TO AGAIN MEET HIS FRIENDS IN FORT WAYNE, TO DISCUSS WITH THEM HIS RECENT ACTIVITIES AND HIS PLANS AND TO ALSO DISCUSS THE COMING PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

SMITH, IN HIS TALK, TOLD OF HIS TOUR THRU THE WESTERN PART OF THE COUNTRY, DIFFICULTIES HE HAS ENCOUNTERED AND OF THE WONDERFUL RECEPTIONS HE HAD RECEIVED AFTER EACH SPEECH. HE SAID THAT HE WAS BEING RECOGNIZED AS AN INFLUENCE AND QUOTED FROM NEWSPAPER ARTICLES THAT SEVERAL COLUMNISTS CONSIDERED HIM A FACTOR IN THE 1944 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

IN HIS SPEECH, SMITH SAID THAT HIS PRIME INTEREST AND THOSE OF HIS FOLLOWERS WERE IN RETIRING THE ROOSEVELT FAMILY FROM PUBLIC OFFICE. HE STATED "GIVE ROOSEVELT A FOURTH TERM AND STALIN AND HITLER WILL LOOK LIKE PIKERS COMPARED WITH BUREAUCRATIC CONTROL AND DOMINATION UNDER WHICH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL BE BURIED." HE BITTERLY DENOUNCED NUMEROUS ADMINISTRATION LEADERS, INCLUDING VICE PRESIDENT WALLACE, HAROLD HOPKINS AND SECRETARY ICKES.

HE STATED THAT THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY HAD MADE PLANS SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE DUPED IN THE 1944 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS. HE SAID HE THOUGHT THE REPUBLICANS WOULD NOMINATE "AN AMERICAN" FOR PRESIDENT, BUT HE STATED IF THEY DID NOT THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY WOULD CALL A NATIONWIDE CONVENTION AND NOMINATE THEIR OWN CANDIDATE. HE SAID A MAN OF WENDELL WILLKIE TYPE WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE. HE SAID HE COULD NOT BE CONTENTED WITH WILLKIE NOR A WILLKIE STOOGE AND STATED HE WAS QUITE SURE THE REPUBLICANS FELT THE SAME WAY.

HE STATED THAT SUITABLE REPUBLICANS WHOM HE WOULD CONSIDER A SATISFACTORY NOMINEE FOR PRESIDENT INCLUDED VANDENBURGH, NYE, HOFFMAN, LINDGERGH AND FATHER COUGHLIN. HE STATED THAT SUITABLE DEMOCRATS WOULD BE SENATORS BURTON K. WHEELER OR ROBERT REYNOLDS.

SMITH, DURING HIS TALK, STATED THAT HE WAS HOPING FOR AND PLANNING FOR A LARGE MASS MEETING TO BE HELD AT THE SHRINE AUDITORIUM IN FORT WAYNE IN THE NEAR FUTURE. HE STATED HE HOPED TO BRING CLARE HOFFMAN, (REP.) OF MICHIGAN AS THE PRINCIPAL SPEAKER OR SOME OTHER EQUALLY SUITABLE INDIVIDUAL.

b7c, b7D

[redacted] HOTEL KEENAN, FORT WAYNE, INDIANA, ADVISED THAT SMITH AND HIS WIFE ARRIVED AT THIS HOTEL AT 10:53 A.M. ON JANUARY 13TH AND CHECKED OUT AT 9:40 P.M. ON THE SAME EVENING. THE RENTING OF THE BALLROOM AT THE HOTEL ANTHONY WAS DONE BY PHONE FROM SMITH'S HEADQUARTERS AT DETROIT, MICH.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 31, 1944

My dear Mr. Hoover:

I am enclosing a clipping which was sent to Mrs. Roosevelt by one of her correspondents.

Mrs. Roosevelt will appreciate it if you will let her know about this story.

Very sincerely yours,

Maevina C. Thompson
Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP3 PTS/MLC

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

RECORDED & INDEXED

162-43816

GERALD SMITH SEEN LINING UP VETERANS

"Potential Storm Troop" Seen by Anti-Nazi League

by Frederick Woltman,
World-Telegram Staff Writer.

Gerald L. K. Smith, one-time satellite of the late Huey Long and Father Coughlin, who doesn't quail at being called a demagogue, has found himself a new facet of endeavor. He is now busy collecting on a national scale the names of returned war veterans who have been mustered out.

His object is not entirely clear. But the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League to Champion Human Rights today called it "an attempted marshalling of the votes of American veterans into a potential storm troop service of an incipient Hitler."

Besides the names of the veterans, Mr. Smith is also willing to accept contributions of $1 to $100, and up, according to a document made [illegible] letter dated "January — 1944" which arrived in New York today.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/6/82 BY [illegible]

Muster-Out Pay.

The salutation was directed to "My Dear Patriotic Friend" and enclosed a No-Postage-Stamp-Necessary business reply envelope, addressed to Mr. Smith as Director and Organizer, America First Party, Detroit, Mich.

One purpose of collecting the names of the returned veterans, he says, is to form a "National Committee" to guarantee mustering-out pay "from $500 up" for every man in the armed services.

While heretofore Mr. Smith has hinted at forming a third party ticket, along isolationist lines, for the Presidential campaign, this is not indicated in the letter except, perhaps, for the opening sentence: "This is one of the most important letters I have ever written you."

Promises Leadership

The letter talks about "international politicians and international bankers" who "squander our natural wealth on foreigners." And it promises "a leadership meeting in every center in the United States" and petitions filled with 1,500,000 names.

"Whether you are able to donate a large or small sum of money to this noble crusade," adds Mr. Smith in a P. S., "please rush your contribution."

A blank headed IMPORTANT! IMPORTANT! IMPORTANT! urges that the name, address and branch of service of a returned veteran be filled in.

Called a Menace.

This gathering of veterans' names by the former Townsend pension plan promoter was called "a menace to the public welfare and safety" by James H. Sheldon, administrative chairman of the Anti-Nazi League. "The only question is which of the people's agencies should inquire into such a situation," Mr. Sheldon said.

TRUE COPY COPIES DESTROYED
200 OCT 13 1964

ENCLOSURE
62-73818-409

JMJ:MJ
2-4-44

REGISTERED NO. 62-43818-409

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am in receipt of the communication dated January 31, 1944, from Miss Malvina C. Thompson, with enclosure, referring to the actions of Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit, Michigan, regarding the question of payments for veterans of this war. The article refers particularly to Smith's efforts toward collecting names of discharged war veterans on a national scale. The enclosure is being returned herewith.

May I at the outset advise you that Mr. James Byrnes, Administrative Assistant to the President, in response to his request, was furnished on February 1, 1944, a summary memorandum setting forth pertinent data in the possession of this Bureau as to the activities of Gerald L. K. Smith in this connection. Attached hereto is a digest of the information which has been received to date concerning the actions of Gerald L. K. Smith in circulating "petitions to Congress" calling for a "rehabilitation bonus" for personnel discharged from the Armed Forces. The letter cited in the enclosure to Miss Thompson's communication has been distributed by Smith to his adherents in an effort to have these petitions signed, but to date there has been no indication that he has taken any definite action toward forming any veterans' organization.

There is enclosed one of the petitions in question as of possible interest to you, and as a matter of further information I want you to know that all data of pertinence which have developed relative to the activities of Gerald L. K. Smith are being referred to the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice for appropriate prosecutive analysis.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-8 Sm/Mc
ON 10/6/92

Enclosure

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
FEB 5 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
FEB 5 12 56 PM
FBI

FEB 14 1944

DO-5

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Record of Telephone Call or Visitor

Jan. 27, 1947

Time 4:40pm

Name Mr. James Barnes tele thru Whitehouse switchboard, (Adm. Asst. to the President)

Referred to

Details:

When advised Mr. Hoover was out of the city, Mr. Barnes asked to speak with the Acting Director and was accordingly transferred to Mr. Tamm after checking.

5pm
Mr. Tamm's office advised Mr. Barnes stated he had seen some clippings concerning forms which are being sent to discharged servicemen in an effort to start a new veterans organization, and Barnes desires to know about this. Mr. Tamm told Barnes that we are presently looking into this matter and he will be advised what we find out.

mdh

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY

43815-41c

Letter to Barnes

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY [illegible]

EAT:KLW

Call: 4:40 P. M.

January 27, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Barnes of the White House was referred to me by your office. He advised that he had seen several clippings relating to the efforts of Gerald L. K. Smith to form a new veterans' organization by sending forms to discharged soldiers.

I informed Mr. Barnes that we are checking this matter and that it has been referred to the Criminal Division for study as to whether there is a violation of any Federal Statute.

Mr. Barnes requested that we furnish to him a memorandum of this situation.

RECORDED 62-43818-411

Respectfully,

Edw. A. Tamm

let to Mr. Barnes memo to clerks 1/31/44 gpm

COPIED 1944

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit - Michigan

January 28, 1944

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/92 BY

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the telephone conversation of this afternoon between Mr. Joseph Sizoo of the Bureau and Special Agent [redacted] of this office relative to the above-entitled matter. b7c

This is to advise that a confidential informant of the Detroit Office attended a SMITH meeting on January 18, 1944, and this informant has advised the Detroit Office that at this particular meeting Subject SMITH announced to those present that he was circulating a petition to be signed by all those present, said petition being addressed to Congress and asking Congress for some immediate legislation to provide cash for servicemen being mustered out of the service. A copy of this petition was furnished to the Detroit Office by informant and is being enclosed herewith.

Along these same lines, this same informant also turned over to the Detroit Office a form letter which was circulated to all those on SMITH's mailing list, which form letter more or less announces the campaign to be instituted by SMITH relative to the mustering out pay for servicemen.

This same informant has advised that at his last two meetings, SMITH has commented to those in attendance that if they knew of any soldier who had been mustered out of the service, they should invite the soldier to attend the meetings and, if possible, to have the soldier sit on the platform and perhaps say a word or two to the audience.

COPIES DESTROYED
205 OCT 13 1964

The Detroit Office has not yet received any information to indicate that SMITH has been mailing pamphlets and enclosing self-

43 FEB 15 1944

RECORDED

62-43818-412
F B

22 FEB 1944

2 enclosure detached
& sent to Mrs. Roosevelt
2/4/43 - [redacted] b7c

Letter to the Director: January 28, 1944

addressed envelopes to any of his followers. This fact, however, will be borne in mind during future inquiries made in instant case and the Bureau will be kept currently advised.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]t b7c
62-1126
Enclosures

AMERICA FIRST PARTY

GERALD L. K. SMITH
DIRECTOR AND ORGANIZER

BERNARD A. DOMAN
SECRETARY and TREASURER

POST OFFICE BOX 459
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Friend:

Shortly after the first of the year you will receive your calendar. We will not mail it until the Christmas rush is over.

I am sure that I do not need to remind you that your faithfulness and generosity makes it possible to carry on our dynamic and dangerous crusade. The evil and unpatriotic forces which would sell our Country to the highest bidder never cease to haunt us and persecute us. However, we glory in the victory which we believe lies ahead; namely, the end of New Deal tyranny and the restoration of true American liberty.

Our boys are dying by the thousands, and it is estimated that the invasion of Europe will cost us a million casualties or more. When our boys who live through this war return to us the least we can do is to prove to them that we have been true to America first. Furthermore, it will be a disgrace to the human family if we permit international conspirators to destroy the form of government and the American way of life for which our sons have died.

We are launching a campaign which you will hear about soon, looking toward the passing of a law which will guarantee a square deal for our service men as they are mustered out of the Armed Services.

It is time for us to quit giving away so much money to foreigners and begin to take care of our own soldier and sailor boys who are being discharged penniless.

Yours for America First,

GERALD L. K. SMITH

GLKS:L

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. This petition can be signed by any American citizen over 18 years of age.
2. Do not delay petition. Fill it up at the earliest possible moment and rush it in. Additional petitions may be received by addressing your request as follows: VETERAN'S PETITION COMMITTEE, P. O. BOX 459, DETROIT 31, MICHIGAN.
3. If signer is a veteran, put the letter "V" in front of his name.
4. Mail this petition in as soon as it contains five or more names.
5. This petition should be circulated in churches, schools, shops and offices.
6. The one circulating this petition should sign first so that his or her name can be entered in a special file when it is presented to Congress.

Campaign Slogan: "AMERICAN VETERANS FIRST"

PETITION

TO CONGRESS IN BEHALF OF WAR VETERANS

WHEREAS, thousands and thousands of veterans of this war are now being mustered out of the service because of wounds, medical discharges, and various other reasons;

WHEREAS, billions of dollars are now being spent for non-military purposes on the citizens of foreign countries;

WHEREAS, veterans mustered out of the Armed Services are returning home virtually penniless;

We, the undersigned citizens of the United States of America, petition Congress to pass such legislation as will provide not only a cash payment upon being mustered out, but a rehabilitation bonus that will help the veteran to re-establish himself in the community.

NAME	CITY—STREET	STATE	ZONE
(First line reserved for person circulating petition)			

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

C 287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

[redacted] lem

February 3, 1944

Time: 10:30 to 10:33 a.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH, WAS.
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY (G), ET AL.

With regard to the letter from Malvina C. Thompson, Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt, dated January 31, 1944, [redacted] in my office phoned the Detroit office relative to the newspaper clipping forwarded with Miss Thompson's letter, indicating that Gerald L. K. Smith had distributed a letter requesting the names of mustered-out veterans in order that petitions might be filed requesting mustering out pay of "from $500 up" for every man in the Armed Services.

Indications in the enclosure to Miss Thompson's letter were that James H. Sheldon, Chairman of the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League of NYC, had obtained a copy of the letter and was alleging that it was evidence of "an attempted marshalling of the votes of American veterans into a potential stormtroop service of an incipient Hitler."

[redacted] talked to SA [redacted] of the Detroit office at this time and requested that the Bureau be immediately and telephonically advised whether any such letter has been issued by Gerald L. K. Smith and, if so, the exact content should be furnished to the Bureau telephonically. In addition, instructions were issued to Agent [redacted] that this case must be followed closely, as in the past, and any indication of the formation of a veterans group or of any organization along that line.

ACTION:

As soon as advice is received from the Detroit office, which should be some time late today, a reply will be immediately prepared to Mrs. Roosevelt incorporating the facts in the matter.

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch

F. L. Welch

62-43818-41

E B I

35 FEB 8 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

38 FEB 15 1944

RECORDED & INDEXED

5

750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

_____

_____

☑ For your information: Serial 4/4 is not in file.

_____

☐ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

_____

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
January 26, 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION
(Bureau File 62-43818)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated January 14, 1944, in the above-entitled matter in which letter the Bureau requests specific information relative to the facts concerning the publication of the book entitled "And So They Indicted Me", said book having been written by J. EDWARD JONES.

This is to advise that under date of November 10, 1943, [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that SMITH had on that particular day received a communication from J. EDWARD JONES of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and that at that time JONES enclosed a check in the amount of six hundred fifty dollars for the alleged purpose of defraying the expense of publishing JONES' book.

[redacted]

DEFERRED/RECORDING

[redacted]

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

COPIES DESTROYED
5 OCT 13 1964

cc of Conf to Clark
memo to Clark
1/31/44

COPIES DESTROYED
37 OCT 19 1964

2/3/37

COPIES DESTROYED
37 OCT 21 1964

62-43812-415
F B I
22 FEB

(5)

ALL 67D

[redacted] b7D

Information has been received from [redacted] to the effect that SMITH has been encountering difficulty in keeping up payments to the printer for the expenses incurred in the publishing of this book and that in fact SMITH is so far behind in his payments that the printer has refused to print any more books until he receives some compensation for the books already published..

[redacted] b7C b7D

It is being noted at this time also that four or five hundred of these books have been already forwarded to GERALD WINROD at Wichita, Kansas, and it is contemplated that additional copies will be sent to WINROD in the near future. SMITH has advised WINROD that the facts set forth in the book should be read very carefully by WINROD with the thought in mind that the information contained in the book might be of assistance to WINROD in the preparation of a defense by WINROD in the sedition case presently pending in Washington.

As previously reported to the Bureau this book has been published in the Detroit area in this manner inasmuch as SMITH has advised [redacted] that JONES was encountering a great deal of difficulty in securing a printer to publish his book in his vicinity, claiming that he was being discriminated against. SMITH more or less volunteered to JONES the fact that if he was not able to secure publication of the book in JONES' immediate vicinity, he, SMITH, would attempt to have the same published in this area, which was done at a later time. b7D

In the event additional information is secured by the Detroit Office relative to further facts concerning the publication of this book in the Detroit area, the Bureau will be immediately advised.

There is being enclosed herewith a copy of the book entitled "And So They Indicted Me". There is also being enclosed at

Letter to the Director
January 26, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases

this time a form letter sent by SMITH to his subscribers, which form letter contains further information relative to SMITH's activities in connection with the distribution of this book.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted] b7c

62-1126
Enclosures ~~2~~

JHarWMJ
2-9-44

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Assistant Chief of Staff
G-2, War Department Attention: [redacted]
J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH

For your information there is attached hereto a photostatic copy of the January, 1944, issue of a publication known as "The Cross and the Flag," which is published by Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit, Michigan.

You will note that the last page of this particular publication sets forth an article under the caption, "$1000 for Each War Veteran," which relates to Smith's reported formation of a "Veteran's Petition Committee," the object of which appears to be that of circulating petitions to Congress calling for the payment of the sum of $1000 to personnel discharged from the Armed Services.

Also attached are photostatic copies of three other pieces of literature which pertain to this same subject matter. Reportedly Smith has been disseminating literature of this type in considerable quantity during the past few weeks.

cc - Director of Naval Intelligence
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

DECLASSIFIED BY 20-8BTJ/mlw
ON 10/6/82

Enclosures 5

62-43818-416

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 12 1944
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
FEB 10 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEB 1 1944

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit - Michigan

January 31, 1944

PUBLICATION FILE

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the recent request from the Bureau to the effect that this office attempt to ascertain further information relative to the activity presently being conducted by Subject SMITH with regard to "mustered out" pay for service men.

There is being transmitted herewith a copy of the January issue of "The Cross and the Flag" edited by Subject SMITH along with other printed material which was turned over to the Detroit Office by [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. [redacted] b7D

The Bureau will be kept currently advised relative to any further activities by SMITH along these lines.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

EXCL BEHIND FILE
ENCL 1
25

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
[redacted] 10/6/82 BY [illegible]

#62-1128

Enclosures (4)

b7c

62-238 18 417
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Memo to Clerk
memo to [illegible]
RECORDED
INDEXED
2/9/44

JPHa:WLW
2-9-44

RECORDED
INDEXED

43818-417

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Reference is made to our previous correspondence concerning the subject matter and especially to my recent memorandum furnishing you with certain data relative to Smith's use of the name "Veteran's Petition Committee" in disseminating petitions calling for more substantial pay for discharged personnel from the Armed Forces.

For your further information in this regard there is attached hereto a photostatic copy of the January, 1944, issue of subject publication, "The Cross and the Flag." You will note that the last page of this particular issue of the magazine carries the caption, "$1000 for Each War Veteran," and sets forth certain comments relative to Smith's objectives in promoting his "Veteran's Petition Committee."

Also attached are photostatic copies of three pieces of literature concerning this same subject matter which Smith has reportedly disseminated in recent weeks.

[redacted] b7D

Enclosure

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
FEB 10 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEB 27 1944

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
January 26, 1944

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-8BTJ/MC
ON 10/6/82

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth below the substance of information obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, which information was secured during the period from January 5, 1944 through January 24, 1944:

b7D

Informant advised that he had received information to the effect that SMITH was encountering some difficulty with his printer relative to the payment to the printer for the publishing of "books". Informant stated that he was of the impression that SMITH was referring to the book published by J. EDWARD JONES "And So They Indicted Me". Informant stated that SMITH advised that the printer had seven thousand dollars worth of books for SMITH and that SMITH had figured he would receive about six thousand dollars in revenue from the books by Christmas time, but that they were two thousand dollars behind in their payment to the printer and the printer advised SMITH that the linotype operator was refusing to work until he received some further compensation. [redacted]

b7c

SMITH also advised at this time that GERALD WINROD of Wichita, Kansas, had been requested by SMITH to take one thousand copies of the new book. Informant advised that SMITH was attempting to make some arrangements with the Ford Motor Company for the employment of one [redacted] (phonetic), whose home address was [redacted] Ohio. SMITH has contacted [redacted] along these lines, but there is no information that this individual has been hired as yet.

b7c

Informant advised further that SMITH had made reservations at the Book Cadillac Hotel in Detroit for a meeting on February 1, 1944, and that he expected around one hundred fifty people to attend this meeting.

62-73818-418

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208 OCT 13 1964

Letter to the Director
dated January 26, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases

Informant advised that SMITH under date of January 11, 1944, had been contacted by [redacted] of the New York Times and at that time [redacted] apparently interviewed SMITH relative to the activities of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY.

SMITH recently forwarded to [redacted] secretary to CHARLES SORENSON of the Ford Motor Company, six copies of the JONES book and six copies of the last issue of "The Cross and the Flag".

Informant advised under date of January 17, 1944, that SMITH had been contacted by a man by the name of [redacted] phonetic), apparently connected with the Colliers magazine, and that [redacted] was to take photographs of SMITH. Along these lines informant stated that he was under the impression that the Colliers magazine was to run a feature article written by WALTER DAVENPORT relative to the activities of the SMITH group and apparently this story was to be accompanied by photographs.

Under date of January 18, 1944, informant advised that SMITH had forwarded two hundred fifty copies of the JONES book to GERALD WINROD.

Informant advised that SMITH had been carrying on negotiations for the rental of a hall at Buffalo, New York, with apparently negative results. SMITH has contacted JOSEPH STOFFEL of Buffalo and apparently STOFFEL is to complain of the discrimination being made against SMITH to the Buffalo city authorities.

Informant advised that he had received information to the effect that SMITH was contemplating having a meeting at the Franklin Auditorium in Cleveland, Ohio, under date of January 31st, at which meeting SMITH intended to have as a speaker Mrs. JOSEPH RICHARD, who was to relate her experiences in Russia. Mrs. RICHARD was apparently a recent speaker in Chicago under the auspices of Captain EARL SOUTHARD.

Under date of January 21, 1944, SMITH contacted [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company, at which time he advised [redacted] that he had a friend, approximately forty-five years of age, who had just served two and one-half years in the Army, who was a college graduate and who thought along the same lines as SMITH and [redacted] SMITH at this time was apparently attempting to secure a position for this individual with the Ford Motor Company. SMITH on a later occasion advised [redacted] that the name of this individual was [redacted] phonetic).

It is being noted at this time that under date of January 21, 1944, which is the same day that SMITH contacted [redacted]

ALL
b7C

relative to the above, the Detroit Office received information to the effect that [redacted] had on that day checked in at the Tuller Hotel in Detroit. It is believed that there is a great possibility that the [redacted] whom SMITH contacted [redacted] about might be identical with [redacted], founder of the American Patriots, Incorporated, Greenwich, Connecticut. The Detroit Office files also reflect a letter to the Bureau under date of January 17, 1944, which sets forth the fact that the Detroit Office had received information to the effect that [redacted] had recently been discharged from the Canadian Army and was contemplating going to New York City. b7c

On January 23, 1944, informant advised that he had just received information to the effect that GERALD WINROD had requested information relative to the two hundred books he had ordered from SMITH the preceding week. At this time SMITH was advised by WINROD that WINROD desired an additional two hundred books. SMITH then advised that he had a reserve of about eight hundred books set aside for WINROD.

At that time SMITH asked WINROD whether or not it might be feasible for WINROD to carry on an open debate with one of his outstanding opponents. WINROD stated that he was not entirely in accord with SMITH's idea at the present time although SMITH stated that he merely thought that WINROD might challenge the individual and that in all probability the individual would refuse to debate after which SMITH and WINROD could state that the opposition was afraid to debate.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted] b7c

62-1126
cc 100-7295

JEHa:MJ
2-3-44

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark
Attention: Mr. O. John Rogge
J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

UNITED STATES vs. JOSEPH E. McWILLIAMS, ET AL;
GERALD B. WINROD, DEFENDANT; SEDITION.

RECORDED CD-43818-418

The Bureau has been informed by a confidential source of information that Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit has recently sent Winrod several hundred copies of a book entitled, "And So They Indicted Me", written by one J. Edward Jones. Allegedly Smith has suggested to Winrod that he should read this book very carefully with the thought in mind that the information contained therein might be of assistance to Winrod in the preparation of his defense in the instant case. No further clarifying data as to this particular remark on the part of Smith is available but reportedly Winrod has requested several hundred additional copies of the book and apparently contemplates disseminating them to his followers. A photostatic copy of the book, "And So They Indicted Me", is attached hereto and in the event you are interested in referring to the Criminal Division's files concerning Smith and Jones, you will find that numerous reports pertaining to these individuals have heretofore been furnished to the Criminal Division. It appears that at the present time Smith is actively engaged in helping Jones promote and sell the book.

Further information has been received to the effect that during the latter part of January, 1944, Smith communicated with Winrod suggesting that it might be appropriate for Winrod to issue a challenge to Reverend Leon Birkhead of New York City (or possibly a Dr. Riley of Minneapolis, Minnesota) to debate certain issues of current importance, pertaining apparently to the instant case. Reportedly Smith is of the opinion that this debate should be promoted and publicized in a sensational fashion and should be held at Detroit. Reportedly Smith further indicated that he believed "the opposition" would not accept and that the meeting could nevertheless continue, thereby putting "the opposition" in the position of being "afraid to meet the issue." From the information made available it appears that no definite plans in this regard have been made and that the whole project is in a tentative stage.

If additional information of pertinence relative to the above-discussed matters is received, you may be certain that the Bureau will bring such data to your attention.

Enclosure

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

F.B.I. RADIOGRAM

[redacted] c b1

[redacted] b1

FROM RIO DE JANEIRO [redacted] c NR 414 3:09 PM EWT b1

RE GERALD L. K. SMITH. REFERENCE YOUR RADIOGRAM 658 DATED [redacted] c THE QUOTE DOCTOR UNQUOTE WHO CONTACTED SMITH ON [redacted] c IS APPARENTLY IDENTICAL WITH [redacted] OF DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA, SUBJECT RIO DE JANEIRO [redacted] REPORTS DATED [redacted] c AND [redacted] c LAST AND ALSO SUBJECT OF INVESTIGATION BY MIAMI AND DETROIT OFFICES. [redacted] CEL SUBJECT, WITH WHOM [redacted] IS KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT AND COMMUNICATION, WAS GIVEN POWER OF ATTORNEY TO PROCESS TIME MAGAZINE IN RIO DE JANEIRO COURT. LIBEL SUIT BROUGHT HERE ON BASIS [redacted] c ARTICLE BY TIME CHARGING [redacted] WITH MALPRACTICE. PROCESS DIRECTED AGAINST [redacted] TIME REPRESENTATIVE IN RIO DE JANEIRO, NOW IN THE UNITED STATES, AND LOCAL DISTRIBUTOR. SUIT NOT CONCLUDED BUT SUPREME COURT HAS HELD IT HAS JURISDICTION TO HEAR CASE. SUGGEST [redacted] BE INTERVIEWED IN THE UNITED STATES FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS. SHE MAY BE REACHED THROUGH TIME AND LIFE OFFICES, NEW YORK CITY. DETAILED REPORT FOLLOWING.

b1, b7c

[redacted] b7c

RECEIVED [redacted] c 3:58 PM EWT b1

not necessary unless as Smith case is concerned

CLASS. BY SP-8BTJ/MLW

DATE OF REVIEW DEC 10/6/82

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-419

3[redacted] b1

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

(5)

[redacted] c b1

[redacted] b1

CONFIDENTIAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE NO. 100-4156

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA	2-7-44	2-2-3-44	[redacted] SA RA

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: 1944 Minnesota Automobile license plate 337-782 assigned to [redacted] Automobile described as a 1937 model Pontiac, Tudor Sedan. St. Paul indices reflect information that father of [redacted] and "one son who is studying for the ministry often express some pretty rough talking in favor of Germany". [redacted] not registered for Selective Service with Clay County LDB #1, Moorhead, Minnesota.

- R U C -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8077 [illegible]

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 1-28-44, St. Louis.

DETAILS: AT ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA:

[redacted] in the Minnesota Automobile Registration Bureau, State Capitol, St. Paul, advised reporting agent that 1944 Minnesota Automobile license plate was registered in the name of the owner, [redacted] which automobile was described as a 1937 model Pontiac, Tudor Sedan, bearing motor #6-361350.

[redacted] Minnesota Highway Department, Driver's License Bureau, 1279 University Avenue, advised that there was a registration for an [redacted] The place of business or employment address of [redacted] was set out as the Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES: 62-4212-420

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(5) - Bureau
2 - Detroit (62-1126)
3 - St. Louis (1 - ONI, St. Louis) (Inf.)
2 - St. Paul

RECORDED INDEXED FEB 9 1944

FEB 22 1944

100-4156 - St. Paul

The following description was noted on the Driver's license registration:

Age: [redacted]
Height:
Weight:
Eyes:
Hair:
Race:
Sex:
Occupation:

b7c

The previous drivers license issued to [redacted] was number 7A1792 with an address of Georgetown, Minnesota.

The indices of the St. Paul Field Division disclosed information submitted by letter dated May 29, 1942 by [redacted] Sheriff of Clay County, Moorhead, Minnesota, regarding an [redacted] with a reference made to [redacted] son, possibly identical with [redacted], [redacted] advised that an [redacted], who operates a farm just on the edge of town, age about 55 years, who had recently moved into the vicinity from North Dakota, has one son who is studying for the ministry and who is often also expressing "some pretty rough talking in favor of Germany - the same as the old man". b7c b7D

AT MOORHEAD, MINNESOTA:

[redacted] Clay County Local Board #1, advised that her records reflected a registration for an [redacted] but that there was no record of a Selective Service registration for an [redacted] b7c

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

INFORMATION

Copies of this report are being sent to the St. Louis Field Division for information purposes only, inasmuch as the undeveloped lead set out in reference report for St. Louis reflects that there may be further investigation in that area of the individuals who would contact subject.

FD

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Detroit

SL FILE NO. 100-6013

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Saint Louis	1-28-44	1-14, 15,17,18,20-44	[redacted]

b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, alias Gerald L. K. Smith; AMERICA FIRST PARTY	SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

GERALD L. K. SMITH of Detroit, Mich. and Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER of Denver, Colo., and their wives spent January 14 and 15, 1944 in Saint Louis, Mo. SMITH had written to perhaps sixty-four individuals in the Saint Louis Area for the purpose of private conferences; however, only six people contacted him, all of whom were former Coughlinites and America Firsters. None of them are powerful figures in Saint Louis, but all are of "crack-pot type". Newspapers give SMITH little publicity, some of which is unfavorable. One of main purposes of SMITH's visit was to contact Dr. WALTER A. MAIER, Professor, Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis, and Director of the Lutheran Hour, which is broadcasted over four hundred stations and reported to have from twelve to fourteen million listeners. They spent considerable time together and MAIER appears in accord with SMITH's ideas. GERALD B. WINROD, indicted Seditionist, telephonically contacted SMITH to find out where he can reach him with an urgent letter. SMITH and SPRINGER are concerned over the outcome of the Sedition trial, and while SMITH is confident prosecution will be unsuccessful, SPRINGER is much concerned about his own future and feels that he will be indicted. SPRINGER cannot understand why he has not been questioned about WINROD as he has openly supported him and accompanied him on a trip to Puerto Rico. Both believe they are furthering CHRIST's cause and if they go to jail it is GOD's will and the outcome is in GOD's hands. SMITH

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/6/80 BY SP1 [illegible]

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: G. B. Morris — SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES: 43818-421

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2 - Saint Louis

32 JAN 31 1944

RECORDED & INDEXED

makes preliminary plans for meeting of four hundred to five hundred in Saint Louis in March, 1944, and then will later hold a "big rip snorter meeting and raise hell". He is assembling mailing lists of all Isolationists, anti-Administration people, and individuals who have been against the United States entrance into the war. His plan is to consolidate all of the Isolationists and then will support the Republican Party unless WILKIE is nominated, whereupon the America First Party will put up candidates. Indication that SMITH feels he will be its presidential nominee. SMITH and people who contacted him in Saint Louis are Isolationists, anti-British, anti-Semitic, anti-Communist, anti-Russian, anti-New Deal, and anti-ROOSEVELT. SMITH is stressing large mustering-out pay for servicemen and easy benefits for veterans. SMITH says he is distributing petitions to get Father COUGHLIN back on the air. He claims close friendship with Representative CLARE HOFFMAN, ARTHUR VANDENBURG, Mrs. ERNST LUNDEEN, Reverend LELAND L. MARION, C. NELSON SPARKS (involved in Hopkins mystery letter), and Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS. Former leader of America First Committee in Saint Louis denies that the America First Party has any connection with their movement.

- P -

Details:

I. NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

The afternoon newspapers on January 14, 1944 published short articles on the back pages of this edition that GERALD L. K. SMITH, Organizer and Head of the America First Party in the United States, was in Saint Louis to confer with members of his party preliminary to perfecting the organization in Saint Louis and Southern Illinois. SMITH was accompanied by HARVEY H. SPRINGER of Denver, Colorado, Regional Head of the America First Party in the Rocky Mountain Section, Mrs. SMITH,

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SL File #100-6013.

who assists her husband in his organization work, and Mrs. SPRINGER. SMITH told reporters that he expected to be in Saint Louis through January 15, 1944 and would confer with sixty-four "key individuals" in Missouri and Southern Illinois, with all of whom he has been in correspondence. He plans to make arrangements for a large mass meeting at which he, SPRINGER, and Captain EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago, Head of the Citizens Committee of America, will speak.

Efforts to organize the veterans of the present war who have been discharged from service are being made by SMITH, who said he is forming a Veterans Committee of the America First Party. He has been distributing petitions to these veterans urging Congress to provide a "mustering-out pay". SMITH said, "We are for more money for the veterans and less money for political 'hoondoggling' in other countries".

The morning newspaper, The Saint Louis Globe-Democrat, on January 15, 1944 published a very short article relative to GERALD L. K. SMITH's attempt to organize former members of America First and other Nationalist Groups. It sets out that SMITH is seeking to form an America First Political Party who will enter a third party candidate, probably Colonel CHARLES LINDBERGH or Senator GERALD P. NYE, in the November Election "If the Republicans nominate WENDELL WILKIE or anyone of WILKIE's sentiments". The article reports that a Globe-Democrat reporter interviewed Mr. JOSEPH FORSHAW, the last President of the Saint Louis Chapter of the America First Committee. Mr. FORSHAW advised that the America First Party had no connection with the former America First Movement and declared that "Someone is always using the name of an organization for their own purpose".

SMITH is described as head of the so called "Committee of One Million", and publisher of a magazine, "The Cross and the Flag". His western leader, HARVEY SPRINGER of Denver, Colorado, is described as national head of the "Defenders of the Christian Faith".

The Saint Louis Post Dispatch on January 15, 1944 published a picture of SMITH and SPRINGER and their wives sitting in their suite at the Hotel Statler, and also a very short editorial, which describes SMITH as the "Well known rabble-rouser who is in town to rouse himself a modicum of rabble." The editorial comments that SMITH is not a candidate for a key to the city, but that he will nevertheless find no door locked against him as the spirit of liberalism exists in Saint Louis.

SL File #100-6013.

"Saint Louis has lived through the Big Wind of 1896, the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1878, and diverse other events of similar nature. It can take in stride the SMITH visit of 1944, which may not even cause enough of a ripple to make a mention in the history books".

During SMITH's stay in Saint Louis frequent mention was made to an article published in the Saint Louis Post Dispatch on December 26, 1943 written by a Staff Correspondent of the Post, Mr. SPENCER R. McCULLOCH, who interviewed SMITH in Detroit, Michigan. The article is entitled, "GERALD L. K. SMITH -- Rabble-Rouser, Fishing the Pools of Native Fascism for Political Power in 1944 and 1948." This long article goes into detail about SMITH's background, taking him back to the days of HUEY LONG and the "Share our wealth" crusade. It sets out the names of individuals with whom SMITH has had contact and his views on national and international affairs. The article mentioned that Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER, Pastor of a Baptist Church in Denver, Colorado, publishes the "Western Voice" and was and still is an ardent America Firster. The article is not complimentary to SMITH.

II. ACTIVITY IN SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI ON JANUARY 14, 1944

The information obtained during SMITH's stay in Saint Louis was obtained from various confidential sources.

GERALD L. K. SMITH registered at the Hotel Statler at 9:50 A.M. on January 14, 1944 and was assigned to a suite of rooms numbered 816 and 818. Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER and his wife also registered and were assigned to Room 806. The SMITHS and SPRINGERS had dinner in SMITHS' suite along with Dr. WALTER A. MAIER, Professor, Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis, Missouri, and Director of the Sunday afternoon Lutheran Hour, which is broadcasted over the Mutual Network. After dinner they were joined by another Professor from Concordia Seminary, whose name is possibly [redacted] who has been a teacher for twenty-two years. It is believed that [redacted] was brought to the hotel by a student at Concordia Seminary whose name is [redacted] b7c

During the day SMITH was chiefly concerned with getting in touch with the various Saint Louis newspapers and the only other outside call was made to Delmar 5903, which is the non-published number of the Lutheran Laymen League, 3558 South Jefferson, Saint Louis, Missouri. It is possible

SL File No.100-6013.

that this had something to do with contacting Dr. WALTER A. MAIER of Concordia Seminary, which is a Lutheran Institution.

Confidential sources could not determine the discussion which took place during the dinner, however, this office was informed of the following discussions:

MAIER asked SMITH his opinion as to a negotiated peace with Germany, however SMITH made no direct reply to this question. SMITH spoke of a young man whom he had contacted that afternoon, and apparently was not at all in sympathy with him, and mentioned how this young man ridiculed sources of information, which SMITH had quoted, such as HENRY FORD. This young man had brought up the rubber question and SMITH said that all of the statements which he had ever made concerning rubber had been checked into by [redacted] or [redacted] of the DOW Chemical Company. The essence of SMITH's statements on the rubber situation, apparently had been that the only rubber shortage the United States had had, was that brought on by the English rubber interests, and that there was eight pounds of rubber in every bushel of wheat here, and that the shortage of rubber in the United States, at the present time, is artificially produced by the present government in favor of English interests after the war.

b7c

Apparently SMITH was anxious to win over Dr. MAIER to their cause, as MAIER has the largest religious program on the air. SMITH was subtly complimentary to MAIER and MAIER seemed pleased with these comments and to have this opportunity of conferring with SMITH. They started talking about the presidential elections, and SMITH suggested that MAIER hold on until June 1st and allow the "enemy" no opportunity to get him off of the air, and then after June first, he could say most anything he wanted. At this point SMITH also mentioned that after the Republicans were successful in electing their candidate, they would have complete immunity to say whatever they wished. In speaking of the Republican Party, he indicated that their group would support the Republicans, unless they would put up an Internationalist candidate, such as WILKIE, and indicated that then another party would be demanded by the public, because their ideas are so deeply enrooted in this country. When asked by MAIER as to whom SMITH thought would be the Republican candidate, he advised that it would probably be "a compromise between our group and the Internationalists." SMITH said that it had been conceded that their

*Election

side was victorious at Mackinac Island, and that they had served an ultimatum on those meetings at Mackinac (Meeting of Republican leaders); that they had also won a victory in Chicago by having the convention held in that city. He further stated that Col. McCORMICK was the savior of freedom in the United States, and that only after the "enemy" who is now entrenched in Washington has been removed, would the public know how near they had come to losing their freedom. He also stated that we would never know how close we came to disaster until history has been written. Some of the candidates which SMITH said would possibly be nominated, were BRICKER, MacARTHUR, VANDENBERG, DEWEY, all of whom he referred to as weak candidates, in fact, it is his opinion, neither side has a strong candidate, and the "ABRAHAM LINCOLN has not shown up".

This group was against President ROOSEVELT, and the present Administration, and spoke of the influence which the Reds have in our Government. SMITH related the story that he had told LOU MAXON before he went to Washington to take a position in the O.P.A. He warned MAXON that he better be careful of the Reds, and MAXON looked upon him as though he did not know of what he spoke. Subsequently he heard MAXON give a talk before the Advertisers Club in Chicago and after he spoke SMITH approached him and MAXON then acknowledged that SMITH was right, and in fact, had not even painted the picture as bad as it actually is.

In Commenting on the New Deal and its economics, SMITH told the story, possibly getting it from MAXON, that one of the younger economists who had something to do with hiring people for the government, eliminated one individual because he had learned his economics over ten years ago and believed that these principles do not fit in with the new theories of economics.

SMITH explained how he had been a good friend of GEORGE MURPHY, the brother of FRANK MURPHY, presently on the Supreme Court Bench. He explained that he very seldom writes letters to people, but that he wrote a letter to MURPHY, complimenting him upon his criticizing FRANKFURTER for trying to make laws according to his own ideas, regardless of precedent. He explained that FRANKFURTER and his 200 lawyers scattered through the government made these laws which they knew were unconstitutional, but ROOSEVELT had supposedly packed the Supreme Court, so that when these laws would be brought up for decision, the packed Supreme Court would hold them constitutional. SMITH said, however, that it shows the genius of our

scheme of counterbalances in our government in that it was prevented, and that although the Court was supposedly packed, the judges were still individualistic enough that they would not go against what they knew was right. SMITH spoke as though he knows FRANK MURPHY.

The discussion touched on the proposed National Service Act, and SMITH is of the opinion that if it is fully enforced, it will cause a revolution.

SMITH said "If I were diabolic and just wanted revenge, I would pray that the National Service Act would pass because of the repercussions". He also mentioned the fact that if ROOSEVELT does win he will have a Republican Congress which will tie his hands.

The entire group apparently agreed with this, and added individual comment. One of the women appeared utterly amazed that a woman could be placed in some position as dictated by the Government. SMITH explained that they had such an act in England, and one day his friend RANDOLPH MILLS, the Times Correspondent in London, had his young secretary drafted for some war work and he was greatly inconvenienced in being forced to break in a new girl for that work.

SMITH and SPRINGER spoke of having met somebody in Saint Louis who had just come in on the train who, although he was not well versed in the Bible and was rather profane, came very close to predicting the Future Alignment of States in Europe. SPRINGER apparently bases this new alignment as being prophesied in the Bible. He explained that he could never reconcile how Russia, based on Communism, was going to eliminate the Jews, and that STALIN is not a Communist and a worse tyrant than the Czar, and that his next big step would be to eliminate the Jews. This man may possibly be a lawyer for FORD. They spoke of various preachers on the air who preach the full gospel and mentioned [redacted] in Grand Rapids, [redacted] and MAIER as being the only exponents of the true Gospel and in this respect they further complimented Dr. MAIER in that he was the only one with courage enough to "really fight sin". They spoke of Dr. MAIER having a radio audience of twelve to fourteen million, with a four hundred station hook-up. b7c

SMITH told of an incident happening at the University of Minnesota, when he was there a week or two ago. He explained that they have a few hundred theological students and after SMITH had given a talk at some hall

in Minneapolis, the president of these students came to SMITH and asked him if he would not talk before them. SMITH was quite amazed that this fellow would stick out his neck to invite him to speak before this group and cautioned him about it. SMITH was very pleased to speak to this group of 100 young people, both men and women, who really believe in CHRIST.

In this entire conversation there was frequent mention made of doing GOD's work, fighting sin, in referring to the present Administration as "the enemies", and indicating that a sinful crowd presently had control of the government and it was their duty as churchmen to recognize that they also had a duty to their country, and that even though they were churchmen, this did not prevent them from engaging in this activity. They spoke very derogatory of politicians, and indicated that in their mind politicians were weak, vacillating individuals with very little mental ability.

As MAIER was leaving, he invited SMITH and SPRINGER to visit him at Concordia Seminary on the following day. As MAIER was leaving, it was found out that this individual [redacted] was present as he had not made any comment. Mention was also made by one of the men about "When we get through with the Ozark people". b7c

After Dr. MAIER left, SMITH and SPRINGER started discussing their contact with him. They were surprised that Dr. MAIER had so openly come to the hotel in view of the fact that undoubtedly at least six "operatives" were hanging around the lobby. They explained his coming either because "he was so naive as to not be aware that the newspapers might the next day run an article with headline, "Dr. MAIER confers for Three Hours in a Hotel Room with America's Number One Fascist", or that he was so powerful that he did not care. They were inclined to believe that it was because of the latter. SPRINGER asked SMITH whether he should advise [redacted] about their contact with Dr. MAIER, but SMITH indicated that MAIER had several times asked him not to mention that he was going off of the air on September 1st, and if [redacted] would then contact Dr. MAIER he would know that they had mentioned it and MAIER apparently does not want this information to get out for ten days. b7c

Reference is made to the "fine mailing list" which would be available through Dr. MAIER and in the course of the conversation, SMITH

stated that he was going to watch for the slightest opportunity to write a letter in support of SMITH's cause over MAIER's signature. In his words "I am going to work my psychology on him and if he weakens but a moment I will slip it in on him". He stated to SPRINGER that because of the enormous following that MAIER had one such letter might change the history of the United States.

SMITH indicated that he was very reluctant to use the telephone for fear it was tapped. In this regard mention was made several times concerning the fact that their activities may be observed and watched by government agents. They were also very much concerned about the indictments which have been returned against various persons of their own kind, including JOE MacWILLIAMS, et al. They were wondering whether there would be further indictments and they spoke of the possibility that they, themselves, might be indicted. SPRINGER and SMITH both said that they were glad they were doing what they were, and that they felt they were furthering GOD's work and were they indicted it would be GOD's will. SPRINGER said that he would not hire a lawyer, nor spend one cent in defending himself, but would leave it in the hands of GOD. He also made some mention of letting "The Government, the FBI and others do what they will". He said that he possibly would not be able to raise a cent for his defense but SMITH explained to him that although he might lose ninety out of a hundred of his followers, the ten that remained would furnish him more money than all of the rest combined and cited the example of JOE MacWILLIAMS. He explained that JOE MacWILLIAMS was arrested on a trumped up Selective Service charge, as he had moved from hotel to hotel and did not advise his draft board and was arrested on a Friday and held to Monday as there were no judges available over the weekend. However, a woman heiress and her husband from the North Shore of Chicago, came to him and advised him that regardless of how much bail would be, they would put it up and give him as much money as necessary for his defense. SMITH estimated that they might furnish MacWILLIAMS as much as $25,000, simply because he was a martyr and was being persecuted. One of the women mentioned that it was unthinkable that they would indict preachers and she believed this had caused resentment among the people.

They mentioned Dr. GERALD B. WINROD and spoke as though they were quite friendly with him. They also mentioned Father COUGHLIN, and some other priest. They felt that WINROD was indicted through this priest and pointed out the fact that he was not mentioned in the book, "Undercover",

although the book mentions even the small fry. Both SPRINGER and SMITH made the statement that there is the possibility that they might have to go to jail, and they are of the opinion that GOD will see them through. They continually mentioned the fact that they were ministers of the Gospel. SMITH apparently fully realizes that association with him may be held against people and especially Dr. MAIER, but he said, "What is wrong in three Christian preachers getting together and having a conference in a downtown hotel room".

Mention was also made of a man named LOHEMCK, whose contact SMITH seemingly highly rates. SMITH explained to SPRINGER that LOHEMCK has available the full list of America Firsters and other sympathizers with their cause in this area. LOHEMCK was to meet with them in SMITH's room at 5:00 P.M. January 15, 1944. SMITH cautioned SPRINGER as to mentioning this contact to others whom they were to deal with. Just prior to this conversation some mention was made of a man named [redacted]. b7c

From the conversation between SMITH and SPRINGER, their chief purpose for coming to Saint Louis was to contact Dr. MAIER because of his large radio following. They were very interested in broadcasting and broadcasting networks. They believed the Administration was tying up the networks and that only Mutual was releasing time. They mentioned an individual by the name of KELLY who they said is presently staying on a lower floor in the hotel and that this fellow KELLY was the president of some new broadcasting organization which was gathering up radio time. SMITH explained that KELLY had built up several radio preachers—the inference being that these preachers were of the same type as SMITH. They mentioned in this respect the fact that Dr. MAIER would be off the air in September and also that Mutual was taking away the time from some of the other preachers previously mentioned, but that as far as they knew this time was sold for commercial broadcasts. SMITH and SPRINGER were very much concerned about this radio broadcasting setup and were apparently trying to see that their interests would be protected. KELLY's exact place in this conversation could not be clearly determined. There was some indication that KELLY might be the agent for some unknown person in getting together this various radio time or was possibly trying to form a new network.

Regarding Dr. MAIER, SMITH also mentioned that their visit to Saint Louis had been very worthwhile, because talking to him was the same as speaking to four hundred preachers in an auditorium inasmuch as his talks

are broadcasted through four hundred stations. Apparently June 1st is the time when MAIER is to open up politically in his radio sermons.

SMITH is apparently planning a tour of the southern states with talks at Mobile, Saint Petersburg, Tampa, and then back to Mobile. SPRINGER is to be the advance agent for this speaking tour and asked SMITH for leeway so that he could work out a proper schedule. They also mentioned the fact that the southern newspapers did not play up the indictments of JOE MacWILLIAMS, et al, and SMITH was apparently in the South at the time these indictments were announced, and had to rouse an A. P. man out of bed to get the original teletype ticker to obtain the names of those indicted. They apparently feel that the South is not very much concerned about these indictments. SMITH feels that the cases will not be brought to trial until June and although he apparently was concerned over the fact that prosecution might be successful, one of the women felt as though there was considerable doubt to that. SMITH was concerned over the fact that if those cases are successfully prosecuted, there will be further indictments and said it is possible that he might have to go to jail.

SPRINGER has a congregation of his own in Denver, and was concerned over the fact that he might lose this congregation, and asked advice from SMITH as to what he did when he lost his. SMITH explained that he had had clandestine meetings with HUEY LONG in Washington, D. C. just as these clandestine meetings and that when it was published and he got back to Louisiana, his congregation was divided and he did not know whether to immediately resign, or wait until later. He was apparently proud of his association with HUEY LONG. He commented that it seems that every time he lifts his head GOD rubs it in the dirt. In this connection he was talking about some young preacher protege of his who was apparently quite egotistical and needed "humbling by GOD".

III. ACTIVITY IN SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI ON JANUARY 15, 1944

GERALD L. K. SMITH and Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER were occupied until about 10-15 A.M. on the morning of January 15, 1944 preparing a newspaper release, which set out the purposes of their visit in Saint Louis in connection with organizing the America First Party and also sets out the objectives of this group.

SL FILE No.100-6013.

Visit to Concordia Seminary and Interviews by Star-Times Reporter

About 10:30 A.M. [redacted] a student from Concordia Seminary, called by Hotel Statler to pick up SMITH and SPRINGER. He was driving a 1939 or 1940 Gray Pontiac Coach bearing 1943 Minnesota License No.337-783. He took them to Concordia Seminary and brought them back to the Hotel about 12:15 P.M.

SPRINGER and SMITH were very pleased with the "fine thing at Concordia" and what a fine experience it was to see these young men who have so much faith in CHRIST. SPRINGER commented, "It was a great treat for them to meet you (SMITH)". "They looked at you as though they were meeting the next president of the United States".

Mr. O'LEARY, a reporter for the Saint Louis Star-Times, had been in to interview SMITH earlier in the morning. However, inasmuch as SMITH could not give him very much time, arrangements had been made for O'LEARY to come back at 12:30 P.M. O'LEARY had been a reporter for a newspaper in New Orleans, possibly the New Orleans Item, and used to follow SMITH and HUEY LONG all over Louisiana.

O'LEARY was late in coming and SMITH was aware of the fact that the City Editor of the Star-Times is a Jew and SPRINGER believes "It is a real mean paper. It is a New Deal paper". SMITH commented that the newspaper is full of Jewish lies and the reporter was probably late because of a conference with his editor as to questions to ask him.

SMITH, however, waits for this interview and O'LEARY does come about twenty minutes late. SMITH told O'LEARY that it is not their purpose to split the Republican Party, however, should WILKIE be nominated, their entire movement would become a separate political party because the people of the United States would demand it. O'LEARY inquired how they expected to get on the various state ballots and SMITH explained that that is one of the purposes of his present tour--to study the election laws of various states and see how this can be accomplished. SMITH furnished O'LEARY various publications and articles giving information about his background and views. SMITH explained that they are for relaxation in the war effort and that the America Firsters are not traitors. SMITH particularly points out an article written about him by RAY PUCKER, a commentator. SMITH in answer to the direct question said that they are against subsidies and that this is a scheme of the

Government to hold the people in line for the next election. When asked how else inflation can be controlled, SMITH said that inflation can be controlled by price control.

O'LEARY asked about SPRINGER's background and it was explained that SPRINGER came to Saint Louis specifically to confer with SMITH. He is pastor of the largest Baptist Church in Colorado, and is also head of eleven hundred ministers of the Gospel who are backing SMITH. These eleven hundred preachers are from all over the United States. SPRINGER explained that when the persecution of preachers began, he sent out a five page letter to 228,000 persons suggesting that they band together to "preserve CHRIST'S cause in America". 89,000 of these 228,000 were preachers. O'LEARY, in his questioning, tried to bring out that of this large number, 1100 was a very small percentage who were in sympathy with the idea, but SPRINGER and SMITH explained that they did not ask all of the preachers who answered to become members of the Committee. They explained that every time a preacher speaks against the New Deal over the radio, his radio time is taken away, and that they as preachers think that they have a part in changing things in the next election.

O'LEARY said that one of their men thought that he saw SPRINGER at Concordia Seminary and SPRINGER immediately replied that that had no connection whatsoever with the America First Party, and that SPRINGER had a personal friend who was showing him the buildings out there. He emphasized that it had no connection with the movement and that any statement to the effect that it did would be entirely false. He explained that he went out there for relaxation inasmuch as they had heard that it was a wonderful institution.

SMITH explained that there was a steady stream of people coming in to see him from Southern Illinois and Missouri and that he is ascertaining the best possible place to hold a meeting (It is to be noted that very few people did actually come to see SMITH and that he was continually exaggerating the number of people he was conferring with, and to the people who contacted him he exaggerated the importance of other individuals whom he had seen).

Just as O'LEARY left, there was a telephone call for SMITH from Dr. MAIER's office. A Star-Times Reporter had been there and Dr. MAIER wanted to make sure that SMITH would not say anything showing his connection with him. SMITH told him that they had explained to the

reporter that they were out there looking at the architecture.

In the conversation which followed, SPRINGER said, "I cleared that up to the reporter. I took that idea out of his mind (the idea that Dr. MAIER had anything to do with their movement). SMITH answered, "No you didn't. You told him what you hoped he would believe, but you didn't take it out of his mind. My hunches are always right. We should never have gone out there. I refused Dr. MAIER three times, but he insisted." They then conjecture as to how the reporters found out that they had been at Concordia Seminary and apparently were not aware of the fact that the Star-Times Reporter had tailed them out to the seminary.

SMITH believes that he is being watched and Mrs. SMITH related an incident which happened to her in Buffalo, New York, which convinced her that she was being followed and checked upon.

Subjects' Comments Relative to Newspaper Articles Published During Stay in Saint Louis

Relative to the short article which appeared in the morning edition of the Globe-Democrat, the comment was made by SPRINGER and Mrs. SMITH that "At least they didn't 'smear' us."

Mr. and Mrs. SMITH laughed at the editorial which appeared in the Post Dispatch on January 15, 1944, which called SMITH a "rabble-rouser", he commenting, "We made it. At least they didn't 'smear' me. That is what I came for."

SMITH and SPRINGER did not know the identity of CARL SCHURZ, the German-born naturalized citizen who was a member of Congress for many years and theorize that he is probably a Jew.

SMITH was also very anxious to determine from the people whom he contacted what the reaction was to McCULLOCH's article in the Post on December 26, 1943. He could obtain very little information about this, but mention was made that it probably did him more good than harm. It did attract the attention of individuals who were sympathetic with his ideas and at least one of these individuals did write to him in Detroit because of this article (JOSEPH WAKOESTARS).

SL File No. 100-6013.

Miscellaneous Comments Made by the SMITHS and SPRINGERS

SMITH told O'LEARY, the Star-Times reporter, that the America First party had no local branch, but that plans were being made for this. He explained that the people who are interested in their movement are the Republicans and the America Firsters. He referred O'LEARY to an article concerning himself in Times magazine where the Governor of Vermont called SMITH and several other individuals of his type, "The four year locusts". SMITH explained that he, himself, "is not a candidate for anything". He refused repeatedly to announce any names of individuals with whom he was working.

While Mrs. SMITH and SPRINGER were engaged in a general conversation she commented that RUSSIA is doing so well because so much of the war material is being furnished by the United States. She commented relative to an article in the newspaper giving the number of men who will be inducted into the United States Army in the coming months and she is against having such a large number of men called into the armed forces. SPRINGER related an incident which happened to him in the lobby--the cashier mentioned that "Undercover" must be a good book because WALTER WINCHELL recommends it, whereupon SPRINGER told her that "This is the reason why it undoubtedly is no good". When Mr. and Mrs. SMITH discussed the large number of men to be inducted by July 1, 1944, SMITH commented in derogatory terms about the Internationalists and the United Nations crowd.

While SMITH and SPRINGER were discussing plans of their movement, SPRINGER inquired as to what the smart thing might be in regard to publications, and SMITH merely commented, "More than we have done". SMITH and SPRINGER were concerned with the coming Sedition trials. SPRINGER is of the opinion that five or six Nazis have been thrown in as defendants with the rest of those indicted in order to confuse the issue. However, SMITH believes that the lawyers will not permit this. SPRINGER wonders whether the government thinks that Reverend GERALD B. WINROD, one of the indicted Seditionists, has no followers and SMITH explains that the followers are isolated and therefore they feel that these followers can do no harm. SPRINGER asks, "Suppose those who have been tried are found guilty and have to go to jail?", but SMITH is of the opinion that they will not go to jail as they will appeal any such conviction.

SMITH then explained to SPRINGER his position in this matter, especially in regard to his connections with the individuals who had been indicted. His mind has not been made up as yet and it will depend upon the evidence which is introduced. If from that evidence he thinks that WINROD and the others are guilty, then he will issue a statement to such effect and show that he had no connections with this group. If he does not believe that they are guilty, he will organize meetings, give speeches, et cetera for their defense. However, he believes that if they are convicted, it will be upon perjured evidence and technicalities.

SPRINGER feels as though he has a great decision to make as he is concerned that he might become involved in these indictments, especially because of his contact with WINROD. SMITH says that WINROD was not the man, as he does not impress people when they meet him. He does not believe that WINROD's skirts are entirely clean, but that the things that WINROD said were said in peace time when we were at war with no nation and he does not believe that a man can be condemned for accepting help--no matter where the help comes from (apparently meaning help from Germany). SMITH commented that [redacted] (phonetic) looks very downcast and acts very strangely when he is around SMITH. b7c

SMITH tells SPRINGER, "Even if they convict WINROD, they can't get you". SPRINGER then explains that he was the only public figure who supported WINROD and that if WINROD is convicted, it will ruin SPRINGER in certain circles. SMITH encourages SPRINGER, but SPRINGER is very much worried. Apparently SPRINGER had arranged for WINROD'S meetings in the Denver Area. SMITH stated that WINROD had "two strikes against him", but when he started enumerating them, he ended up with three strikes, listed as follows: (1) He visited Germany; (2) His wife (apparently either comments that the wife has made or some activity of the wife; and (3) Three former employees of WINROD will testify against him.

SPRINGER is very surprised that the FBI has never asked him about WINROD inasmuch as he went to Puerto Rico with him and helped him in Denver, Colorado. SMITH is of the opinion that SPRINGER has not been questioned as he is in favor of WINROD. SMITH also commented that he has had no direct contact with WINROD since 1932.

Although SMITH and SPRINGER sometimes wandered off of the topic of the indictments, it apparently was uppermost in their mind as the conversation always came back to this topic. SMITH said, "They indicted

[redacted] (phonetic) in New York and then dropped it". SMITH wonders if the defendants have any good lawyers and believes that SPRINGER will be subpoenaed as a defense witness for all of the defendants. They have not heard anything concerning this, but both of them feel as though they will be subpoenaed to Washington, D. C. for the trials. b7c

SMITH commented about the local situation in Saint Louis and apparently he had asked someone in Saint Louis to hold a meeting and preside over it, but that this individual refused. SPRINGER is afraid that he will be "smeared" in Denver. He comments about his congregation and said that he has mentally taken his congregation from small ideas to bigger things and that this year, 1944, he will bring them up to still bigger things. SPRINGER is very much concerned about his own future and the fact that if the Seditionists presently under indictment are successfully prosecuted, he will then be indicted. SMITH also has some concern about this, but feels as though the prosecutions will not be successful. SPRINGER says that he has vowed that he will not spend any money for his defense, but will leave everything in the hands of GOD as he sincerely feels that he is doing GOD'S work. Both of these men are convinced that they are doing the right thing and will follow along the course which they have begun.

Another one of the purposes for SMITH's visit to Saint Louis was to decide on some individual in this city who could rent a hall for him and then "sit on it" so he wouldn't lose it. He also wants to concentrate on Saint Louis inasmuch as "It is right in the middle".

Miscellaneous: Persons Referred to in Conversations

SMITH is apparently on friendly terms with Reverend IRLAND L. MARION of Pontiac, Michigan, and some reference was made to him defying the O.P.A. in regard to gasoline rationing. This individual is believed to be identical with the MARION who addressed a Detroit meeting of the America First Party on June 8, 1943 in Detroit, Michigan. SMITH and SPRINGER feel as though the Administration is trying to suppress preachers.

SPRINGER inquired of SMITH whether he had written to Senator JOHNSON. SMITH said, "You mean the Ultimatum?" and then answered that he had written to the Senator.

SL File No.100-6013.

SMITH commented that he had received a letter from BOB REYNOLDS, (United States Senator) and SPRINGER asked, "Will he be hearing from JERRY?", to which SMITH answered, "He is working on it for me".

Some camera man for Collier's Magazine has been trying to see SMITH.

Telephone Call from GERALD B. WINROD

GERALD B. WINROD tried to get in touch with SMITH by telephone calling long distance; however, SMITH was out of the room and SPRINGER spoke with him. SPRINGER said that he expects to be in Florida in March, but was leaving for home (Denver, Colorado) on the afternoon of January 15, 1944 so that he could be at his church for services Sunday morning. He explained that SMITH was leaving for Chicago on the night of January 15 and would be there on January 16 and 17 at the Blackstone Hotel. SMITH intended leaving for Detroit on Monday night, January 17. SPRINGER commented to WINROD that they had had favorable statements in the newspapers in Saint Louis and that up to that time there had been no "smearing".

After the telephone conversation was completed, SPRINGER explained that it was WINROD and that WINROD had tried to get him in Florida. WINROD would not discuss anything over the telephone but wanted to know where an airmail special delivery letter could reach SMITH at the earliest possible moment and SPRINGER told him to send it to Chicago. WINROD had related a story to SPRINGER concerning a small weekly paper which was published in Wichita, Kansas. The editor of that newspaper ran an editorial on the front page which had appeared in the Chicago Tribune relative to the indictment of WINROD and the other Seditionists. Apparently this was an editorial upholding those indicted. The editor of this small weekly said that as he walked down the street the day after his paper came out seventeen business men stopped him and gave him cigars for running the editorial.

Persons Who Conferred with GERALD L. K. SMITH

1. [redacted] About 2:30 P.M. [redacted] apparently one of the individuals to whom SMITH had written prior to his coming to Saint Louis, telephonically contacted SMITH. [redacted] had heard SMITH talk at the Coliseum on some occasion. SMITH inquired of [redacted] b7c

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where a meeting could be held for about four to five hundred people and asked [redacted] to send him a list of the names of his friends. Arrangements were made for [redacted] to come to the Hotel Statler and [redacted] was to try to bring all of the America Firsters names.

In the late afternoon [redacted] came to the Hotel Statler and SMITH inquired whether he had gotten to the Cleveland Convention. [redacted] answered that he had not, but that [redacted] (phonetic) had been the representative. [redacted] explained that he had been active in the America First Committee and lives in Lemay, Missouri, next door to his sister, [redacted] who was also very active in the America First Committee. She operates a general merchandise store in Lemay and has a small hall available there. [redacted] was a Coughlinite and held a membership card. SMITH wanted a list of the Coughlinites and [redacted] advised that he had a list of names and could get his daughter-in-law to copy them.

[redacted] explained that the FBI had investigated him as he had been charged with holding meetings. He admitted that he talked a lot and that he is radical. SMITH started stressing the point that the men were released from the armed services without a cent and that the Government was spending six million dollars in South America--wasting money on foreigners and not giving the American soldiers anything.

SMITH said that under FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, in order to be a good American you could not be an America First, but a Russia First, or England First. He also started playing on [redacted] emotions with such phrases as "Our boys first", etc. SMITH asked [redacted] whether he thought it would be possible to get enough names to circularize in order to get four hundred or five hundred people together for a meeting. [redacted] thought this possible and when asked where he thought would be a good place suggested the Triangle Hall.

In answer to the question, [redacted] said he was willing to act as SMITH's agent to rent a hall. SMITH and [redacted] talked of plans for this meeting. SMITH does not want anyone to come to the meeting, which would be small, except those who were in possession of an invitation. After the small meeting they would have a "big rip snorter of a meeting and raise hell". [redacted] agreed to help SMITH obtain a hall and the details would be worked out in correspondence between them. [redacted] advised that he did not have a telephone, but his sister's number is Watson 2921. He had tried to get in touch with his sister to come down

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to the hotel with him as she would have been glad to meet SMITH and talk with him. However, he could not get in touch with her. [redacted] explained that he had tried to get people to come to meetings before the war and that he told all of the men then that "You have no time for meetings now, but you will have time later on to die" (He apparently meant die in war).

SMITH explained that they were forming a big movement of men just like [redacted]-no stuffed shirts. He said that Saint Louis was the only town which has not had a nucleus of America Firsters or some other Isolationist group who continues to meet, upon which he could build a meeting. SMITH was also seeking to get names of other individuals who were "their kind of people" and [redacted] suggested a priest in Mattese, Missouri, who is a scrapper, and also a pastor by the name of [redacted] who resides in a small town in Illinois. [redacted] agreed to get these names for SMITH and send them to him. [redacted] attended all of these types of meetings and SMITH told him that maybe he would send Mrs. LUNDEEN down to Saint Louis for a meeting. In explaining who Mrs. LUNDEEN is, he said that her husband, the Senator, had died in that "mysterious airplane crash". [redacted] was making some anti-semitic remarks and SMITH said, "They just don't realize how people are feeling". [redacted] explained that his sister had all of the names of the America Firsters and also stated that they were followers of Father COUGHLIN. SMITH commented that they were figuring on getting up a petition to get COUGHLIN on the air again. This was in answer to [redacted] question as to whether Father COUGHLIN would again be on the radio. SMITH also mentioned that he had sent out 100,000 petitions regarding mustering-out pay.

SMITH told [redacted] that he was going to Chicago from Saint Louis, but that his meeting in Chicago was a little different than here in Saint Louis as he was going up there to discuss strategy with other leaders in that city. He gave [redacted] four magazines, "Cross and Flag", and also a copy of some book. [redacted] commented that he would distribute them "at the shop". ([redacted] is now employed at Busch-Sulzer, Saint Louis).

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2. [redacted] [redacted] first introduced himself to SMITH as [redacted] however, handed him a card which showed him his true name. He explained that he is 38 years of age and is employed in the office of the Public Welfare for the City of Saint Louis under [redacted] In 1935 he was one of the young men who put on some meeting for SMITH here in Saint Louis, probably one of the Share-the-wealth meetings. SMITH asked [redacted] whether he was acquainted with [redacted] but he was not (In this respect it must be noted that SMITH tried to get a line on all of the individuals who contacted him as he was afraid that some person not in sympathy with his ideas might try to get his confidence in order to work against him).

[redacted] explained that he was active in the America First Committee, but that he also felt as though their cause was hopeless. He is a Republican and organized his ward for the mayor. He also explained that another individual with whom he worked in 1935 was a little fellow, an attorney, named [redacted] (phonetic). He explained that he is trying to get MILLER a job in the Collector's Office in the Saint Louis City Hall and that [redacted] is presently "pretty low financially" and drinks too much.

[redacted] is an egotistical individual who thinks that he is more or less of a power in Republican circles and he and [redacted] are going to get out a newspaper, size 8 X 12, containing eight pages. It will concern politics and [redacted] going to "raise hell with the Democrats". SMITH called [redacted]'s attention to his magazine, "Cross and Flag" and gives him a couple of copies. He informs [redacted] that he may use any of the material which he may read in "Cross and Flag" in his own newspaper without acknowledging the source.

SMITH said that he has always been anti-ROOSEVELT and asked what the reaction was in Saint Louis to McCULLOCH's article in the Post Dispatch. [redacted] believes that it had done more good than harm. SMITH then presented a book to [redacted] and said something about a man who had exposed NAzis in Washington, D. C. and referred him to page 42. On this page there is some story about ELEANOR ROOSEVELT's personal lawyer trying to get someone released.

SMITH inquired as to the nicest place a meeting could be held for about five hundred people and [redacted] suggested the Ivory Room at the Jefferson Hotel, or the Municipal Auditorium. SMITH likes to hold a

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meeting at hotels because the "sheenies" (Jews) do not object so much. SMITH inquired as to the leader of the Coughlinites in Saint Louis. However, [redacted] could not furnish this information, but mentioned an individual named [redacted] or [redacted] who held meetings a long time ago. SMITH also inquired if any Isolationists or Nationalistic Groups are holding meetings in Saint Louis and [redacted] advised him that there was nothing going on lately except the regular Republican and Democratic meetings. SMITH wanted the names of some other active members of the America First Committee and [redacted] suggested [redacted] has just gotten [redacted] a job at the City Hall. SMITH was anxious to get some lists of former America First members and [redacted] was of the opinion that [redacted] might have such lists of former America First members and [redacted] was of the opinion that [redacted] might have such lists.. SMITH inquired, "What became of the boys at the Deutsches Haus (German house)? Are any of them in Jail?" [redacted] was unable to furnish any information.

SMITH then had [redacted] call [redacted] on the telephone and SMITH talked to him. He explained that he wanted a list of the America First members and said, "I mean a list of our kind of people--not the stuffed shirts--but the real folks". He asked [redacted] to come down to the hotel and have a chat with him and "See if we are going to keep our country this fall or give it to the Chinese or someone else. We America Firsters will show strength and will support the Republicans and get what we deserve from them".

After arrangements had been made with [redacted] for him to come to the hotel, SMITH showed [redacted] an article written by RAY TUCKER. [redacted] is very anti-semitic and made frequent reference to the Jews. He told of the newspaper he was going to publish and said that he would be helped in it by [redacted] who was formerly in the advertising business. He advised that the Saint Louis Post Dispatch and the Star-Times are New Deal papers, but that his newspaper will "kick the Democrats". He intends to first mail it out to about 1,000 people and then get subscriptions and then send it out to 2,000 the next month and keep it growing in that way. SMITH again told him that he could use any of the material which he wanted out of his magazine, "Cross and Flag".

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SMITH also explained that he wanted the name of some bright young fellow who is a sincere America Firster to use as a keyman in arranging to rent a hall. [redacted] had a young fellow in mind who has just been mustered out of the armed services with a medical discharge, who is about twenty-five years old and is anti-semitic. [redacted] also advised that maybe his brother-in-law, who is a chiropractor, may be able to serve in that capacity.

In further conversation SMITH said that he was against millions of dollars being spent in South America and that less money should be spent in foreign "boondoggling" and more money given to the veterans. He explained how men just getting out of the service do not get any money at all and for the disabled veterans, there is too much red tape before they can get any disability payments. He said that the proper care of veterans is real America First philosophy--our soldiers before anyone. He believes that the worst enemy of the soldier is FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT. [redacted] apparently is a HUEY LONG admirer and they started reminiscing about old days and SMITH commented that "It is too bad our man LONG was killed".

Along with other anti-semitic remarks, [redacted] stated, "The people can't see how there is a concentration of wealth in the hands of a few Jews". SMITH said, "We must be ready to mobilize the people at the end of this war and if we do not do it the Reds will get them".

[redacted] has a son seventeen years old, who is in the army. His first name is [redacted]

SMITH was still anxious to get the names of other individuals who could go to the front for him in Saint Louis as [redacted] felt he could not do this because of his job at the City Hall. He did, however, say that there was a Holy Roller preacher by the name of [redacted] who used to live around Delmar and Euclid, and on one occasion [redacted] visited him in the Sir WALTER RALEIGH Apartments. SMITH had [redacted] try to reach [redacted] at the RALEIGH Apartments, however, no one seemed to know him there. There was a [redacted] in the telephone book listed as living in Eureka, Missouri so SMITH had [redacted] try to get this individual to see if this was the man [redacted] had in mind. It appeared as though SMITH was anxious to get any kind of a person to come down to talk with him and appeared to be grasping at straws.

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[redacted] explained that in 1935 when SMITH was in Saint Louis he, the attorney named [redacted] and a fellow named [redacted] who is a little fellow and a conscientious worker, arranged for the meeting. [redacted] lives at [redacted] informed SMITH that there was a lot of unemployment in Saint Louis and when the big lay-off comes then is when SMITH's philosophies will come into their own.

SMITH was apparently playing for the support of the Coughlinites and asked [redacted] if they were holding any meetings. [redacted] advised in the negative. SMITH started bragging about his movement and said that he had had people coming in to see him all day (It is to be noted that this was not true).

As SMITH started blowing himself up, [redacted] followed suit and said, "I am an important young man in the Republican Party". SMITH asked [redacted] if he thought that BENNETT CHAMP CLARK, Senator from Missouri, would be re-elected as "He is sort of our kind of a guy". [redacted] had no opinion about this. [redacted] also brought out that in 1935 he was one of the leaders in the Greater Saint Louis "Share The Wealth" Society.

[redacted] didn't want to become personal, but he wondered how SMITH managed to finance his movement. SMITH was more than glad to tell him and explained how many followers he has. He claimed that he had about 10,000 people who would send him from $1.00 to $5.00 whenever he launched a program. SMITH bragged as to his power in the Republican Party and explained that ARTHUR VANDENBERG was a close friend of his and that they had issued an ultimatum to the Republicans at Mackinac Island at Chicago telling them just on what basis they would support the party. SMITH explained that his greatest strength lay in Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan. He spoke of himself as being a power in the Republican Party and one of those who has undermined WILKIE.

SMITH asked [redacted] if anyone listens to Dr. MAIER of the Lutheran Hour. [redacted] did not know much about it, but stated he, himself, did not listen and did not know what support Dr. MAIER has.

3. DONALD LOHBECK: LOHBECK had apparently made arrangements on January 14 to come to the hotel to see SMITH the following day and they conferred for about a half-hour before confidential informants could furnish the text of their conversations. Mrs. VIRGINIA LOHBECK accompanied her husband. LOHBECK commented that Michigan was fortunate in having a

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representative like CLARE HOFFMAN, whereupon SMITH replied that he might send him down to Saint Louis as a speaker. SMITH exhibited to LOHBECK a bound volume of all of the issues of "Cross and Flag". He believes that it is a monthly test of the freedom of speech in the United States and every month that one sees it published one can feel assured that the freedom of speech has not completely died in this country. He said, "the enemy" controls the radio, press and motion pictures and that these means of expression are holding off the natural feelings of the true Americans. SMITH frequently mentioned RAY DANIELS, who was in London since 1939 and who did an article recently on SMITH for the New York Times. LOHBECK made remarks which showed that he is anti-Churchill and anti-British. He explained that he had come from Paris in 1939 where he had studied piano. Prior to this conversation they were talking about the Jews and LOHBECK explained that he gave up the Piano because of his name--it not being Jewish.

SMITH told a story of how he suggested to members of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra that if they would get someone other than a Jew to direct it that the people would support it. He claims that this was done in Detroit and that they are having the biggest season they ever had. SMITH related the following story, apparently for LOHBECK's benefit as he took LOHBECK to be German: Information had come to certain medical circles that in Central Europe devils were being born, in Austria one with a tail, and in Berlin one with horns. However, the latest report was that a baby had been born in England with wings. SMITH commented that it was very sad, indeed, if everyone with German blood was to be considered a degenerate.

The LOHBECKS were active in America Firsters and VIRGINIA LOHBECK worked at the office. LOHBECK has a list of those who volunteered for work at the America First Headquarters.

The LOHBECKS were invited to go out to dinner with the SMITHS and they went to the Castilla at 1115 Washington Street to eat. However, they had no contact with anyone there.

When they returned to the Statler Hotel SMITH told them that he felt that they were his friends and were with him (It is to be noted that SMITH was at first very cautious with the LOHBECKS). SMITH believes that the LOHBECKS are interested in "the crusade". LOHBECK is supposed to have 15,000 names which he is going to furnish to SMITH.

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4. [redacted] conferred with SMITH at the Statler Hotel, however, full details of the conference are not available. They did seem to get along quite well and [redacted] appeared to be a loud sort of individual and both he and SMITH heartily enjoyed each others company. [redacted] is supposed to have lectured through small towns in Missouri for the America First Committee and is quite enthusiastic. He is alleged to have lectured up to the time of the war. He is not known by the LOHECKS. b7c

5. JOSEPH W. KOESTERS: KOESTERS contacted SMITH early in the evening by telephone and some mention was made of a [redacted] (?) who has subscribed to SMITH'S magazine. He later came to the hotel and explained that he was active in the America First Committee, but when the war came "got cold feet" and his wife prevailed upon him to destroy a list of 200 to 300 names which he had. SMITH commented in this regard that if one confesses he is a real American, he is called a Nazi and the FBI is "sicked" upon him. He also said that it was the "sheenies" who "sicked" the FBI on those people. KOESTERS explained that he had formerly worked as a clerk in the Police Department and at the present time is engaged in the bicycle business. He had written to SMITH after he read the McCULLOCH article on him in the Post Dispatch and he has six or more requests for SMITH's magazine, whereupon SMITH gives him several copies. KOESTERS explained how prior to the war they had tried to hold a meeting at the Riverside Club, but a bunch of hoodlums from the V.F.W. or American Legion had tried to cause them trouble. SMITH commented, "The Jews have a way of getting Veteran organizations to do that". He explained that Captain EARL SOUTHARD, the leader of their group in Illinois, is a veteran and was wounded seventeen times in World War No.I, and is still getting medical treatment. b7c

KOESTERS believes LOHECK to be a sincere America Firster. KOESTERS explained that he has a lot of Father COUGHLIN's newspapers and that recently he has written letters against the National Service Act. He again explained how he had lists of names, but that they were destroyed when his wife became afraid that it might cause them trouble. SMITH commented, "How the mothers would now have liked to have been in such an organization and kept their sons from war".

KOESTERS explained that he has traveled around the world twice and has lived in Africa and is thirty-six years old. He further contends that the British spend less than the United States for the war effort and the

British were the ones who pushed our boys into it.

SMITH asked KOESTERS how many there were in his circle of friends who felt the same way he did. He answered thirty or fourty. KOESTERS believes that he could probably get from seventy-five to one hundred people together should there be a meeting held in Saint Louis for about four hundred to five hundred choice people. He has key-men who are hard workers. SMITH inquired whether the Coughlinites were doing anything in Saint Louis and KOESTERS explained that the DeMOOR Brothers were most active in this field and that they used to publish the Social Justice Digest, but that now they were putting out some kind of new publication.

As the conversation continued, SMITH commented, "We are over the hump. There are too many of us". KOESTERS answered, "They can't do anything because if they would send us all to jail the jails would be filled". KOESTERS heartily recommended that the DeMOORS be contacted and advised that they were still holding Social Justice meetings, he thought, on the first Wednesday of each month. SMITH was very glad to hear this and was given DeMOORS address. KOESTERS is personally acquainted with the DeMOORS and SMITH asked him to contact them and to write to him about it. KOESTERS gave his full name as JOSEPH W. KOESTERS, 4713 Virginia, Tel. No. Lockhart 2051. SMITH told KOESTERS that he would send him seventy-five invitations and the card would read, "This card will permit bearer to hear GERALD L. K. SMITH on (date)_____". KOESTERS told how he had been reported to the FBI and had been investigated. However, he had been a clerk in the Police Department and had found out about this investigation. He said, "How I got that information is nobody's businesss-- but I got it". He also explained that he was an air raid warden.

SMITH inquired of KOESTERS if he knew [redacted] and [redacted] who were HUEY LONG followers, but this was before KOESTERS' time. KOESTERS made comments which showed that he is extremely anti-New Deal and also against the British. He feels that ROOSEVELT follows the British in everything they do and that we followed them in such things as rationing and mobilization. KOESTERS had been told by DeMOOR to watch out for the British. KOESTERS explained that he had worked very hard for the America First Committee and had handed out pamphlets which he and another fellow printed on the steps of some church. Some man had come up to him and threatened to "knock his block off". The pamphlets read, b7c

"This is not our war". SMITH immediately asked very interestingly, "Was he of military age?" KOESTERS advised that he probably was not as he looked to be rather old.

KOESTERS advised that he is married but has no children. His father and mother are dead and he is one of nine children.

They started talking about the Jews again and SMITH tells the story of a big meeting which had been arranged for him in Denver, Colorado but the day before it was held a Jewish Councilman had their permit revoked. One of the newspapers wrote an editorial questioning who ran the city--inasmuch as the city auditorium was involved--the citizens or the Negroes, Jews and Communists. Because of the pressure brought to bear the Mayor then permitted it to be held. However, the Communists gathered outside of the place and 300 police were there for protection. The house was filled and the Chief of Police came to SMITH and told him that they did not want any rough stuff, and SMITH told him that he would 'cuss" ROOSEVELT and tear into the New Deal. The Chief of Police was skeptical but listened to the speech from behind the curtain, and during the intermission, SMITH went back there and the Chief of Police complimented him on the fine speech saying that it was the best speech he had ever heard. The Chief declined SMITH's invitation to come out on the stage, however, when SMITH got back in front of the audience he told them what the Chief of Police had said and called upon the Chief to come out and make a bow. The Chief did this and also said a few words.

SMITH advised that he and his followers were doing nothing to hurt the war effort, but they thought that America should be first and that the American veterans should be first.

KOESTERS told SMITH that his father-in-law is a distant relative of SMITH's, but no relationship could be established.

KOESTERS furnished SMITH a list of names which he had already written on a piece of paper who wanted to subscribe to the "Cross and Flag". He also had two other people "both brought from the other side" (apparently Germans), who would like to get copies, but who were afraid it would prejudice their positions. SMITH suggested that KOESTERS subscribed to three copies and then personally give the copies to these two persons.

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SMITH gave KOESTERS about a dozen copies of his magazine and also a copy of what he called a "sensational book" and referred him to Page No.42. He asked that these publications be placed wisely as he does not throw his literature away but places it where it can do the most good. KOESTERS agreed to be careful and strategically place the literature and stated that he had studied this situation and has a few friends whom he can really trust. He explained at this point that one person whom he thought was his friend reported him to the FBI and that the FBI did investigate him, but found nothing wrong as he had never done anything wrong and that this same friend later came back on his knees begging forgiveness.

SMITH, thinking that KOESTERS had been interviewed by the FBI, asked "What does the FBI say? What did they ask you about?" KOESTERS explained that he had not been interviewed by agents.

KOESTERS told SMITH that he had had an article published in the newspaper the day before and an examination of the Saint Louis Post Dispatch for January 14, 1944 shows an article published in the People's Column signed by JOSEPH W. KOESTERS. In this article he attacked an editorial which he believed advocated the Republican nomination of WENDELL WILKIE that on the basis to vote for WENDELL WILKIE would be practically the same as voting for the New (raw) Deal ticket. He set out in this article that he believed that if WILKIE is nominated and that ROOSEVELT runs for the fourth term the Republicans might just as well not vote at all "Unless a Nationalist Party comes into the picture".

6. [redacted]: A [redacted] or [redacted] telephonically contacted SMITH the morning of January 15, 1944. There is some indication that this woman was calling from Southern Illinois, and she asked whether she should have anything to do with the League of Women Voters. SMITH advised against this and described them as Internationalists, and inasmuch as they are not Nationalists, they would not be supported. SMITH is also against them because they are New Dealers. SMITH comments that the Administration apparently thinks that to be intelligent one must agree with them that millions of dollars should be sent to South America while the United States Veterans are released from the Army penniless. He claims the way to counteract Communism is with Christianism. Their position of isolationism and America Firstism is real basic Americanism and if the Republican Party does not base its candidate and platform on this basic Americanism, the America First Party will be formed. This,

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SMITH explains, is why he is in Saint Louis. SMITH commented, "A lot of Protestant preachers mean well, but they have to depend upon their congregations."

This woman is one of the people to whom SMITH sent letters prior to his coming to Saint Louis and he explains that he sent letters to a group covering a one hundred mile radius around Saint Louis, including Southern Illinois. He asked this woman to write to him at Box 459, Detroit, Michigan, and that she should furnish him the name of some other woman and he will answer her letter.

7. [redacted]: [redacted] telephonically contacted SMITH and told him that she had been a member of the America First Committee. He reads to her a copy of the news release regarding the purposes of his visit to Saint Louis and the object of the America First Party. During the conversation, he mentioned that he is a good friend of Mr. SPARKS (very possibly C. WILSON SPARKS, former Mayor of Akron, Ohio, who has recently written the book discrediting WILKIE entitled "One Man—WENDELL WILKIE". He also published in this book, "The Mystery Letter", which is presently in the newspaper. This letter tries to tie WILKIE in with HARRY HOPKINS). [redacted] furnished the following information concerning names of individuals:

[redacted] - Vinita Park
(phonetic)
Mrs. _____
Address - 6 _____
(Who resides approximately 15 miles from downtown)
[redacted] _____

In regard to [redacted] the name [redacted] was mentioned. SMITH told [redacted] to send any names she had to him at Box 459, Detroit, Michigan. SMITH seemed to have considerable difficulty in getting rid of [redacted]

* * * * * *

On January 15, 1944, calls were made from SMITH's room to Cabany 7094, which is listed under Cabany 1253 for the Dean's Office, Concordia Seminary, 801 Demund Street, Saint Louis County, Missouri.

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Another call was made to [redacted] which is listed for [redacted] This is possibly a telephone call made by b7c

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

There is some indication that SMITH tried to call Tel. No.Randolph 9547. However, there is no Saint Louis exchange by this name or anything similar.

SPENCER R. McCULLOCH, 115 Edwin, Kirkwood, Missouri, and his office at the Saint Louis Post Dispatch were trying to make arrangements for an interview with SMITH, and apparently there is some indication that McCULLOCH might go to Chicago or Detroit to see him.

The SMITHS made frequent mention of the fact that their son is in the United States Army and that they had not heard from him for eleven weeks.

HARVEY SPRINGER's wife's first name is EVELINA Springer and she also has a brother (probably a step-brother) in the United States Army. Her real father lives in Downing, Missouri, and she is apparently on friendly terms with him. When quite young, her mother married her step-father, whom she also regards highly.

V. DEPARTURES

Reverend and Mrs. HARVEY SPRINGER left Saint Louis on the :15 P.M. Missouri Pacific train for Denver, Colorado, and Mr. and Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH checked out of the Statler Hotel at 10:30 P.M. on January 15, 1944 and caught a midnight train for Chicago.

Just before SMITH left, a newspaper man contacted him and SMITH explained that a meeting would probably be held in the middle of February and that every active member of the Committee arranging for the meeting is a former America First. He said that the Committee of Preparations consisted of seventeen people, including business men, workers, Protestants and Catholics--a good cross section of America (It is to be noted that this is probably a typical SMITH exaggeration).

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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VII. MISCELLANEOUS

On January 14, 1944 a telephone call was shown on the hotel records coming from SMITH's room to Grand 1212. This number is listed to [redacted] It is believed that the record is probably in error as the Globe Democrat Newspaper has the Telephone No. Garfield 1212. [redacted] is not shown on the list of the America First Committee. [redacted] b7c

PENDING

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U N D E V E L O P E D L E A D S

THE DENVER FIELD DIVISION

At Denver, Colorado, will furnish the Detroit Field Division with all pertinent information relative to Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER, if this has not already been done, especially as it might relate to GERALD L. K. SMITH and the present America First Party.

It is to be noted by the Denver Field Division that SMITH claimed that the Chief of Police of Denver, Colorado was quite enthusiastic over SMITH's speech.

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At Detroit, Michigan, will furnish the Saint Louis Field Division with the background to this case, which may be of assistance. Will especially advise if there is any specific investigation desired and what the particular objective of the investigation is, if it is other than just observation and the development of a possible Sedition case.

THE SAINT PAUL FIELD DIVISION

At Saint Paul, Minnesota, Will ascertain to whom 1943 Minnesota License tag No.337-783 has been issued. It is to be noted that this is the automobile which an individual by the name of [redacted], a student at Concordia Seminary in Saint Louis was driving. The automobile was described as a 1939 or 1940 Gray Pontiac Coach. b7c

THE SAINT LOUIS FIELD DIVISION

At Saint Louis, Missouri, Will keep in touch with the development of this movement in Saint Louis and the individuals connected with it.

Will conduct investigation regarding all of the individuals mentioned in the body of this report and correlated in the individual files of these subjects.

Will ascertain whether [redacted] was contacted by SMITH, or whether it was Mrs. DONALD LOHBECK, who made the call. b7c

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[redacted] is: Office of Naval Intelligence
Saint Louis, Missouri

b7D

421

TITLE: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,
alias Gerald L. K. Smith;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
CASE: SEDITION
SA: [redacted]
DATE: 1/28/44

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DJC

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Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

b7c

For your further information in your consideration of the instant case, there is attached hereto a copy of a report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Saint Louis, Missouri, on January 28, 1944.

You will note that this report describes Smith's recent visit to St. Louis, Missouri, and especially his contacts there with Reverend Harvey Springer of Denver, Colorado, who is, you will recall, the subject of a separate pending investigation. You will further note that throughout the report several references are made to subject's and Springer's conversations concerning Gerald B. Winrod of Wichita, Kansas, who is one of the thirty defendants currently under indictment in [illegible] the case, "United States vs. Joseph E. McWilliams, et al."

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY [illegible]

62-43818-421

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Harbo
Gandon
Langford
Clarke
John Tamm
Quinn
Tracy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
RECEIVED 3
FEB 15 1944 P.M
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/[illegible]/57

4

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 10 OF 18

FILE NUMBER : 62-43818

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 24

PAGES REVIEWED: 105

PAGES RELEASED: 90

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
P. O. Drawer "V" Plaza Station
Saint Louis (1), Missouri
January 28, 1944

DIRECTOR, FBI

RE: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, w. a.
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
Sedition

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] Saint Louis, Missouri, dated January 28, 1944, which reflects information regarding GERALD L. K. SMITH's visit to Saint Louis, Missouri on January 14 and 15, 1944. b7c

Particular reference is made to statements of GERALD L. K. SMITH and Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER regarding their contact with Reverend GERALD B. WINROD, who has recently been indicted for sedition. It is to be noted that Reverend SPRINGER has been surprised that he has not been interviewed inasmuch as he took a trip to Puerto Rico with WINROD and also supported him in Denver, Colorado. The Saint Louis Field Division has no information concerning the details of the WINROD case so it is thought best that this matter be specifically called to the attention of the Bureau.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY

Very truly yours,

G. B. Norris

G. B. NORRIS,
SAC

[redacted]ms b7c
100-6013

cc - Denver

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INDEXED
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4-750 (2-7-79)

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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☐ For your information: _____

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FBI/DOJ

PETITION

TO CONGRESS IN BEHALF OF WAR VETERANS

WHEREAS, thousands and thousands of veterans of this war are now being mustered out of the service because of wounds, medical discharges, and various other reasons;

WHEREAS, billions of dollars are now being spent for non-military purposes on the citizens of foreign countries;

WHEREAS, veterans mustered out of the Armed Services are returning home virtually penniless;

We, the undersigned citizens of the United States of America, petition Congress to pass such legislation as will provide not only a cash payment upon being mustered out, but a rehabilitation bonus that will help the veteran to re-establish himself in the community.

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY AND STATE
(First line reserved for person circulating petition)		

$1,000.00 FOR EACH VETERAN

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. This petition can be signed by any American citizen over 18 years of age.
2. Do not delay petition. Fill it up at the earliest possible moment and rush it in. Additional petitions may be received by addressing your request as follows: VETERAN'S PETITION COMMITTEE, P. O. BOX 459, DETROIT 31, MICHIGAN.

If signer is a veteran, put the letter "V" in front of his name.

Mail this petition in as soon as it contains five or more names.

This petition should be circulated in churches, schools, shops and offices.

[illegible] circulating this petition should sign first so that his or her name can be entered in a special file when it [illegible] to Congress.

[illegible] "AMERICAN VETERANS FIRST"

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP8B5/pmk

The following information recently received concerning subject Smith is being brought to your attention for your information in connection with your further consideration of the instant case.

According to a confidential source of information, Smith, at a meeting of his "America First Party" held at Detroit on the evening of January 18, 1944, announced that he and the "America First Party," using the name "Veterans Petition Committee," planned to circulate petitions calling for substantial payments to personnel mustered out of the Armed Forces.

Reportedly Smith, while speaking at the meeting, claimed that he and his organization were largely responsible for the increased rate of pay now allowed enlisted personnel inasmuch as he some time ago sent 80,000 signatures to Congress demanding a pay raise for enlisted personnel. Continuing in this vein, Smith urged his followers to circulate and cause to be signed the instant petition, a photostatic copy of which is attached. Apparently when a sufficient number of petitions have been executed, they will be forwarded to Congress en masse.

Smith, while speaking in behalf of his plan for increased mustering out pay, described in the petition, allegedly asserted that "a measly $300" is not sufficient for our servicemen, especially in view "of the fact that America can give every person in the 22 South American republics the sum of $50." Smith reportedly commented that every month 70,000 men are being mustered out of the service even at the present time and that due to financial difficulties and physical defects incident to their participation in the war, they are facing hardships which could be alleviated by the designation of more substantial payments for them.

62-43818-423X

The Bureau's source of information in this matter also advised that according to Smith, Collier's Magazine plans to carry a story in the near future concerning Smith and the "America First Party." Smith allegedly revealed that Mr. Russell Davenport of Collier's Magazine recently visited him for the purpose of assembling material to form the basis of the article. In this connection the Bureau's source of information has further reported that photographer for Collier's Magazine were present at the meeting held on January 18, 1944, and at Smith's request made several pictures of mothers who have sons in the Armed Forces. Reportedly, those women posed in groups displaying Smith's "Petition to Congress" and it is the opinion of the Bureau's source of information that the article in Collier's, if it actually appears, will deal to some degree with Smith's intended plan for circulating petitions calling for greater mustering out pay.

Any further information coming to the attention of the Bureau concerning Smith's latest plan will, of course, be immediately made available to the Criminal Division. It is noted that although one source has indicated Smith, in connection with his plan, intends to form some sort of "veterans" organization, it does not appear from the information received to date that he has as yet taken any steps toward the formation of such an organization.

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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FEB 5 1944

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DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8B77/pkg

IMPORTANT!

If the ones who have circulated this petition desire to enclose a contribution to help pay for the printing and mailing, it will be appreciated. All who enclose a donation will receive a copy of the beautiful portrait in colors, entitled "FAITH OF OUR FATHERS." This picture is 8 in. x 10 in. and is suitable for framing.

VERY, VERY, VERY IMPORTANT!

Donations are strictly optional. Under no circumstances delay the sending in of the petition on account of a donation. The main object is to get the names to Congress. In many instances the best work will be done by people unable to contribute money.

ENCLOSURE

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice
Saint Louis, Missouri
February 5, 1944

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, alias
L. K. Smith; AMERICA FIRST PARTY
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

On January 14 and 15, 1944 GERALD L. K. SMITH was in St. Louis, Missouri and held conferences with various individuals for the purpose of organizing a meeting of sympathizers of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY to be held in the middle of February, 1944.

At that time a physical surveillance was maintained on SMITH, however, it was not too productive, inasmuch as SMITH made all of his contacts in his hotel room at the Hotel Statler. Because of extremely close relationship with the management of the Hotel Statler in St. Louis, it was possible to get a room next to the suite which had been assigned to SMITH. It was, therefore, possible through a connecting door to hear practically all of the conversations in SMITH's suite without the use of technical equipment.

It is expected that SMITH will again be in St. Louis about February 17 and 18, 1944 to address a meeting and will probably again stay at the Hotel Statler. At this time it may not be possible to arrange such a good setup as was had on his previous visit and it may be necessary in order to overhear conversations to use technical equipment. Because of this, permission is requested of the Bureau to make use of technical equipment. It is believed that the technical surveillance can be covered with a contact microphone. Specific advice is requested regarding both technical and physical surveillances in regard to the SMITH case.

On February 14, 1944, the day on which SMITH arrived in St. Louis, the St. Louis Field Division was contacted by the local office of the Office of Naval Intelligence and they desired to know whether or not we were covering SMITH's visit to St. Louis and if we did not they were desirous of doing so themselves, on the basis that there was indication that SMITH was making a concentrated play for servicemen.

Let to St. Louis
cc Detroit
2/10/44
JPA

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205 OCT 13 1964

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DATE 10/6/82 BY

Director, FBI 2/5/44

The relationship between our office and the local office of ONI has always been the most friendly, frank, open and cordial relationship and has worked to the best advantage for both services. They were advised that they would be furnished a full copy of the report covering SMITH's activities in St. Louis and this was done, the report being by Special Agent [redacted] St. Louis, Missouri, dated January 28, 1944. They have shown interest in this movement since that time, especially as one of the organizers in St. Louis is a man named [redacted] who is employed at the Busch Sulzer Company which company has large Navy contracts for the production of Diesel motors. It is expected that they will request copies concerning SMITH's future activity in this district. b7c

The St. Louis Field Division would like to continue its relationship with ONI on the same basis as it has in the past and if this policy as regards to the SMITH case will interfere with the investigation conducted in Detroit, Bureau advice is desired by this office.

Very truly yours,

G. B. Norris

G. B. NORRIS
SAC

[redacted]dck b7c
100-6013
cc: Detroit

RECORDED 62-81612-424

JPHa:rb

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DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8B5 Tlm

February 10, 1944

SAC, St. Louis

RE: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,
alias, L. K. Smith; AMERICA FIRST PARTY
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of February 5, 1944, seeking advice as to the procedure to be followed at St. Louis in connection with surveillances on subject Smith and as well information as to whether copies of reports submitted in the instant case at St. Louis should be disseminated to the local office of Naval Intelligence.

Concerning technical surveillances and microphone surveillances, you are advised that no blanket authorization for such coverage in this case can or will be given in so far as subject's activities at St. Louis are concerned. Should Smith return to St. Louis in the near future, as outlined in your letter, or at some other time in the future and it appears necessary in order to secure an appropriate coverage to utilize a technical surveillance or microphone surveillance, the request should be made of the Bureau in the usual manner, outlining at the time the circumstances, the safety of the proposed installation, etc. As a matter of general observation, it would appear that aside from unusual circumstances, a technical surveillance would not be authorized at St. Louis in this matter. However, if the need should arise for a microphone surveillance in a specific instance, the Bureau would probably give favorable consideration to the use of such a surveillance upon your specific request and upon your indication that the surveillance could be maintained with appropriate security. It will be necessary, however, for you to make the specific request when the occasion for such a surveillance arises.

Concerning physical surveillances, it is of course the Bureau's desire that Smith's activities and contacts while in the St. Louis district be appropriately and adequately covered in compliance with requests received from the office of origin or the Bureau. Obviously, physical surveillances will in a great many instances be of material assistance in this regard and it is, of course, perfectly proper for you to use this investigative technique. However, the Bureau is very definitely desirous of maintaining this inquiry discreetly and accordingly any surveillances which are maintained should be carried out in a very careful and discreet manner. Surveillances in this case should be loose, and Smith and his associates should not be aware of the fact that their activities are being observed. Therefore, it will be up to your discretion in individual instances, considering the factors of the value of the information to be developed and the possibility of Smith or associates making the surveillance, to determine the closeness of the surveillance, or conceivably in some instances the desirability of relinquishing the surveillance.

Nelson
A. Tamm
Egg
Tarfey
Gavin
Ladd
Nichols
Coson
Tracy
Carson
Harbo
Mohr
Tamm
Clayton
Tolson
Mr. Hoover

FEB 20 1944

SAC, St. Louis

Relative to the interest of the local office of ONI in this matter and its desire to receive copies of reports, it is the Bureau's desire that you not furnish copies of the regular investigative reports to ONI or any other outside agency. Your interest, set forth in your letter, in maintaining cordial relations with ONI are of course fully appreciated, but in view of the peculiar nature of the instant case and its myriad ramifications, the Bureau believes that copies of reports should not be furnished to ONI. As you are already aware from the investigation reported on in Special Agent [redacted] report dated at St. Louis on January 28, 1944, the instant case often involves personalities and issues of a political and frequently controversial nature. This is particularly true in regard to the investigation conducted at Detroit, Smith's headquarters, and additionally the Detroit Office has an informant who is very productive and is very close to Smith. In view of this close relationship and the confidential nature of the data secured by this particular informant and set forth in reports, the Bureau feels it is not wise, considering the factor of adequately assuring the concealment of the informant's identity, to disseminate the reports to outside agencies. As indicated previously, another factor contributing to this decision is the fact that the instant investigation, particularly at Detroit, frequently involves personalities and issues of a delicate and controversial nature, these issues being for the most part entirely unrelated to the principal objective of the investigation, namely following Smith's activities with the purpose in view of determining whether he violates the Sedition Statutes. b7c

Despite the observations set forth in the preceding paragraph, it is believed that a suitable alternative presents itself. The Detroit Office has raised the same question, that is as to whether copies of reports can be furnished to G-2 and ONI, and the Bureau is advising Detroit by a separate letter that although reports should not be furnished, summaries of pertinent information developed in the case should be periodically furnished ONI, and G-2 as well in the event that agency specifically requests information in the Smith case. It is believed that the same procedure can be followed at St. Louis. Accordingly, if Smith actually comes to St. Louis again, as he now plans, you should furnish ONI, in the event it makes a request for information, a memorandum or letter appropriately summarizing data as to Smith's pertinent activities, that is in respect to his contacts, his speaking activities, any efforts he may make toward appealing to servicemen or other subject matters of interest to ONI, or anything of such a nature as to suggest a possible violation of the Sedition Statutes. This memorandum or letter should not concern itself with political or controversial matters such as, for example, the data disclosed in Special Agent [redacted] report to the effect that Dr. Walter A. Maier of St. Louis was giving some consideration to launching into political activities subsequent to June 1944 in connection with his Lutheran Hour radio broadcast. b7c

In the way of emphasis, it is stated again that the Bureau has no objection to furnishing ONI information developed as to Smith's activities

which are of such a nature as to suggest a possible violation of the Sedition Statutes or matters of interest to Naval authorities. However, the Bureau does not feel that it is the best course to furnish outside agencies the other data of a political nature and pertaining to public personalities which is frequently developed during the course of this inquiry incidental to its main objective. Furthermore, developments at St. Louis are closely related to those elsewhere and probably should copies of reports be furnished to ONI at St. Louis, ONI at Detroit would feel itself therefore entitled to copies of reports submitted at Detroit. As indicated previously, the regular furnishing of reports submitted by the Detroit Office to ONI would probably endanger the status of its very valuable informant and, therefore, cannot be considered.

The Detroit Office is being instructed in a separate letter as to its proper procedure relative to furnishing summaries of information to ONI and possibly G-2 at Detroit.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc Detroit

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit - Michigan
January 28, 1944

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;
SECURITY MATTER;
SEDITION.

Dear Sir:

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, recently advised the Detroit Field Division to the effect that he had received information that Subject SMITH on at least two occasions has advised the long distance telephone operators that he is entitled to Priority No. 3 in making long distance telephone calls.

It is being noted further that on the two occasions known to the Detroit office, SMITH has used this priority number in attempting to communicate with United States Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS.

No further investigation is being conducted relative to this particular phase of the investigation and this information is being forwarded for the Bureau's information.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC.

DECLASSIFIED BY 60 80/LEDM
DATE 9/11/77

[redacted] b7c

62-1126

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP1800/mlm

RECORDED & INDEXED

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

41 FEB 20 1944

Cp. 10

4-750 (2-7-79)

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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FBI/DOJ

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice
518 Railway Exchange Building
Denver (2) Colorado
February 15, 1944

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases:
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION
Bureau File 62-43818

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] St. Louis, Missouri, dated January 28, 1944, containing a lead for this office to furnish the Detroit Field Division with all pertinent information concerning [redacted]

Inasmuch as the Detroit Field Division has received copies of pertinent reports in the case entitled [redacted] Security Matter - G, Sedition, in which this office is origin, the above-mentioned lead is being disregarded. For the information of the Detroit Field Division, the case in this office on [redacted] is presently in a closed status.

DEFERRED/~~RECORDING~~

Very truly yours,

G. A. Nicholson
G. A. NICHOLSON
SAC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8BD/MG

[redacted]
100-3557

cc - Detroit

RECORDED & INDEXED
62-43818-427
F B I
31 FEB 18 1944

5 6 MAR 6 1944

ALL
b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN — SL FILE NO. 100-6013

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Saint Louis, Missouri	2-12-44	1-26,28,29; 2-3,4,8,9,11, 12-44.	[redacted] b7c EM

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: GERALD L. K. SMITH will speak in Saint Louis on 2-17-44; admission by card only. Arrangements made by DONALD LOHBECK as temporary chairman of Saint Louis unit. LOHBECK reclassified 1-A0 and may be inducted in a few months. GEBHARDT has distributed SMITH literature at Busch-Sulzer Diesel Company since his contact with SMITH. [redacted] b7c [redacted] DR. WALTER A. MAIER has kept his contact with SMITH secret, and investigation to date has failed to reveal how MAIER hopes to benefit through SMITH, or what he hopes to contribute to the Movement. MAIER'S radio program to be somewhat curtailed from now until September, 1944. Indication that editor of German language newspaper in Saint Louis, who is sympathetic to New Germany and against United States involvement in this war, thinks highly of SMITH and is interested in the America First Party.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 11/1/82 BY SP2 [illegible]

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] Saint Louis, Missouri, dated January 28, 1944. b7c

DETAILS: AT SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI

Investigation concerning the various individuals who contacted GERALD L. K. SMITH during his visit to Saint Louis on January 14 and 15, 1944, has been conducted and reported in detail in the individual files on these persons. The general information which pertains to the development

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [illegible] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES: 62-43818-428

RECORDED & INDEXED

28 FEB 14 1944

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COPIES OF THIS REPORT
5 Bureau
2 Detroit
2 ONI, Chicago (1—Saint Louis)
3 Saint Louis

7—8034

and progress of the America First Party is being set out below:

[redacted] of the Municipal Auditorium, advised that the America First Party was scheduled for February 17, 1944, at 8:00 P.M. in Hall #1. Reservations were made by DONALD LOHBECK. LOHBECK stated that this was to be a closed meeting and admission is by invitation only. There would be no admission charged. b7c b7D

On February 12, 1944, it was ascertained that tickets were being distributed for the SMITH meeting, and that possession of a card would admit bearer and friends. This card shows that LOHBECK is the temporary chairman of the Saint Louis unit. Some of these cards were sent out by LOHBECK through the mails, accompanied by a letter setting forth SMITH'S Seven Point Program.

LOHBECK has recently been re-classified from his dependency status to 1-AO and is likely to be inducted within the next few months.

GEORGE GEBHARDT, Lemay, Missouri, has distributed "The Cross and The Flag" to several individuals at the Busch-Sulzer Diesel Company where he is employed. Arrangements have been completed whereby the Saint Louis Office will be advised concerning GEBHARDT'S activities with relation to the America First Party.

[redacted] No information has been developed from persons contacted that either of these men is openly promoting the America First Party up to the present time. [redacted] b7c

[redacted] Persons contacted have failed to have information that [redacted] is promoting the America First Party, although he apparently has a sympathy regarding the war as he previously had.

DR. WALTER A. MAIER, Director of the Lutheran Hour, has apparently been secretive about his contact with GERALD L. K. SMITH, and investigation to date has failed to reveal what MAIER hopes to benefit through SMITH or what he hopes to contribute to the Movement. Effective February 20, the Lutheran Hour will no longer be broadcast to the Western Stations of the Mutual Broadcasting Company, and by September 15, 1944, in accordance with the Mutual Broadcasting

Company's policy, no religious programs will go on the air after 1:00 P.M. on Sunday afternoons. Therefore, MAIER'S program will have to be put on in the morning.

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

PENDING

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE SAINT LOUIS FIELD DIVISION

AT SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI

b7c

* Will ascertain whether [redacted] was contacted by SMITH, or whether it was MRS. DONALD LOHBECK who made the call.

Will keep in touch with the development of this Movement in Saint Louis and the individuals connected with it.

Will conduct an investigation regarding all of the individuals mentioned in previous reports in this file and correlate the information in the individual files of the various Subjects.

JPHa/pk
62-43818-428
2-22-44 Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

RECORDED

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

For your further information there is attached hereto a copy of an additional report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] dated February 12, 1944, at Saint Louis, Missouri.

b7c

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/92 BY SP8BTJ

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Leitch
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gandon
Mr. Schilder
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Quinn
Miss Gandy

FEB 23 PM
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 10
FEB 24 PM
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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10 MAR 6 1944

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

C 287

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

February 3, 1944

[redacted] lem
Time: 5:10 to 5:14 p.m.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/82 BY

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH, WAS.
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY (G), ET AL.

At this time [redacted] in my office took a call from the Detroit office regarding this matter and in response to his earlier request for information necessary to answer a letter from [redacted] Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt, dated January 31, 1944.

SA [redacted] advised that the Detroit office had checked in so far as was possible through informants and ascertained that there was such a letter issued as described in the newspaper clipping enclosed with the letter of [redacted] and in this connection the Detroit office by letter dated January 31, 1944, had forwarded a copy of the circular for the attention of the Bureau. It appears that this letter, according to [redacted] was sent out at various stages during the month of January, 1944, urging the recipients thereof to forward petitions presumably directly to Congress requesting that the veterans receive mustering-out pay of a thousand dollars. [redacted] stated that there was no request for the petitions to be returned to Smith.

SA [redacted] specifically advised that there is no indication that Smith is forming any veterans party as such but is merely setting up something in the nature of a veterans committee of the America First Party, apparently solely for the purpose of having people direct petitions to Congress in behalf of increased mustering-out pay for returning veterans.

Agent [redacted] also advised that there has been no indication received that Smith is getting any information from government sources along the line of the identity of returning veterans who are being mustered out.

As a matter of general interest, [redacted] stated that Smith had a meeting Monday, February 1, 1944, which was attended by an informant of the Detroit office. [redacted] in connection with the petitions being sent out to individuals for signing and requesting that Congress consider adequate mustering-out pay for veterans.

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch

RECORDED & INDEXED

162-43818-42

FEB 8 1944

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

38 FEB 1 1944

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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FBI/DOJ

4-750 (2-7-79)

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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JPHa:WMJ

62-43[illegible]-432

SAC, Detroit

February 21, 1944

RECORDED

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was; AMERICA FIRST PARTY; SECURITY MATTER; INTERNAL SECURITY - C; SEDITION.

Reference is made to your letter of February 8, 1944, wherein you indicated that you were transmitting as an enclosure a copy of [redacted]

b7c, b7D

The enclosure designated was not received with your letter and it is accordingly desired that you immediately furnish copies of the described material to the Bureau. You should further indicate whether, as it would appear, the enclosure was omitted through inadvertence.

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DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-PATS/MC

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 10
FEB 22 1944 P.M
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

9 MAR 5 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN — ST. P FILE NO. 100-4156

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA	2/25/44	2/21,22,23/44	[redacted] bnc RS

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, wa AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Speech made by SMITH at Minneapolis, Minnesota, 2/22/44, before approximately 900 persons, followed same theme as speeches previously reported by this office. Bitter attacks made against present administration, bureaucracy, Internationalism, Communism, WILLKIE Senate Resolution #666 (labor draft) and that Wall Street controls Minneapolis newspapers. SMITH stated that if General MacARTHUR had obtained 1/2 as much supplies as Russia, he would have wiped the Japs off of the map by now. Expounded on rumors that there is movement by Democrats and Republicans in Washington conspiring to call off 1944 elections and that the New Dealers are attempting to steal the soldiers' vote by use of blank ballots. SMITH stated intention of holding Tri-State Rally of America Firsters in Minneapolis latter part of April, 1944 with CHARLES A. LINDBERGH as a speaker. Letters of protest sent hotel management by CIO and A.F. of L. representatives.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE 2-23-83 classified

CLASS. BY SP-8BTJ/mc

- RUC -

DATE OF REVIEW 10/4/82

REFERENCE: Letter from Detroit Field Division dated 2/26/44.

DETAILS: AT MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA:

SMITH spoke on February 22, 1944 at the Leamington Hotel, Minneapolis, Minnesota to a closed America First meeting, admission by invitation only. The meeting was attended by approximately 900 persons and sponsored by Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, widow of the late Senator ERNEST LUNDEEN of Minnesota.

SMITH's speech followed very closely the same theme as speeches

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St. P. #100-4156

previously reported by this office. SMITH again harangued the New Deal, bureaucracy, Communism and Internationalism.

The meeting was scheduled on the invitations sent to various members of the America First Party which letters were noted by the postmark to have originated from Post Office Box 459, Detroit, Michigan. It was noted that at approximately 7:40 P.M., the main ballroom of the Leamington Hotel was filled to capacity. At approximately 7:45 P.M. after the phonograph recording of one religious song, Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, formerly wife of Senator LUNDEEN from Minnesota, rose on the platform and introduced subject to the audience.

SMITH advised the enthusiastic audience that he had hoped that the America Firsters would some day see the return of ROOSEVELT from public life inasmuch as everyone was sick and tired of the whole "caboodle" and when that becomes a reality he had hoped to see WILLKIE sent to Moscow and WALLACE to China. SMITH then told the America Firsters that the real issues to the voters of the United States and to all real Americans were three: (1) plot to call off the elections; (2) plot to steal the soldiers' vote and (3) preservation of our national sovereignty.

At this point Reverend HERSTROM was introduced by SMITH and led the crowd in a short prayer. SMITH again arose to the platform and advised that his speech would consist of two parts. The first part could be considered as good news and the second part could be called emergency hour issues. SMITH stated that he doesn't want to have anything to do which smells, looks or talks like WENDELL WILLKIE who is in the same crowd which runs the United States government and he set out capitalists, Hollywood and the whiskey trust. With regard to WILLKIE's possible chances of ever attaining a place in public life, he stated that WILLKIE is a "cooked goose".

In regard to the political issues set forth in the newspapers of Minneapolis, SMITH stated that all the newspapers in Minneapolis are run by Wall Street and that JOHN COWLES, who is the head of the Minneapolis Times Tribune, was a brother-in-law of THOMAS LA MONTE, who is the chief of Collier's Magazine. He then challenged the newspaper to print what was being said at this meeting.

In regard to crusade backing, he stated to the audience that it was supported by contributions like those in the very audience before which he was speaking inasmuch as the America First movement was a people's campaign. SMITH then read from an article written by RAY TUCKER of Washington, D. C., dated November 15, 1943, regarding himself, which stated that SMITH had been completely against ROOSEVELT and his New Deal and that SMITH was responsible for the Anti-New Deal landslide in the last election. SMITH then stated that with this assertion made by TUCKER in his article that America was to come back into the hands of Americans in the future.

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St. P #100-4156

He then stated that an article was being written about him which would be published in Collier's weekly magazine during the week of February 20, 1943, which article upon distribution to the millions of subscribers would amount to many tons of the precious paper which is so hard to obtain in these war days. He stated that if the newspaper was willing to use that much paper, he, SMITH, must be worth something.

SMITH then harangued WALTER "LIPSHITZ" WINCHELL, whom he compared with WENDELL WILLKIE as being in the same category. Upon listening to the radio on February 21, 1944, he happened to hear the Governor of Vermont by the name of WILLIAM WILLS who was pro-WILLKIE and who had mentioned that the first thing the United States people should do was to rid themselves of the "black locusts" and that WILLS had mentioned Colonel ROBERT McCORMICK, publisher of the Chicago Tribune, ALFRED LANDON, SMITH and two others. SMITH stated that he felt good to be named one of the five of the best opponents of WENDELL WILLKIE.

SMITH then devoted a great part of his talk to attacking the American aid to Russia, saying that "if we could take 1/2 of what we have given to Russia and sent it to MacARTHUR, the Japs would be wiped off of the map by now and our boys would soon be home from the South Pacific war area." He then stated that "twiddle dee" WILLKIE and "twiddle dee dum" ROOSEVELT had been responsible for this matter.

A bitter statement was then made against Senator JOSEPH H. BALL of Minnesota, whom he called an internationalist and a member of the newspaper trust. SMITH then trounced upon the "boondoggling" spending which he stated had been exposed by United States Senator HUGH A. BUTLER of Nebraska; that we had obligated ourselves in the amount of six billion dollars on foolish spending in South America, which money he stated would have been of more good were it to have been spent on the battle fronts.

With regard to the bad news emergency issues, SMITH stated that one of them was the present Austin-Wadsworth bill relating to the drafting of men and women which was Senate Resolution #666. He urged all those present to write letters to their Senators and Representatives in Congress urging the downfall of this proposal.

From a Boston newspaper article, SMITH stated he had seen information to the effect that there was a movement on foot of Democrats and Republicans in Washington who were working for no election in 1944. This he stated, if it could come about, was contrary to the constitution of the United States and insisted that if there would be any move in that direction through adoption of an amendment to the constitution concerning this taking form in Congress, the America Firsters would rise up and defeat it. If such a thing could ever come to pass, it would automatically freeze everyone in office and please the old-time New Dealers to no end. He then advised that there

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wasn't enough time before November, 1944 to bring about a constitutional amendment which would have to be ratified by the states before becoming a law.

In Washington, today, SMITH mentioned that there was a conspiracy on foot by the New Dealers to steal the soldiers' vote who were fighting on the war fronts of the world and that ROOSEVELT was attempting to send them blank ballots. It also has been known to him that the Office of War Information had refused to put BRICKER's name on the ballot. The idea of calling off the election is no more phenomenal than the idea of a ROOSEVELT fourth term. ROOSEVELT has been given publicity when Testaments are sent to our soldiers inasmuch as underneath the cover of each Bible is a letter from ROOSEVELT which they must read before they get the chance of reading what Jesus and the prophets said. This form of thievery is a conspiracy to steal the forthcoming election.

The subject spoke of the mustering out pay program which has been backed by the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, himself, but had not been backed by the administration. SMITH then quoted an incident which has recently been printed in the Congressional Record regarding an armless soldier who had to have his paycheck placed in his pockets by another soldier which paycheck was then used in transporting him to his home, and when this soldier arrived home he had no money to further his subsistence.

SMITH then eulogized J. EDWARD JONES, who was author of the book entitled "And So They Indicted Me" which person had been previously persecuted by the bureaucrats and had even been approached by the secretary of ELEANOR ROOSEVELT with the proposition that everything would be dropped by the charges of the OPA officials if he paid to the secretary the sum of $40,000.

SMITH advised that the America First Party had applied for the Minneapolis Municipal Auditorium for a late date in April of this year where would be held a Tri-State Rally with possibly CHARLES A. LINDBERGH as a speaker.

SMITH then introduced Reverend CARL O. STADSLEV of Minneapolis, who was noted to have arrived at the meeting late because of apreviously scheduled engagement. SMITH then defended STADSLEV for being put off the Radio Station WDGY because of a Mr. WHITE's statement that he had to satisfy his chief advertisers who SMITH thought there should be added to this word also Bureaucrats. SMITH then named the stores which Mr. WHITE was said to have mentioned and it was suggested by SMITH that these store managements be contacted by the America First group to see whether such a request had been made of Mr. WHITE, who is manager of Radio Station WDGY in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

SMITH suggested a committee be appointed to go to Washington and call on the Federal Communications Commission and also call on the Interstate Commerce Commission where BURTON K. WHEELER was Chairman, and he felt that with WHEELER

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St. P #100-4156

as chairman of the latter group, some good would be done for Reverend STADSLEV. SMITH then requested everyone to telephone.

SMITH mentioned that he has had much trouble in Minneapolis and elsewhere finding a hall in which the naked and unvarnished truth could be given to the people. He then stated that he had sent telegrams to ROBERT E. HANNEGAN, National Democratic chairman, who was speaking the same night at the Radisson Hotel in Minneapolis, Minnesota, as well as a telegram sent to U. S. Senator JOSEPH H. BALL, who was speaking at the Hotel Nicollet in the same town, as well as to Governor THYE announcing his intention to call a Tri-State Rally of the America Firsters in April at Minneapolis and stating "Do you favor my being allowed free speech and the use of public halls even though I might express opinions in disagreement with yours?" SMITH then stated that he would await replies to these telegrams.

He then ended his speech with the familiar armed raised outcry to his audience "THIS IS A CRUSADE, VICTORY IS IN THE AIR".

SMITH then introduced his wife who he mentioned as that good looking lady in the back with the pink hat on her head, but she wasn't "pink".

SMITH then turned the platform over to Mrs. JOSEPH RICHARD of Chicago who had been with her American engineer husband for four years in the heart of Russia. Mrs. RICHARD, it was noted, was dressed in what she said was the native garb of a Russian peasant. She stated that inasmuch as the garbs were so similar among the peasants was because that was the only type of materials that could be bought in Russia and so one had to wear what they could obtain. Mrs. RICHARD then made mention of the difficult life in Russia unless you were a member of the Communist Party. She advised that there was no religious tolerance in Russia; that during peacetime the Russian peasant was a sad sight, but now during wartime the Soviets were supposed to be promising the peasants a greater voice in the government by the establishment of some peasant Democratic states which would revert back to the old system at the end of the present conflict.

The views of Mrs. RICHARD were tainted with Anti-Communist thoughts which she allowed to leave vent to various points of her talk. At the end of the speech by Mrs. RICHARD, which was approximately 1/2 hour long, Mr. SMITH then arose on the platform and requested contributions to the America First Party, which contributions were taken up by the ushers in baskets which seemed to be well filled.

From observation of the Reporting Agent, it was noted that the meeting was orderly, and it was attended by a majority of persons in the older age bracket, most of whom were women.

Clippings taken from the Minneapolis Morning Tribune and the Minneapolis Times of February 23, 1944 mention the protests of the Hennepin County CIO Council

against the use of the Leamington Hotel by SMITH for his America First meeting. The name of ARTHUR T. GUSTAFSON, President of the CIO Council who was said to have signed a letter of protest was mentioned in one article. A clipping taken from the St. Paul Pioneer Press of February 23, 1944 mentioned SMITH as thinking that WENDELL WILLKIE is a "dead duck" and wasn't too sure that FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT would consent to run for a fourth term and expressed alarm at this meeting as to whether there would be presidential election at all next Fall.

The following literature was obtained by the Reporting Agent at the meeting: 1 magazine entitled "The Cross and the Flag", Volume 2, 25¢, founded by GERALD L. K. SMITH; 1 copy of Petition to Congress in Behalf of War Veterans, Veteran's Petition Committee, P. O. Box 459, Detroit, Michigan; a reprinted article from the New York Journal-American Editorial Page dated Thursday, August 12, 1943 entitled "Russia's Aims Revealed" with the distributor being named as the American Women Against Communism, 52 Vanderbilt Avenue, Room 814, New York, New York. Enclosed with this latter article was another article entitled "U. S. Must Bow to Stalin, Communists here Warn", which article was a reprint from the New York Journal-American, under date of October 3, 1943. The above material is being retained in the exhibit envelope of instant file in the St. Paul Field Division.

[redacted] of the Leamington Hotel, Minneapolis, Minnesota, advised the Reporting Agent that SMITH had stayed in Room #301 on the evening of February 22, 1944, and had checked out early the next morning, his destination being unknown. [redacted] stated that he has received a letter of protest from the Local Joint Executive Board of the Hotel & Restaurant Employees International Alliance, Bartenders League of America, A. F. of L., protesting the appearance of SMITH at the Leamington Hotel. This letter was signed by ALFRED J. NEUMANN, President of the Local Joint Executive Board, RAYMOND WRIGHT, Business Agent of Local #665 and THURE B. BERG, Business Representative of Local #458. Also a letter had been received from the Hennepin County Industrial Union Council of the CIO signed by ARTHUR T. GUSTAFSON protesting the use of the hotel to GERALD L. K. SMITH and his so-called America First Party. Both of these letters were turned over to the Reporting Agent and are being retained in the St. Paul file in this case.

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[redacted]

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St. P #100-4156

[redacted] b1

On February 22, 1944, [redacted] Internal Security Division, Minneapolis Police Department, Minneapolis, Minnesota, advised that [redacted] Minneapolis Municipal Auditorium had been approached by Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN and GERALD L. K. SMITH on that date and had requested use of the Minneapolis Municipal Auditorium on April 20, 1944. [redacted] stated that he would have to have the approval from the Auditorium Committee of the Minneapolis City Council before he could give Mrs. LUNDEEN or Mr. SMITH the final approval for that meeting date. b7c

-----REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OFORIGIN-----

JPHa:MJ
3-8-44
62-43818-4

RECORDED

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information in connection with your consideration of this case, there is attached hereto a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Saint Paul, Minnesota, on February 25, 1944.

Enclosure

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY [illegible]

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
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Rosen
Tracy
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Carnell
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starks
Quinn Tamm
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Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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6 MAR 21 1944

SOCIAL SERVICE EMPLOYEES UNION

Local No. 83, United Office and Professional Workers of America, C.I

~~322 TITLE GUARANTY BUILDING~~ The Bookshop | ~~706 CHESTNUT ST.~~ 306 N. Euclid | ST. LOUIS, MO. (8) | CHestnut 95

February 25th, 1944

Mr. G. B. Morris, Special Agent in Charge
Federal Bureau of Investigation
423 United States Customs House Bldg.
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Sir:

As a group of citizens and workers interested in the speedy and victorious conclusion of the war, we question the activities of Gerald L. K. Smith.

We are amazed that the question of his speaking in St. Louis is the major consideration rather than the question of his allegiance to the United States. His remarks and activities over a period of years appear to us as citizens as constituting grounds for investigation.

We urge you to take this matter under immediate consideration in order to prevent Gerald L. K. Smith from gaining further acceptance in the United States.

Yours very truly,

SOCIAL SERVICE EMPLOYEES UNION

[redacted]

b7c

[redacted]

cc: J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

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62-43916-434

05 FEB 28 1944

Op. 1

Ltr to St. Louis 3/6/44

JHH:WMJ

62-43818 -434
SAC, Saint Louis

March 6, 1944

RECORDED J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

Reference is made to the letter dated February 25, 1944, addressed to you by one [redacted] of the Social Service Employees Union, Saint Louis, Missouri, relative to the above-captioned individual. A copy of this letter was designated for the Bureau and for your ready reference, additional copies of the letter are attached hereto.

The Bureau is not acknowledging this letter, but you should make an appropriate formal acknowledgment of the original communication addressed to you. In the event the letter has not already been acknowledged, it is suggested that you merely thank the writer for her interest and courtesy in communicating with you.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
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Hendon
Mumford
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Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 10

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

SL FILE NO. 100-6013

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Saint Louis, Missouri	3-6-44	2/14-19; 21-23/44	b7c [redacted] EN

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with alias; AMERICA FIRST PARTY	SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: SMITH and wife were in Saint Louis, 2/17-19/44, to continue organizing the America First Party and to give speech on 2/17/44. Admission by card only. Attendance was between 600 and 700 people. SMITH in his speech suggests LINDBERGH for President, attacks President ROOSEVELT and his cohorts, and also attacks the British. He appeals to the Republicans to furnish a candidate other than WILLKIE, and offers the support of his followers to the Republican Party if they do so. There is nothing flagrantly seditious in the speech. Audience made up of old people, and quite a few Germans. Also in attendance was editor of the German language newspaper who has in past been pro-Nazi. Veterans groups and Communist Party have protested against the use of the Municipal Auditorium, however, there were no disturbances. DONALD LOHBECK is the organizer in Saint Louis, and SMITH is thinking of having him organize in Kansas City, Missouri. SMITH confers with all persons previously contacted in Saint Louis in January, 1944, except DR. WALTER A. MAIER, who, however, had his private secretary at the speech. SMITH contacted former members of the America First Committee who appear anxious to renew their work and back SMITH. He also contacts FRANCIS DENOOR, head of the Social Justice Club in Saint Louis which presently has low membership but quite a large mailing list. REMBERT GILMAN SMITH of Tulsa, Oklahoma, is former Methodist preacher and author of anti-administration book who gets Subject SMITH interested in this book. There is indication that McCULLOUGH, reporter for "Saint Louis Post Dispatch" and former America First Committee member, who has written articles riding SMITH, has told SMITH of investigation by ONI, and is acting as source of information on local

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 11/14/76 BY

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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3 - Saint Louis

COPY IN FILE

SL St Louis 36 MAR 9 1944

Saint Louis File No. 100-6013

Synopsis of Facts (cont.):

matters for SMITH. Plans made for Midwest Conference and Rally of America First Party in Saint Louis tentatively 3/30/44.

- P -

Reference:

b7c

Report of Special Agent [redacted] Saint Louis, Missouri, dated February 12, 1944.

Details:

I. Preliminaries to SMITH'S Speech Scheduled February 17, 1944

On February 12, 1944, the distribution of the admission cards for the GERALD L. K. SMITH speech for February 17, 1944, had begun. Many of these letters were sent out by DONALD LOHBECK in first-class mail, and the envelopes were marked "urgent." Two tickets were usually sent to each individual, along with a handbill bearing SMITH'S picture, and a letter on the stationery of the America First Party and signed by the Saint Louis Committee--DON LOHBECK, Temporary Chairman. The place of the meeting was the Municipal Auditorium, Assembly Hall No. 1, Saint Louis, Missouri. Copies of this material are being forwarded to the Detroit Field Division.

The admission cards were necessary for attendance at this meeting, and permitted the bearer of the card and whoever accompanied him to come into the meeting. Immediately the Americanism committees of various veteran groups in Saint Louis protested the permission which was granted to SMITH to use the Municipal Auditorium, and the "Saint Louis Star Times" gave prominent display to these protests. The other two newspapers, the "Saint Louis Post Dispatch" and the "Saint Louis Globe Democrat," carried small editorials and notices, but they did not give it prominent display. The Municipal Auditorium Commission, however, permitted SMITH the use of the assembly hall.

At the Twentieth Anniversary of the "Daily Worker" at the Municipal Auditorium on February 13, 1944, BILL SENTNER, Business Agent, Electrical Workers, a member of the War Labor Board, and a member of the State Committee of the Communist Party, called SMITH a "little rodent." In his talk he said that SMITH should not be permitted to talk and explained how in 1937 to 1939, the various veterans groups and C.I.O. had forced the German-American Bund to disband (this is true). SENTNER brought out that the mailing list for SMITH was the same as that of the America First Committee, and that this was no coincidence.

II. Activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH in Saint Louis on February 17, 1944

The following information concerning SMITH'S activities while in St. Louis, Missouri, was received through various confidential sources:

SMITH and his wife arrived at the Hotel Statler, Saint Louis, Missouri, at about 10:45 AM on the morning of February 17, 1944, apparently having come from Detroit.

Newspaper men were awaiting him, as was also DONALD LOHBECK, Chairman of the America First Committee in Saint Louis. LOHBECK and SMITH discussed the possibility that there will be trouble at the meeting, and are of the opinion that the protest is the work of the Jews.

Shortly after 11:00 AM, MR. EVERETT of the "Star Times", their photographer, MR. MONTAGUE, and MR. DAUGHERTY of the "Globe Democrat" interview SMITH. SMITH tells the newsmen that his itinerary will be as follows: A leadership meeting on February 20 in Chicago, and then meetings in Minneapolis on February 22, Detroit on February 26, and Cleveland on February 29, Pittsburgh on March 1, Philadelphia on March 2, and then into Washington, D. C. for conferences on March 4. He advised that this is the first leg of a nation-wide tour. In Washington, D. C., he will confer with various senators and congressmen, including HOFFMAN and REYNOLDS, and he will also appear before the Military Affairs Committee to testify against the National Service Act.

Pertinent remarks which SMITH made to the reporters are listed as follows:

> "We want a real Republican for a candidate in 1944; a real Nationalist we can support."
> "Nationalism is the preservation of our national soverignty and the keeping of our government in Washington."
> "ROOSEVELT is playing the bankrupt nations for world power just like he played bankrupt states and cities for national power. I wouldn't be surprised to see WILLKIE as the Vice-President with ROOSEVELT, and then ROOSEVELT resign to become President of the world with WILLKIE becoming President of the United States."

SMITH blamed the President for the United States entry into the war, declaring "we should have been building a two-ocean Navy, and then there would not have been any Pearl Harbor."

SMITH defended his patriotism against the attacks of the veterans groups in Saint Louis, saying that he did not think that those fellows represented the Legion as a whole but only represented themselves and possibly the Jewish War Veterans. He said that he would be perfectly willing for his patriotism to be judged by HERMAN LUHR, head of the Americanism Committee of the Michigan American Legion, and by HOMER CHALLEAUX, National Americanism Chairman of the American Legion.

The "Star Times" said "the only think SMITH refused to criticize or laud during the lengthy interview was the war effort because 'I am not a military expert and that would not be patriotic and might give comfort to the enemy.'"

During the interview with newsmen, SMITH criticized ROOSEVELT and WILLKIE along the same lines as he has always done.

While the "Star Times" and "Globe Democrat" reporters were interviewing SMITH, McCULLOUGH of the "Post Dispatch" came in. McCULLOUGH appeared very friendly with SMITH and took the liberty of interrupting the other newspaper men in their interviews. McCULLOUGH told SMITH that a reporter, JULIUS KLYMAN, at the "Post Dispatch," who is a Communist, thought it outrageous that SMITH would be permitted to speak.

Some of the side remarks that McCULLOUGH made indicates that he, too, is anti-Semitic.

SMITH was asked what he thought about the causes of the war, and he answered that the cause was the attack by the Japanese upon Pearl Harbor, but that if ROOSEVELT had not spent so much money boondoggling instead of spending it on armaments, we would have had a big army and navy to protect ourselves instead of a political machine. SMITH was aleo asked what should be done with HITLER, and he advieed that he could not say. He believed that this matter was in the hands of the Commander and Chief and his military aids, and that he would leave it up to those persons. He claimed to have confidence enough in the chiefs of our army and navy, and as a side light commented that he wished that the Commander and Chief were someone other than ROOSEVELT, as he naturally did not have any confidence in him. The question was asked, "Would you ask for a trial?" SMITH put off this question by saying that he would trust the military men in whatever action they took. EVERETT of the "Star Times" who was conducting this inquiry asked what SMITH thought of HITLER'S responsibility for the war. He answered saying that there was no limit to what power-mad men like STALIN and HITLER will do. He said "this war is not an issue—no war can be an issue after it begins; from then on criticism is directed to the conduct of the war and postwar plans." EVERETT asked what postwar plans SMITH had in mind, and was referred to the first issue of "The Cross and the Flag" which contains an article entitled "Victory—A definition."

SMITH advocated a rebirth of Nationalism and claimed there is a difference between GEORGE WASHINGTON'S type of Nationalism and HITLER'S type. He claims that by Nationalism it is not meant provincial Isolationism. At this point something came up whereby McCULLOUGH, the "Post Reporter," said he had been a member of the America First Committee.

EVERETT asked SMITH about his membership in the Silver Shirts, and SMITH advised that had been sent an honorary membership card but had never been affiliated with that organization. He advised that one of the reasons he felt resentment toward the B'Nai Brith is because that organization bought PELLEY'S files from him some years ago when PELLEY needed money and then published a letter showing that SMITH held a membership card, but they have not published the letter which SMITH wrote repudiating his membership and returning his card.

SMITH learned that the B'Nai Brith had a copy of his letter from GEORGE SOKOLSKY, a newspaper commentator. SMITH advised that the reference to himself in the book, "Undercover," relative to his marching through Saint Louis with Storm Troopers of the SilverShirt organization was a "forgery."

At this point McCULLOUGH tells SMITH that he received a letter from HARRY ROSENTHAL about HARVEY SPRINGER (SMITH'S associate in Denver). McCULLOUGH also indicates that he is anti-WILLKIE. SMITH attacks ROOSEVELT and the New Deal for having taken the people's rights away through the rationing system and thus depriving them of their "day in court."

EVERETT, who has finished his interview, was calling in his story on the telephone in another room of SMITH'S suite, and then SMITH told him to include in his "smear story" the fact that his son is in the army and stationed in India. Although his son has had six years of military training, he is not an officer but his classmates are. He feels that because his father is the "terrible GERALD L. K. SMITH" he is just a soldier and is leading a mule in India.

At this point McCULLOUGH and SMITH were in the room alone and were engaging in a rather soft conversation, and McCULLOUGH said something about an investigation and mentions "the head of the ONI." The details of this conversation could not be heard, however, inasmuch as McCULLOUGH indicated that he was serving as a source of information for SMITH, it is possible that he may have been furnishing SMITH with some inside information or some background information. SMITH asked McCULLOUGH to get him some background information on FRED EMIG, one of the veterans who was protesting his meeting, and McCULLOUGH subsequently did furnish information to SMITH which permitted SMITH to attack EMIG.

McCULLOUGH, however, did mention that he was not going to write a long article for SMITH, and in that way give him more publicity. SMITH asked McCULLOUGH if he thought that word had gotten around to his followers (meaning America Firsters), and McCULLOUGH answered "Yes, they've heard about it."

McCULLOUGH told SMITH about a reporter by the name of HEPNER of the "Post Dispatch" who was going to cover the meeting for the New Republic. LOHBECK inquired of McCULLOUGH whether MRS. RUELL (phonetic), Assistant Editor of the "Post Dispatch," had gotten a ticket.

This conference with the newspaper men lasted until about 1:00 PM, at which time EVERETT of the "Star Times" told SMITH that he had had orders to stay close to him all day, whereupon SMITH answered "I am accustomed to being watched." EVERETT remained, and SMITH started telling him how he has been smeared in the past, and how when the true facts were known, it was found that the criticism against him was unjustified. He cited an example in Cleveland, Ohio, where he had been barred from using the auditorium, and when he presented his side, the Municipal Auditorium was all for him.

SMITH told EVERETT of the efforts of the Communists and Communist Jews to intimidate people, and also the efforts of the administration to subject its opponents to investigations. He said these things, however, have not intimidated a few people such as CLARE HOFFMAN, HAMILTON FISH, ROBERT REYNOLDS, GERALD NYE, and himself.

SMITH advised that he was not a member of the America First Committee, because at that time he was Chairman of the Committee of One Million, but as they had the same ideas about things, they would work together.

SMITH feels that he has many friends, as he is a friend of everyone who is against ROOSEVELT.

The "Star Times" reporter left at about 2:00 PM.

SMITH then engaged in a long-distance telephone conversation with his office (possibly his secretary, BERNARD A. DOMAN). Apparently MRS. LUNDEEN was leaving Detroit for Chicago, and SMITH said that she could make arrangements for her trip through [redacted] at the Statler Hotel in Detroit. MRS. LUNDEEN apparently was to bring SMITH'S personal attention mail with her to Chicago.

b7c

In a conversation between LOHBECK and SMITH, SMITH states that he feels as though the "Star Times" reporter has been softened, and that the man was doing something repulsive against his inner self in covering this assignment, and that he just mouthed the words that the Jews put in his mouth, and that the Jews could never face him in the open. He also mentioned that McCULLOUGH was a paradoxial fellow and felt that McCULLOUGH in writing the articles which are more or less against SMITH is doing these things but actually knows better.

Before LOHBECK leaves, SMITH asked about his Selective Service status, and LOHBECK stated that he is 1-AO. As SMITH and LOHBECK leave the room, they run into ROBERT MUELLER (phonetic), a friend of JOSEPH B. SHANK. MUELLER is one of the individuals who helped put on a "share the wealth" meeting for SMITH in 1935.

About 2:50 PM, MR. and MRS. SMITH return to the room with REMBERT GILMAN SMITH, who was formerly a Methodist preacher, and was founder in 1937 of the Oklahoma League against Communism, Nazism, and Fascism. His permanent address is Box 2123, Tulsa, Oklahoma. He has written an anti-administration book which he is trying to sell. The book is printed by the J. W. Burke Company of Macon, Georgia. About fifteen years ago he wrote another book "Communism over Methodism." R. G. SMITH says that he sold 200 copies of his book to a man in Oklahoma City, and Subject SMITH shows interest in this publication, asking if enough paper can be obtained to keep on publishing the book.

At about 3:00 PM, ROBERT MUELLER comes in. Subject SMITH is interested in getting copies of R. G. SMITH'S book for his friends and he will

be furnished them by R. G. SMITH at $1.50 apiece. R. G. SMITH explains that there is enough material in the book for twenty-five speeches against the New Deal. Mention is made that a reporter is sitting out in the hall, and as MUELLER gets ready to leave, SMITH tells him that should the "Star Times" question him, he should just say that he is an old acquaintance.

At about 3:15 PM there is an incoming telephone call from GEORGE GEBHARDT who will not be able to call personally on SMITH but will see him at the meeting tonight. GEBHARDT must have asked some question about the Quakers, and SMITH said that they were Pacifists, and mentions that he, however, is a Nationalist.

Subject SMITH and R. G. SMITH decide that the best sentence that could describe his book is "A study in the betrayal of our constitution."

R. G. SMITH mentions a fellow named WEBER, possibly a Baptist preacher in Oklahoma, known as the "Radio Minister of the Southwest." R. G. SMITH claims that WEBER is a follower of his, and Subject SMITH recalls that WEBER has bought his stuff in wholesale lots of more than 200 copies.

R. G. SMITH claims that he has lived almost all his life in Georgia, is sixty-six years old, and has been fighting Communism for a long time. He and Subject SMITH discuss Communism and the evils which have beset our country, and the break-down of religion in the United States. They decide that all the trouble in this country is due to the break-down of the faith in Christ. They also mention the tie-in between the Communists and the Jews, and both claim that they are not anti-Semitic.

R. G. SMITH will try to get to Chicago Sunday to hear GERALD L. K. SMITH, who recommends EARL SOUTHARD to him and gives him his personal card.

GERALD L. K. SMITH thinks that the Northern Methodists are nearly as obnoxious as the Communists.

GERALD L. K. SMITH arranges to buy thirteen of R. G. SMITH'S books for $25.00 and promises him a check, however, R. G. SMITH is hard up for money and gets cash on the spot. Subject SMITH wants to send these books out to a select group and wants all of his key men to have a copy of it.

R. G. SMITH is in Saint Louis apparently trying to promote the sale of his book and also is circulating a form letter among lawyers which is directed to FELIX FRANKFURTER of the Supreme Court requesting his resignation. He has also spoken to DEAN SWEET and Bishop SCARLETT of Saint Louis and considers them both Reds. He has also seen Professor GRAEBNER at Concordia Seminary. Subject SMITH recommends that R. G. SMITH go out to see DR. WALTER A. MAIER and gives him his personal card of introduction.

R. G. SMITH has a son who is an Ensign and who is a graduate from the Coast Guard Academy.

R. G. SMITH says that he got some of the material for his book from AMOS PINCHOT, but that PINCHOT made him promise that he would not disclose the source of his information in the book (it was noticed in the newspapers of last week that AMOS PINCHOT died). R. G. SMITH was displeased that Vice-President WALLACE who was in Saint Louis a few days ago would not see him. He mentioned that he has written a large number of letters to various congressmen and has also written to President ROOSEVELT and other high-ranking officials criticizing them directly.

At 4:10 PM a soldier knocked on SMITH'S door, and said that he represents the boys from overseas, inasmuch as he has fought in the South Pacific, and that he would like to get a ticket to the meeting tonight. He seemed somewhat beligerent, and SMITH did not let him come into the room, but did give him a ticket.

A few minutes later LOHBECK and EVERETT of the "Star Times" come in, and this soldier apparently had approached LOHBECK and EVERETT had interviewed the soldier who said his name was [redacted] (phonetic) of New Jersey. He had campaign ribbons from the South Pacific and several citations. The soldier claimed to EVERETT that he had started a riot at one of FRITZ KUHN'S meetings (this soldier did come to SMITH'S meeting that night, and there is a picture in one of the newspapers showing him in the front row. He caused no trouble, and SMITH was of the opinion that he became a very attentive listener.) b7c

EVERETT starts questioning SMITH about his last visit in Saint Louis on January 14 and 15, 1944, and asks whether he gave any talks at all at that time. SMITH answered "No." He also answered "No" to the question as to whether SMITH had made any contacts at Concordia Seminary (this questioning apparently deals with SMITH'S contact with DR. MAIER at Concordia Seminary and SMITH'S appearance before some of the students through DR. MAIER). SMITH explained that he had gone out to Concordia Seminary with the preacher, HARVEY SPRINGER, who was with him, and who had heard quite a bit about the Seminary and also heard MAIER over the radio. EVERETT asked "Did you talk to DR. MAIER?" Answer: "No, we didn't even try to see him."

SMITH then tells how he treats newspaper men courteously even if they work for the "Daily Worker," and told of an incident where JOHN SPIVAK, a writer for the "New Masses," had tried to interview SMITH under false credentials and how he ran away when SMITH threatened him. He also mentioned the fact that some woman tried to interview him claiming that she was a Nazi spy. He claimed that prior to this meeting with her in the Statler Hotel, he notified the FBI. In relating these incidents, SMITH explained his activities in

Detroit, and he advised that he very seldom goes to his main office because he would be heckled and harassed by people who were against him. He said that he has gotten such good service from the Statler Hotel in protecting him from this type of people that he arranges to hold his interviews with people at the Statler Hotel, usually in the coffee shop or the lobby.

At 4:35 PM the "Star Times" reporter, SMITH, and LOHBECK leave to go to the Municipal Auditorium to make final arrangements for the meeting.

At 5:25 PM LOHBECK and SMITH return, and they talk about general arrangements. SMITH inquires of LOHBECK as to how many America Firsters he has learned of, however, no definite answer could be overheard. He did, however, mention that there is a grocery store clerk who is one of his best workers. LOHBECK said that he had received several telephone calls and requests for an article published by WHEELER in the Congressional Record. SMITH says that he will talk tonight about British propaganda.

SMITH commented that JOSEPH KOESTERS and GEORGE GEBHARDT would be at the meeting tonight, and LOHBECK says that the Social Justice fellows make good street fighters.

At 5:40 PM there was an incoming telephone call from WILLIAM D. MONTGOMERY. SMITH tells him that SHANK had tried to get him by telephone but they were disconnected. SMITH tells MONTGOMERY to scout the meeting tonight without being conspicuous to see if there are any trouble makers there and then pass on this information to MRS. SMITH who will be at the door. MONTGOMERY apparently was asking if he would be called upon to give any speeches, and SMITH told him that he could expect to be giving talks within the next ninety days. SMITH said that he had spoken to a man in Chicago who wants MONTGOMERY to come up there and give a speech. This is possibly SOUTHARD. MONTGOMERY gives SMITH the name of MARTIN FEDERER, an old America Firster, Telephone FLanders 7412. LOHBECK is also acquainted with FEDERER.

SMITH continues his conversation with LOHBECK, and SMITH shows his anti-Semitic feeling in saying that the sheenies tried to trip him up by sending up a fellow in a soldier's uniform. In this respect, it must be noted that whenever SMITH has an opportunity, he makes some anti-Semitic remark, or immediately connects any remark of a person with whom he is talking as being anti-Semitic and then elaborates on it. There were several instances where LOHBECK made a couple of remarks about Jews where he did not mean to speak of them in a derogatory sense, but SMITH commented upon it that way, and LOHBECK corrected him by saying that "these were good Jews, " etc.

SMITH told LOHBECK that he thought the "Star Times" reporter was now in their camp and mentioned the fact that this reporter had brought up the point that he had worked for VERNE MARSHALL, and thinks MARSHALL is the finest publisher he has ever known.

SMITH thinks [redacted] of the auditorium, is a fine fellow, and mentions that the auditorium will be policed, inasmuch as it is city property. They show some concern that there may be trouble but feel that they can cope with it.

SMITH had previously mentioned that he was thinking of organizing in Kansas City and told LOHBECK that he is thinking of sending him to Kansas City to help organize there, inasmuch as he is very much pleased with his work in Saint Louis. SMITH comments about the coming meeting, saying "wait until the audience hears me raise hell with the New Deal and the British, and if they are a normal audience, they will really like to hear it."

There is an incoming telephone call from some girl student whose name is possibly WARGH or WARGHER. She wants to come with a couple of friends and SMITH tells her that she can get her tickets at the door. SMITH describes her as some student who is scared to death.

At 7:25 PM the SMITHS and LOHBECK leave the hotel to go to the auditorium for the meeting. The meeting at the assembly hall of the Municipal Auditorium started at about 8:00 PM. There were approximately 600 to 700 people in attendance, which is its capacity.

There was no disturbance or any picketing before the meeting began. On the stage with MR. and MRS. SMITH were MR. and MRS. LOHBECK and GEORGE GEBHARDT. LOHBECK opened the meeting by saying that they had waited for a long time to find a man they could follow without being afraid, and "he came down from Detroit to continue on the policy and with the program that we had followed so sincerely up to the time the United States went into war. We had heard from National Headquarters of the America First Committee that the committee was dissolved. We lost contact with our best workers." He asked that word be passed around that they wanted these workers back and said "we have started again and will not stop this time. He said "this meeting is to present the one man who has stopped his work in the cause of Americanism and American Nationalism. He has not been intimidated by the governmental harrassment which many of us know and which has stopped some of us." He then introduced GERALD L. K. SMITH as head of the America First Party.

SMITH began his talking by saying that he was mindful of the accomplishments of Saint Louis, but one thing stays in his mind and is symbolized and personified by that phrase so often heard "Spirit of Saint Louis"——CHARLES A. LINDBERGH. Upon the mention of LINDBERGH'S name, there was a great applause. SMITH said he hoped to present LINDBERGH to the Saint Louis audiences for a speech and also he hoped to introduce to Saint Louis "that maligned and persecuted lover of Christ, Father CHARLES E. COUGHLIN." (great applause).

SMITH attacked the Communists and ROOSEVELT and gave a tyrade against

the "international bankers, international politicians, and international finaglers, who want to load us with a debt and tax load to pay the debt for the world for the next century." He then made a play on the word, "first," and said that there was only one thing above "America First" and that was faith in Christ. He tells how he promised his old mother that he would never make a speech without mentioning Christ's name.

SMITH tells how the politicians have run the show for a long time, and that the best citizens have stood on the sidelines. He claims that these political rascals are symbolized by men like HARRY HOPKINS.

At the point he has REMBERT GILMAN SMITH, the former Methodist preacher, lead the audience in prayer.

SMITH begins his speech by praising LOHBECK for making this meeting successful, and FRED EMIG in the audience gets up and announces that LOHBECK is a conscientious objector. However, SMITH immediately cuts him off, saying that LOHBECK'S status has been established by a draft board appointed by the President of the United States and asks the audience to give LOHBECK a big hand. It is noted that the audience did not show any resentment at all to the fact that LOHBECK was a conscientious objector.

LOHBECK introduced all the people on the stage, including GEBHARDT, and described him as a former head of one of the Social Justice groups.

SMITH then asked the people in the audience who had one son in the army to raise their hands, then two, and then asked those with three to stand up and give their names. One of these individuals was [redacted] possibly [redacted] who has three sons in the Marines. Another man was possibly [redacted] The others did not give their names. A negro man stood up and said that he had three sons in the armed services, and SMITH took that occasion to tell the negro not to believe what the Communists are saying, and that the America Firsters are not against the negro race. b7c

SMITH tells the group that he hopes the America First Party will not be necessary, and that the Republicans will nominate a man whom they can support; that is, someone other than WILLKIE. He then appeals to the Republican politicians in the audience to note how the tide is running and points out to them that he and his followers are a powerful force with which they should concern themselves and align themselves with their group. He warns the Republicans against selling them out, saying "if you do so, we will hold our convention, maybe in Saint Louis, and nominate "the Spirit of Saint Louis."" He said the Republicans can have the America First votes, or even the Democrats' votes, if they turn their party back to men like WHEELER and CLARK.

SMITH then shows himself to be definitely against WILLKIE and says that Communism has its spokesman in the Vice-President of the United States.

He points out that at the 26th Anniversary of the October Revolution in New York in November, 1942, WALLACE was the main speaker. He called for WALLACE'S impeachment. He said that the government in Washington is shot through with the disciples of WALLACE and FELIX FRANKFURTER whom he classified as a Communist.

SMITH told the story of how he was introduced to the student body of Harvard University by a MR. GRACE, and members of the John Reed Club, who are Communists, tried to break up the meeting.

SMITH also said that he was against being sucked into a world government and being brought back into the British Empire. He told of how the British were trying to interfere with American politics.

He refers to DEEM SMITH, former head of the Standard Oil Company, who has spoken on Eastern Imperialism, both on the part of the Japanese and the British.

SMITH goes into some detail on the plans for the world government, and exhibits the flag which the Internationalists have designed. He attacks WALTER WINCHELL, and tells his audience to read Senator JOHN RANKIN'S speech in congress. He says "if Jewish statesmen want to check anti-Semitism, they should choke that rat who is doing more to spread it than anyone else in the United States."

SMITH gives out a definition of victory in 1944, which he has repeatedly set out in his publication and other places. He also brings out the difficulties which his son has had in the army because his name is GERALD L. K. SMITH, and also the fact that hie son is not an officer because of this.

SMITH says "I know it is a boldness that borders on danger. I know I risk my safety in the presence of bureaucratic tyrants who are playing all the tricks to silence this fearless voice....they know if the truth is let out, they will not remain in power....they can't stand this truth...the only way they can stay in power is to silence those who speak it (truth)."

SMITH then tells hos the veterans cannot hope to be given any consideration through ROOSEVELT, and how the present administration would rather spend billions of dollars in foreign countries than to give the veterans what is their due. He says "we must save the nation's wealth for our veterans. I would not trade one wounded veteran for all the Mexicans in Mexico, all the Brazillians in Brazil, all the Argentinians in Argentina, or all the Chinese in China."

He asks the audience if they would like for him to bring to Saint Louis CLARE HOFFMAN or MRS. LUNDEEN, or possibly GERALD P. NYE, and they act in the affirmative. He forgets the name of the large hall in the Municipal Auditorium, and asks McCULLOUGH, the "Post Dispatch" reporter, who is sitting in

the front row, what it is called.

SMITH then starts taking up his collection and explains how this is done. He furnishes everyone with an envelope and pencil, and they can put in the envelope as much money as they want, and also can write on the front of it how much money they would like to donate every month. He told the people about his way of organizing, explaining that he did not elect people to offices, because these people would then be harrassed, and his enemies would go around and have these people fired from their jobs and persecuted. In his way of organizing, GERALD L. K. SMITH "will take the heat and keep it off the people."

SMITH said "the bureaucrats thought after Pearl Harbor they would use the war to imprison us. They thought they would call us Nazis and traitors and divisionists. They thought they would use those circumstances to strike us under the belt." He also said "they thought they would lock up all Nationalists like LINDBERGH, HENRY FORD, NYE, WHEELER, and myself, but they can't do it. There are too many of us. We are America." (applause) "If they do strike down this fearless voice and let me rot behind the filthy walls of a concentration camp, they will not gain, because the blood of the martyrs is seed of the church, and for every GERALD L. K. SMITH they put down, 1000 will rise up to haunt these bureaucratic tyrants. Freedom will not die. Give me liberty or give me death." (applause and shouts of "'atta boy, GERALD")

SMITH then continues with his collection, and all the time that the collection is going on, he keeps up a running line of chatter. He calls upon JOSEPH KOESTERS and other volunteers, including MRS. SMITH and MRS. LONBECK, to help collect the envelopes. He advised that everyone who gives a dollar or more will receive a copy of the book, "And So They Indicted Me," by G. EDWARD JONES. He advised that for every dollar they will get one book, so that if a person gives $5.00 he will get five books. He advises that this may be the beginning of a great movement which sweeps the country, and they may want to have something which they can save for the years to come and show that they were a founder of this Crusade. It is the "gold seal America First certificate," and everyone who pledges $1.00 a month or more will get one. The seal has upon it a picture of GEORGE WASHINGTON. He said that anyone who didn't want to give their name should just write "money" on the envelope. He also distributes a petition calling for Congress to help the veterans. This program is "One Thousand Dollars for Each Veteran." SMITH also distributed copies of "The Cross and The Flag" and copies of RAY TUCKER'S article. He has everyone stand and face the flag in order to pledge allegiance. He explains the various ways in which the flag can be saluted--the military salute, the hand over the heart, and the outstretched hand with the palm up. He explains to the audience that they should salute with the palm up and not with the palm down, which is the Fascist salute. He points out that the "Star Times" would take a picture of them if they used the Fascist salute and would harrass them. After the pledge of allegiance, he has the audience stand as they were and recites the Lord's Prayer.

He closes with thanking the audience for their hospitality, saying that he and MRS. SMITH have had so much persecution and harrassment, they are grateful for the cordial reception they received in Saint Louis. He ends saying "God bless you. God bless and save America. Goodnight." There is scattered handclapping.

The audience became a little restless during the collection which took a considerable time, and there was a definite let-down in the enthusiasm once the collection started. However, there was no concentrated effort to leave the hall, but it must be noticed that SMITH any number of times mentioned during his speech that the Communists, New Dealers, or anyone else who got mad could leave at any time they wanted to. The meeting closed at 10:25 PM.

Through [redacted] there is available a complete record of this meeting. Further details about this meeting will be set out later in the report. b7D

At 11:00 PM, MR. and MRS. SMITH, and MR. and MRS. LOHBECK return to the hotel. MRS. LOHBECK is interested in seeing how her family will react to the meeting, as they are against this sort of thing. She says that they represent the "smug" group. SMITH comments that it is not a disgrace to stir up the rabble and quotes the Bible to the effect that "Jesus Christ was condemned because he stirreth up the rabble."

Drnach LOHBECK comments that the dramatic critic of the "Post Dispatch" was present at the meeting.

They go out to eat, and by midnight MR. and MRS. SMITH retire.

III. Activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH in Saint Louis on February 18, 1944

SMITH is up at 9:30 AM and goes down to the hotel lobby. He then returns to the room.

At 11:05 AM, ROBERT MUELLER (phonetic), the attorney, and a friend of JOSEPH B. SHANK, comes in. MUELLER is drunk and tells SMITH that he didn't think very much of his taking up any collection at the meeting and thinks he should eliminate that. MUELLER curses quite a bit, and is quite frank with SMITH. SMITH takes no offense and "kids him along."

MUELLER apparently ran in a congressional race in Missouri and advised that he ran a close third but was sabotaged by the Catholics and the Social Justice group. He was supposed to get some money from Father COUGHLIN but did not get it. MUELLER has known MONTGOMERY for about five years and says that SHANK got MONTGOMERY his job at the City Hall. MUELLER claims that he is the one who got SHANK his job.

MUELLER is forty-one years of age, has worked as an electrician, his

parents are American born, and he, himself graduated from Saint Louis University Law School. MUELLER said that [redacted] was at the meeting last night and liked it. SMITH comments that JOE SHANK was at the meeting and sitting at the left, but because of his job at the City Hall, SMITH did not expect him to become involved in the America First Party. SMITH asked MUELLER whether there was any "old Republican wheel horses" there, but MUELLER answers in the negative. b7c

SMITH gives MUELLER a big build-up, and tells him to come back when he is sober. Throughout this interview MUELLER has continually asked SMITH, "What are you aiming at?" He repeats this question so much that it apparently becomes embarrassing to SMITH, and SMITH says that he will talk to him about it when MUELLER'S mind gets cleared up. SMITH does reminesce with MUELLER about the HUEY LONG days and also mentions SHANK and the two brothers (possibly the BABER brothers) who helped put on a meeting in 1935.

MUELLER left at 11:25 AM.

McCULLOUGH, the "Post Dispatch" reporter, calls SMITH at 11:30, from the lobby of the hotel, and SMITH asked "What did the fellow at the Jefferson have to say?" McCULLOUGH agrees with SMITH that EMIG'S attempt to heckle him fell flat. He explained that GEBHARDT, who was on the stage, is a "good old Social Justice fellow, a COUGHLINITE." SMITH also asks, "What did the Staff Sergeant say?" Apparently the conversation led to LOHBECK, and his conscientious objection status, and SMITH says "I do not think they should persecute those people." McCULLOUGH introduced SMITH to BENESCH, Editor of the "Star Times," and SMITH asks how BENESCH liked the meeting. SMITH also asked what JULIUS KLYMAN'S reaction was.

At 11:40 AM MR. LaVALLE (phonetic) comes in. LaVALLE had previously called SMITH on the day before and is also believed to have been at the meeting and probably was the one who shouted out the fact that America First is shown on naturalization papers. LaVALLE is retired and lives with someone in Saint Louis. He pioneered in the internal combustion engine and taught at the Sweeny School in Kansas City. He is about seventy-one years of age and is a member of the Spanish American War Veterans. LaVALLE explains that he wears his America First button behind his lapel and has worn it ever since he first got it. LaVALLE is apparently is becoming senile, but is a great friend of GERALD L. K. SMITH.

LaVALLE left about noon and shortly thereafter [redacted], comes in. [redacted] greatly admires SMITH and is also against Communism. It is to be noted that GERALD L. K. SMITH always plays up to the individual to whom he is talking. If it is a Methodist, he shows his great sympathy toward the Methodists, if it is a person who has no religion, he makes no point of it, and when he speaks to a Catholic, he brings out all his sympathy b7c

with the Catholic Church. So, with [redacted], SMITH emphasized what he had done for the Catholic Church, along with HUEY LONG, in Louisiana. He told [redacted] how he got into the field in which he is now working and said he decided that "the Jews would not keep me down." He told the story that he had seen Archbishop HAYES in New York regarding Communism and had told the Archbishop that he knew what was going on in Mexico regarding the plans to persecute the church and also knew about the Spanish situation. SMITH asked the Archbishop for an intelligent understanding of his work, and the Archbishop turned him over to [redacted] He claims that he owes much of his knowledge of "Christian philosophy as it relates to politics" to [redacted] in New York was assigned to SMITH to assist him.

SMITH continues his story that after spending some time in New York, he deliberated as to where it would be best to expand his activities, and he decided on Detroit, Michigan. He began broadcasting in that city, pointing out the Communist threat to this country. He pointed out that at that time he had had the support of the wealthy men who were afraid the Communists would take their money. [redacted] said he knows a man like that in Saint Louis; namely, MARTIN FEDERER, who was at the meeting last night. [redacted] apparently knows FEDERER quite well and describes him as a miser. SMITH again continues his story, saying that when the war came on, these fellows (the manufacturers) got government contracts, and it was necessary for him to change the emphasis. SMITH brings out that he contacted General WOOD and others in the America First Committee about the units in Ohio, etc. SMITH said that after we got into the war, some people deserted him.

[redacted] advised that he is acquainted with two Catholic Churches in Detroit. [redacted] is pastor at one, and [redacted] is at the other. SMITH points out that his office manager in Detroit, MR. DOMAN, is a devout Catholic, and SMITH thinks very highly of him. SMITH also mentions that they were the guests at breakfast of someone by the name of O'BRIEN. He claims that he is a good friend of JOHN McGILL, head of the Knights of Columbus. SMITH told of hearing a Father TERRELL, who spent some time in Spain and came back to the United States, tell of his experiences, and SMITH was so impressed with his story, he devoted an entire radio address to it, whereupon the "Jewish Gestapo of Chicago took him to task."

At 1:05 PM there was an incoming telephone call from a man named JOHN _____ of the "Times" magazine who conversed with SMITH for about twenty minutes. MRS. SMITH, who first answered the telephone, said he had a couple of questions to ask SMITH.

SMITH continued his conversation with [redacted] and asked him how he gets along with DR. MAIER, who is "working up our alley." SMITH said that MAIER'S personal secretary came to him last night after the meeting with some message from MAIER.

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SMITH tells of having a meeting in Buffalo, New York, where he had a Father O'BRIEN on the platform and also mentioned that he has been at Father O'BRIEN'S church. He also submitted a manuscript to Father O'BRIEN which SMITH submitted to an editor of one of the newspapers, who had called his speech seditious. He forced this editor to retract this statement. SMITH thinks highly of the "Buffalo News."

SMITH believes that WINCHELL and men like him help their movement, because the people know what type of an individual WINCHELL is. He claims that WINCHELL got his first automobile from DUTCH SCHULZ, a notorious gangster, and from this beginning of association with hoodlums, he became a personal aid to the President of the United States as a naval officer. MRS. SMITH commented that DUTCH SCHULZ had been a large contributer to the ROOSEVELT campaign.

SMITH said "Communists are wrecking the Christian Churches from within—the Jewish Fifth Column." SMITH believes that the Jew in Russia now has lots of money, because ROOSEVELT is giving so much of the money away.

SMITH believes that the people in Saint Louis want to be anti-New Deal but points out that their three newspapers are all New Deal papers. He tells [redacted] of the attack against him by the Veterans group in Saint Louis and that this is Jewish strategy. SMITH also says "Is it not diabolical how WINCHELL is trying to get us into war with Argentina?" SMITH also enters into an anti-Mason tyrade, and tells of their sinister influence against him in Michigan.

SMITH said that in 1935, when he was in Saint Louis, representatives of the Friends of New Germany came to him and told him that their organization had found that LONG'S assassination had been planned in Vienna by the Jews. SMITH figured at that time that they were fanatics, and then when he went back to Louisiana, he did find out that HUEY LONG'S assassinators had some Vienna contacts, and he now believes that those men of the Friends of New Germany were correct.

At 2:05 PM some men came to the door and said that they were radio men. They wanted to check SMITH'S radio as there was a short in the line. SMITH told them to come back tomorrow. SMITH then told [redacted] that there was a determined looking man at the door with pliers in his hand, and that this is a typical way that the investigators have of checking up on him. The details of this conversation are not available, but SMITH said that he had good luck at Statler Hotels, and that they protect him against that sort of thing.

At 2:20 PM [redacted] who was a voluntary worker for the America First Committee, and [redacted] came to inquiry about SMITH'S organization and also showed some doubt about LOHBECK.

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However, SMITH reassured them that he was quite all right. These women explained that they were very enthusiastic workers of the America First Committee, and one of them took care of the files and mail. SMITH explained his organization, saying that their work had been one-half above and one-half underground. His organization did not elect officers, because if they did so, these persons would be heckled, and one of the officials might even go over to the "enemy." He explained that the admission cards to the meetings have a code number on them, and these cards are tabulated in Detroit to determine which of the volunteers has been most productive. He also said that he has his volunteers fill out some questionnaire so that his operators can check on the background of the individual.

These women were very anxious to find out more about the organization, and SMITH told them there were no powers behind him; that he was the leader of the movement and that everything was above board, and that it would not be like the America First Committee which was filled with stuffed shirts.

One of the women asked SMITH whether he had seen LINDBERGH, and he told her "Yes, and he backs our idea." She claims to personally know LINDBERGH and does not feel that he would want any public office and does not want to campaign for him because of this. SMITH answered that he mentioned LINDBERGH in his speech the night before just to use his name as a sample. These women, although they were for WILLKIE in the last election, are presently very much anti-WILLKIE. The women asked SMITH who he thought would be a good candidate, and he said that he was not a BRICKER man, but that BRICKER seemed to be making some headway. He believed that McCORMICK would not want to be President and wanted his name to be used just as a "nice gesture." SMITH is not for DEWEY, because he is tired of being ruled by New York State and feels that DEWEY did HAMILTON FISH a terrible injustice. Both of these women agree with this. The women asked SMITH what he thought of NORMAN THOMAS, and he advised that he considers him an intellectual---an old man.

SMITH agreed with the women that if they had to choose between WILLKIE and ROOSEVELT, he would vote for NORMAN THOMAS. One of these women explained that she was asking all of these questions, because her husband was very much interested.

The conversation touched on an individual by the name of KLEIN, an attorney for Colonel SANCTUARY, who has been indicted for sedition. SMITH asked who is the best congressman in this district, and the women advised that PLOESER was, explaining that they are better acquainted with him than the others because he is their congressman.

These women know the DeMOOR brothers and are also acquainted with MARTIN FEDERER.

When [redacted] gave SMITH her name, he commented that some people think that everyone with such a name (German name) should be liquidated. These women also furnished SMITH with a written list of names and said that an especially good worker was [redacted] who resides on Copelin Avenue in Saint Louis.

SMITH advised that he does not expect much from prominent people, and this is one of the reasons why the America First Committee did not make a success. He advised that he had GEORGE GEBHARDT on the platform, in order to show them that he did not want stuffed shirts but was making an appeal to the ordinary working class.

SMITH said that HENRY FORD is an admirer of his and told a story about FORD'S secretary, whose name is possibly STUART (?), asking SMITH to drop by.

SMITH continued telling these women about his organization and said he is against having volunteers doing his regular work because under the guise of volunteers the "enemy comes in and reads his mail, etc." SMITH advised that he sends out from 8,000 to 10,000 pieces of literature every day, and that each piece discloses something against the New Deal. He advised that he is always getting new names.

He explained to the women how LOHBECK had been selected, and said that a newspaper reporter, who had been a member of the America First Committee, had O.K.'d LOHBECK (this is probably McCULLOUGH).

SMITH also told the women about how he gets expenses, in that the humble people send in their dollars and cents. At this point, one of the women advise that the German Consul in Saint Louis had sent money to the America First Committee (some mention may have been made about SCHNEIDER of the German Embassy coming to America First Committee meetings). Both of these women said that it would have caused them very much trouble had it become known that the German Consul was sending the money.

These women left about three o'clock, and MARTIN FEDERER, REMBERT GILMAN SMITH, and DONALD LOHBECK come in. FEDERER explains that [redacted] told him to come and also explains that he is a good friend of Senator CLARK. Mention is made that CLARK is an admirer of HUEY LONG. SMITH tells a rather long story of himself testifying before the Lend Lease hearing in Washington, D.C. He explained how he was not harrassed by the Chairman of this Lend Lease hearing, CONNALLY, because he had something on CONNALLY.

Mention is made of PAUL ANDERSON, who lost his radio station because he drank heavily. The conversation indicated that SMITH is acquainted with [redacted] at Shreveport, Louisiana. This person is also possibly known by FEDERER.

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FEDERER mentioned that he saw JOE FORSHAW, former head of the America First Committee, a few days ago, who has some lawsuit on his hands, and LOHBECK comments that he is definitely against FORSHAW.

SMITH says that he will run an article by CHANNING POLLACK, "We Planned It That Way," which some magazine was afraid to publish.

FEDERER and LOHBECK apparently were co-workers in the America First Committee, and they talk about old times. FEDERER was also anxious to find out what SMITH has in mind, and what his object is, inasmuch as he was greatly disappointed in the America First Committee.

SMITH says his purposes are as follows: (1) Convince the people that someone can get up and tell the truth. He believes that the people gave up, and that he can encourage these people. (2) Crusade in journalism as everyone has stopped publishing, but he has started putting out his magazine. (3) To emphasize the truths, stating that there were some people who did not want to turn the country over to the British or the Communists. (4) Lay the foundation for an insurgent party "who have the guts to put an ultimatum before the Republican Party." In this regard SMITH advised that strategists of the Republican Party have come to him and begged him not to go too far with his movement and assured him that they were going to nominate a good man. SMITH advised that he does not want to split the Republican Party. (5) To endorse the Republican candidates in other offices, hoping to place Republicans in local and national jobs.

SMITH also explained that if they are betrayed by the Republican Party (meaning if WILLKIE is nominated), they will form the America First Party and work for 1948.

REMBERT GILMAN SMITH apparently MR. RAY, the Editor of the "Globe Democrat," this morning and told GERALD L. K. SMITH that RAY was all for SMITH. However, it was brought out that RAY, himself, had not said very much, but had just agreed with some of the things that R. G. SMITH had said.

The group discusses the coming elections and mention is made that KENNEDY is a personal friend of BURTON WHEELER. SMITH says that WHEELER told him all about KENNEDY. FEDERER mentions a man by the name of SEYFRIED, who is an American Legion man, and says that he was at the meeting last night. LOHBECK comments that SEYFRIED is anti-British and anti-ROOSEVELT. FEDERER mentions that EARHARDT was a trouble maker. This fellow is also possibly a Legionnaire. LOHBECK says that O. K. ARMSTRONG was an organizer for VERN MARSHALL. LOHBECK also mentions BILL SCULLY, the oil man of Oklahoma, and PHILLIPS, the oil man from Bartlesville, Oklahoma, and the name ARTUNO is also mentioned. LOHBECK and FEDERER believe that it would be well for them to get together to think up all the names of the individuals who were formerly sympathetic with their movement.

LOHBECK brings up the point of possibly have an intermediary meeting

someplace in South Saint Louis, possibly for about 1,500 people, and they may possibly use Triangle Park.

SMITH comments about JOSEPH SHANK, and LOHBECK says that he is a good man. SMITH explains that SHANK, because of his job at the City Hall, cannot actively support the America First Party, and suggests that there be formed the Independent Republicans.

FEDERER claims close friendship with WALTER PLOESER, and says that PLOESER has changed somewhat and he does not want to do anything that will prejudice his political future.

SMITH states that DEWEY spoke in favor of him (SMITH) before Pearl Harbor. He believes that he has the balance of power in two states which are needed for success in a national election. He also mentions the names, NORMAN BEAL, FRANK GANNETT, and SAM_____. He mentioned these individuals as liking them.

SMITH says "the government is not worth a damn. We'll have to build an entire new government on men like LOHBECK. We'll make it that LOHBECK will be better known than PLOESER. If we had a thousand preachers like Preacher SMITH here and a thousand priests like Father GRIFFIN, we would be able to accomplish our purposes. The best man in the United States Senate is GERALD NYE. I love NYE. We have exchanged many long, personal letters."

SMITH tells of a meeting which he had arranged for NYE under the name, "Independent Republicans," in Ohio. However, the head of the National Republican Committee in North Dakota is a Jew by the name of STERN, and pressure was brought to bear upon NYE, so that he had to call off this meeting.

Regarding the building up of the government on men like LOHBECK, SMITH has at various times elaborated on this as to how new speakers and new leaders must be built up from the ordinary men in their movement. SMITH also said that they would have to form Veterans Committees, in order to "catch them as they come out of the service." He said "we must build the leaders out of the soil". SMITH explained that RAY DANIELS of the "New York Times," London Department, had told him when he was interviewed that the men who are in the army in England are very discouraged, and that all of them would join the America First Committee.

SMITH explained how EARL SOUTHARD is trying to get RUSH HOLT to make speeches for him, but HOLT has not agreed to this to date. SMITH believes that the most courageous men are HOFFMAN, _____, REYNOLDS, and NYE.

FEDERER recommends that SMITH see DeMOOR of the Social Justice movement, and calls him on the telephone and arranges for DeMOOR to come down to the hotel in the evening.

At about 4:45 PM, SMITH and LOHBECK leave, and FEDERER and R. G. SMITH continue their talking. Both of the men are greatly impressed with SMITH and both men feel that the United States had to get into the war when it was attacked, but they feel that if a different policy had been followed before the war, it would have kept the United States out, and the Japanese would not have attacked us. FEDERER explained that he had worked for ROOSEVELT'S election in 1932 and 1936, but now gets sick of hearing his name. FEDERER, by his remarks, showed an absorbing hatred for ROOSEVELT.

At 5:00 PM, MARTIN FEDERER leaves, and JOSEPH W. KOESTERS comes in. There is general anti-ROOSEVELT talk and anti-Administration and anti-Jewish talk, and KOESTERS is of the opinion that ROOSEVELT has a devil's influence on this country.

Shortly thereafter LOHBECK and SMITH return, and KOESTERS says that everyone said the meeting was "wonderful." KOESTERS and LOHBECK start talking about the draft, and KOESTERS tells LOHBECK "you are within the law; everything has been done legally." He explains that he, himself, was rejected because of high blood pressure [redacted]. b7c

KOESTERS tells SMITH that it was a district zone air raid warden who took SMITH from the meeting to his hotel, and that newspaper men took a picture of the automobile. He said this man had talked about the meeting all the way home (this man is [redacted] b7c

They all seem quite satisfied with the meeting, and SMITH explains that meetings are more difficult now than in the America First Committee days, because of (1) coercion and intimidation (2) transportation (3) night shifts and occupations.

During general conversation about their "enemies," KOESTERS makes the remark, "all those war mongers." KOESTERS heard from a friend of his that Mayor KAUFFMAN was at the meeting. A friend of KOESTERS by the name of POLLITO, who is believed to have a job at the City Hall, told the mayor about the meeting. POLLITO seemed to be enthusiastic about it. LOHBECK said that two men came to him and said "don't let SMITH get away from the Republican Party."

The conversation among this group continues, and SMITH'S comment is "Sell the bonds to all the sheenies and then repudiate the debt." It is SMITH'S idea that we should reach out and take all the British Islands in the Caribbean on the theory of "islands for debts."

SMITH has been very interested during his stay in Saint Louis to ascertain the percentage of Jews and percentage of Germans living here. He asked if all the Germans are anti-Jewish. He gets no definite answer from any of the people to whom he talks, but LOHBECK comments that the Jews around here have

been the obnoxious type, and that we also have a lot of refugees. KOESTERS tells the story of a fellow by the name of [redacted](?), who worked for the "Post Dispatch" and was a Bund member. KOESTERS went out with him a number of times and believes that he was a Jewish refugee. In their further comments about the Jews, SMITH says that CLIFTON FADAMAN of "Information Please" has advocated the liquidation of the German race, and LOHBECK in a choked voice also quotes FADAMAN as saying "we must learn to hate the German race."

SMITH comments "they are a bunch of criminals, but I think there are some good Jews." KOESTERS says "very few," and SMITH replies, "Yes, that's right. They all stick up for each other. Even the good Jews will stick up for the other Jews." He also says "If I call one Jew a Jew bastard, they call me anti-Semitic."

KOESTERS tells the story of a friend of his who is a bricklayer from the Old Country. (This is possibly one of the air raid wardens who works with KOESTERS). KOESTERS speaks in a slurring manner of fellows who are enthusiastically trying to get into the army and navy and tells the story of one young fellow he knows who was all enthused in getting into the navy, and now that he has been in it, does not like it very much. He also tells of [redacted] who had to go into the army, although he was very much opposed to it and opposed to the United States entering the war. KOESTERS and this fellow [redacted] both knew SCHNEIDER of the German Consulate ([redacted]

They mention the fact that SCHNEIDER of the German Consulate came to America First meetings and enjoyed hearing what was going on. This conversation has been on the topic of German people, and SMITH asks at this point "when we were at peace, was it any worse to be a friend of the German Consul than the British Consul?"

LOHBECK explains that the former sympathizers of the America First Committee were completely cut off from other parts of the country until SMITH came along, and the publicity has worked out fine, inasmuch as it has consolidated the people, and they now can again work for the cause. SMITH says "the word Fascist is innocuous--it means nothing." SMITH then tells of a boy who was a senior in high school, but says that he does not want to mention his name as there might be some apparatus about, who sent the president some hot letter calling it a Jew Deal, etc., and also commenting about going into the war. He sent SMITH a copy of his letter. SMITH reprimanded the boy for having written this letter. He said that the boy had written to the president that he was going to war, but when he came back he was going to jam a red hot poker down his throat. Within ten days the federal authorities had indicted this boy, and the community, which is apparently close to Detroit, congratulated the young fellow and made a hero of him. The United States Commissioner told the young fellow to go into the army. SMITH has now gotten letters from the boy saying

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that he is working for a screwball, a major in the army, who was formerly a newspaper man, and is always wanting to make a deadline. He says that this major is "hep on charts" and is always diagnosing things. The young fellow says it is like working in a bug house as they have a deadline every day and are not getting any place.

SMITH turns to KOESTERS [redacted] and says "I look upon you, JOE, as one of our pillars. There is no one behind the scenes in this movement. There are no stuffed shirts." KOESTERS says that a brother, who is a bachelor, and the sister, who is an old maid, of JOSEPH T. SCHROEDER, who once ran for Congress and is now dead, were at the meeting last night. They live at 44-- Clamerack (phonetic) Drive. He knew that they hated the administration, so he sent them an invitation card. After the meeting, MR. SCHROEDER came to KOESTERS and shook his hand, saying, "we cannot thank you enough for sending that card." KOESTERS also explained that [redacted] wants one of the Jones books. He explains that [redacted] organized all of the air raid wardens in the whole district, and both he and SMITH agree that he must have some organizational ability and it would be well to work him into their organization. b7c

They get on the subject of the draft, and KOESTERS again tells that he was turned down because of high blood pressure. At this point, MRS. LOHBECK asks, "don't you want to fight for FRANKIE?" KOESTERS answered that he never was for this mess and feels that it could have been avoided, but it was those in Washington who got us into it.

They all sit around and admire GERALD L. K. SMITH, including SMITH, himself, and he tells them how he handles hecklers and has never been out-smarted. He tells again of up and coming orators such as HARVEY SPRINGER, who was a former Communist, but who was converted to Christianity. He also mentions a man by the name of MATT, or MATH, who was a Commander of an American Legion Post at Pittsburgh, and who has been in Chicago and Detroit to speak. He considers DEEM SMITH as another good speaker who talks on the science of empire building.

KOESTERS advises that the Social Justice group in Saint Louis is made up of only about eighteen to twenty members who are religious fanatics. KOESTERS tells of the FBI investigating the DeMOORS, and says that they are now scared to do anything.

They all leave at eight o'clock. SMITH returns at 9:20 PM, and FRANCIS DeMOOR is waiting for him. DeMOOR apparently is acquainted with EARL SOUTHARD whom DeMOOR has heard of through some Franciscan Monk. DeMOOR asks SMITH if he has checked the suite for any hearing devices behind curtains, etc., as some detective in Chicago whom he knows told him all about those things. SMITH says "I don't care. Last night I spoke for two hours on what I think, and in my two years of using the Statler Hotels, I have never had a leak from

any conference." He explained that if it got out that the Statler permitted this, it would ruin their business. DeMOOR tells SMITH about his experience with the FBI and advised that he was grilled one day from nine o'clock in the morning until three o'clock in the afternoon (this is correct).

At this point SMITH asked with much interest whether the FBI had asked DeMOOR about his attitude toward the Jews, and DeMOOR said, "No, they didn't mention Jews."

DeMOOR asks SMITH what he knows about LOHBECK, and SMITH replied that he had inquired concerning him and everything seemed to be all right. He explained that since Pearl Harbor, he judges people who approach him regarding his movement in the following categories: (1) whether they represent some newspaper (2) whether they represent the sheenies, Communists, or the New Deal (3) which is divided into two categories; one, screwballs, and two, sincere individuals.

Commenting about LOHBECK'S conscientious objection status, SMITH says "it takes guts to be a conscientious objector."

Some mention is made of JOSEPH B. JOHNSON, who writes directly to the President. This is possibly a priest.

DeMOOR advised that the Social Justice Club has about 100 members and explains that they collected money for the Christian Fronters (these men were indicted in New York for treason).

DeMOOR asked SMITH what he knows about the British--Israel--World--Federation, and SMITH goes into the story about Jewish control. SMITH inquires of DeMOOR as to who gave him the world federation idea, and he explains that about 40 women went to Washington, D. C. to fight against Lend Lease and a MRS. BALDWIN gave them lots of material on the world government idea. DeMOOR asked SMITH whether he knew MRS. BALDWIN, and he quickly answered "Oh, yes." SMITH commented that he thought she was anti-Catholic. She belittles the pope, and says that the pope is half Jewish.

SMITH plays up the sympathies which he has with the Catholic Church and how they have such a mutual feeling in being anti-Communistic. He explains that the Southern Baptists and the Lutherans are doing a good job in fighting the Communists and makes mention of "fellows like MAIER." DeMOOR says that he is a very good friend of [redacted] whom he thinks to be very intellectual.

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DeMOOR remarks that he understands that the Japanese atrocities story is not true, and that the Japanese are not as barbaric as it is said they are. SMITH says that the Jews are in bad, because not only are they not Christian

but they are anti-Christian.

SMITH asked DeMOOR "have you had any contact with MRS. LOWELL?" DeMOOR advised that he had not, inasmuch as he had not gone to Washington, D. C. at the time the mothers went there to protest against Lend Lease.

SMITH explains to DeMOOR, after DeMOOR had told him that the Social Justice Club had 20,000 members in the 12th Congressional District, that the old way of organizing no longer works. He explained his way whereby no committees are publicized which can be investigated by the Communists, any Bureaus, or the FBI. SMITH claims that it works because he, SMITH, is the only one still going. All others are out.

At 10:30 PM, [redacted] who are friends of MRS. SMITH, come into the room, and SMITH takes DeMOOR into the back room. The confidential information could not furnish information concerning the end of this conversation.

[redacted] is a Methodist preacher and lives in Webster Groves. MR. and MRS. SMITH had been uncertain as to what the political beliefs of the [redacted] were prior to their meeting, and it proves that [redacted] is very friendly with Governor DONNELL of Missouri, who is also from Webster Groves.

When SMITH starts telling [redacted] about the Republican leaders in Saint Louis who have come and asked him not to start an insurgent party, [redacted] asks "who are these Republican individuals who have contacted you?" SMITH answered "I know MR. QUEENY." (QUEENY is head of the Monsanto Chemical Company). However, SMITH did not enumerate any others. (This appears to be a bold faced lie, because there has been no indication that any Republican leaders have contacted him).

SMITH tells the [redacted] about his being catapulted to international prominence through the assassination of LONG, and how he has been persecuted by various investigations which were ordered by President ROOSEVELT.

The [redacted] are acquainted with [redacted] a Southern Methodist in Shreveport, and the SMITHS say that he is a good friend of theirs also.

SMITH tells the [redacted] the story of his association with HUEY LONG and the details of LONG'S assassination, pointing out how the assassination was plotted by the ROOSEVELT clique. [redacted] seemed to be interested in SMITH'S talk and made one comment as to SMITH'S energy and courage in carrying on, and SMITH said "when you run into a propagandist, he never quits."

At 12:20 AM, February 18, 1944, [redacted] leave, and SMITH

ALL
b7c

warns them that should newspaper men stop to question them, they should tell them that they are old friends of MRS. SMITH.

After the [redacted] leave, SMITH comments to MRS. SMITH that he thinks that they are on his side, and MRS. SMITH says "he was on our side to start with, but she is different. She never was...." The end of this conversation was not available.

Shortly thereafter the SMITHS retire for the night.

IV. Activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH in Saint Louis on February 19, 1944

At 8:30 AM, MR. and MRS. SMITH were up, and at about 10:00 AM, DONALD LOHBECK came to the hotel room. SMITH accompanied LOHBECK downstairs where they spent their time talking and having breakfast.

REMBERT GILMAN SMITH came to the room, however, Subject SMITH was gone. The old preacher commented "we are in a desperate fight," and MRS. SMITH agrees with him.

At about 11:00 AM, SMITH and LOHBECK came back and were talking about renting the opera house in the Municipal Auditorium for March 30, 1944. SMITH commented to MRS. SMITH that they had been playing "fox and geese" with Governor SALTONSTALL of Massachusetts who happened to be visiting in Saint Louis. He said "we had DON calling him out." (There was no meeting between SALTONSTALL and SMITH).

SMITH said that they might make this coming meeting their Midwest Conference and Rally, and LOHBECK advised that they have lots of contacts in the neighborhood of fifty to seventy-five miles. It is possible that SMITH at this point of the conversation made some mention of wanting to contact DR. MAIER. However, this is not certain. SMITH continued giving LOHBECK a pep talk and glorifying their place and position in relation to the upbuilding of the United States, and SMITH compared himself and LOHBECK with the "stalwart men of the past."

SMITH outlines the advertising for the coming meeting as follows: Midwest Conference and Rally---America First Party---National Leaders to be present including Captain EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago, MRS. ERNST LUNDEEN, GERALD L. K. SMITH---In Kiel Auditorium Opera House; Director, DON LOHBECK; Chairman of Committee on Arrangements, JOE KOESTERS---A local committee of 500 has been formed. SMITH told LOHBECK to get that to the United Press which snaps up everything on him, and also to the I.N.S.

Shortly after 11:00 AM, the SMITHS leave, along with LOHBECK, to catch the train for Chicago.

V. Further Details Concerning SMITH'S Speech on February 17, 1944

This meeting was covered by Special Agents [redacted]

Information was received that the audience was generally made up of older people, and there were a number of people there who spoke with a German accent and were of German extraction. Agent [redacted] advised that he heard one woman say that SMITH "sounded just like der Fuehrer." He further advised that one of the women who got up and announced she had a son and two nephews in the army was a MRS. MACKEY (phonetic).

Agent [redacted] advised that he sat next to [redacted] who told him that [redacted] GEORGE GEBHARDT, who was sitting on the stage. [redacted] was accompanied by two women, one of whom was elderly, and these companions of [redacted] spoke with a definite German accent. It also came to Agent [redacted] attention that there was present a [redacted] who has a son, [redacted] who is possibly in the army. b7c

[redacted] b7D

Special Agent [redacted] advised that he observed an individual whom he later identified to be [redacted] was taking notes on the speech and also made it a point to get all of SMITH'S literature. [redacted] b7c

[redacted] b7D

[redacted]

[redacted]

b7c
b7D

The various material passed out at this meeting is as follows:

(1) Copies of "The Cross and the Flag."
(2) Petition to Congress in behalf of war veterans.
(3) Copy of RAY TUCKER'S article about SMITH.
(4) Envelopes of the America First Party in which donations were collected. These envelopes had space where the individual could show how many dollars he wanted to give every month to help carry on the organization activities necessary to the founding of the America First Party and also space for the individual's name, address, and telephone number.
(5) Remarks of BURTON K. WHEELER of Montana entitled "The Balance of Power in Europe," as presented to to the United States Senate 11-16-43. This was printed by the U.S. Govt. Printing Office in Washington, but is shown "not printed at government expense."

VI. Miscellaneous

Inasmuch as SMITH had announced that he intended to ask for the opera house for March 30, 1944, ISAAC HEDGES, Chairman of the Municipal Auditorium Commission, held a hearing on the application of GERALD L. K. SMITH'S America First Party for the use of the auditorium and invited the Veterans organizations to attend. Protests against renting the auditorium to SMITH and his Party were presented by PETER MIRAVALLE, Chairman of the Post Commanders Conference, American Legion; NEAL CAPALDO, Chairman of the Americanism Committee, American Legion; FRED EMIG, Americanism Chairman, Veterans of Foreign Wars; MORRIS STONE, Jewish War Veterans, and HUBERT BENJAMIN, State Secretary of the Communist Party. The commission, however, permitted SMITH the use of the auditorium, pointing out that the local sponsors are citizens of Saint Louis and therefore entitled to the use of the public facilities of the city.

There is some indication that the opera house will not be available for March 30, however, the conventionhall is available on that date.

It has been determined that the man named [redacted] mentioned in the report of Special Agent [redacted] Saint Louis, dated January 28, 1944, as a man interested in radio broadcasting stations, is the owner of a radio station in Grand Rapids, Michigan. b7c

ENCLOSURES:

To the Bureau.....(1) Log of surveillance maintained on GERALD L. K. SMITH, February 17, 18, 19, 1944, in St. Louis

To Detroit.....(1) Mimeographed letter dated February 19, 1944, on stationery of America First Party and signed by DONALD LOHBECK, Temporary Chairman, Saint Louis Committee.

(2) Handbill advertising SMITH'S speech in St. Louis on February 17, 1944.

(3) Petition to Congress in behalf of war veterans.

(4) Collection envelope used by SMITH at his meetings.

(5) Copy of log of surveillance maintained on GERALD L. K. SMITH, February 17, 18, 19, 1944, in St. Louis.

PENDING

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Will furnish the Saint Louis Field Office with a list of the individuals in the Saint Louis district and vicinity who subscribe to SMITH'S "The Cross and the Flag," or individuals in this area to whom he sends his material, if such a list is available.

Will check the file of the Detroit Office to determine the identity of [redacted] from whom McCULLOUGH, the "Post Dispatch" reporter, received a letter about HARVEY SPRINGER of Detroit. It may be possible that [redacted] was furnishing McCULLOUGH what he thought was confidential information about SPRINGER, and McCULLOUGH, in turn, has passed it on to SMITH. b7c

THE SAINT LOUIS FIELD DIVISION

AT SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI

* Will ascertain whether [redacted] was contacted by SMITH, or whether it was MRS. DONALD LOHBECK who made the call. b7c

Will keep in touch with the developments of this movement in Saint Louis and the individuals connected with it.

Will conduct an investigation regarding all of the individuals mentioned in the Saint Louis reports in this file and correlate the information in the individual files of the various subjects.

Will determine from ONI just what investigation they are conducting in this case, especially as to any contact they may have had with the "Post Dispatch" reporter, McCULLOUGH, and whether they are using him as an informant.

****

One copy of this report is being sent to the Oklahoma City Field Division for information, inasmuch as REMBERT GILMAN SMITH, who has contacted Subject SMITH, claims his permanent residence is Tulsa, Oklahoma, and also the fact that GERALD L. K. SMITH is sending large quantities of his material to a Preacher WEBER, who broadcasts from radio stations in Oklahoma and is known as the "Radio Minister of the Southwest."

[redacted] is a recording of the entire meeting on February 17, 1944, which was made through the amplifying system of the Municipal Auditorium by Special Agent [redacted].

b2c b7D

TITLE: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, WITH ALIAS; AMERICA FIRST PARTY

CASE: SEDITION

S?A. : [redacted] b7c

DATE: 3/6/44

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/6/82 BY SP8BTJ/pc

62-43818 -43

SAC, St. Louis

March 28, 1944

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
SEDITION

Reference is made to the report submitted in the above entitled case by Special Agent [redacted] dated March 6, 1944, at St. Louis, Missouri. b7c

From a review of the portions of this report setting forth descriptions of the coverage of Smith's activities at the Statler Hotel, it is noted that the language utilized is not very well designed to conceal the nature of the coverage. In recounting what took place in Smith's room the present tense is often used, and such detailed information is set forth as to what transpired in Smith's room that it is rather clear the information recorded came, not from confidential informants as indicated, but rather from some type of coverage as was actually utilized.

In this regard your attention is invited to the sentences appearing on page 14 as follows: "They go out to eat, and by midnight Mr. and Mrs. Smith retire." "Smith is up at 9:30 AM and goes down to the hotel lobby. He then returns to the room."

On page 15 it is stated that "Mueller left at 11:25 AM," and on page 16 a notation appears to the effect that "at 1:05 PM there was an incoming telephone call from a man named John _____ of the 'Times' magazine who conversed with Smith for about twenty minutes."

The sentences just quoted are representative of a number of similar statements appearing throughout the report and as indicated it is rather clear from an over-all reading of the report that general informants were not used but as a matter of fact a very close coverage was available which made possible such a detailed knowledge of what took place in the room. [redacted] b7d

Inasmuch as the Bureau is desirous of disseminating a copy of this report to the Department of Justice three of the copies designated for the Bureau are being returned herewith and should be rewritten by Special Agent [redacted] along the lines indicated. At the same time your file copies should be changed and copies of the revised version of the report should be furnished to the Detroit and Oklahoma City Field Divisions to take the place of the copies of the report now retained in the files of those offices. b7c

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Gildersleeve
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mohr
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

MAILED 12

As pointed out above the Bureau is merely desirous of having the report rephrased (with particular reference to those portions described on what took place in Smith's hotel room) in such a way as to eliminate the now rather apparent suggestion that Smith's every move was under constant observation or coverage. [redacted]

b7E

SAC, St. Louis

[redacted]

b7E

Please see to it that the report is rewritten and that the Bureau is furnished with three copies of the revised version of the report at the earliest possible date.

CC - Detroit
Oklahoma City

Enclosure

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE NO. 100-7463

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CLEVELAND, OHIO	2/25/44	1/31/44 2/15/44	[redacted] b7c ED

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with alias Gerald L. K. Schmidt The Committee of 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

On 1/31/44 at the Franklin Auditorium, Cleveland, Ohio SMITH addressed 500 persons. SMITH attacked the present administration and President ROOSEVELT for the attempt to gain control of U.S. and all its citizens. Attacked the Labor Draft Bill, Good Neighbor Policy, and Immigration policies. SMITH introduced a plan to pay the soldiers one thousand dollars mustering-out pay. Speaker, Mrs. JOSEPH RICHARD, talked on Russia and Communism and drew a comparison between Russia and the United States at the present time.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/6/82 BY SP4 [illegible]

- RUC -

REFERENCE: (Bureau File #62-43818)
Letter from Detroit dated January 26, 1944.

DETAILS: At 8:00 p.m. on January 31, 1944 GERALD L.K. SCHMIDT, National Director of the American First Party addressed an audience of approximately 500 persons at the Franklin Auditorium at 2515 Franklin Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio. To gain admission to the hall it was necessary to present a card of admission. On the platform in addition to SMITH was Mrs. JOSEPH RICHARD of Chicago, Illinois.

SMITH opened the meeting by leading the

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: H. B. Fletcher SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-143812-436

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Assemblage in the singing of the National Anthem and in the recitation of the Lord's Prayer. SMITH took the rostrum first and began his remarks with an attack on ROOSEVELT, stating that it was his, SMITH's, greatest desire to see a president in the White House that would place "America First" in his thoughts, aims, and efforts in the same manner that CHURCHILL puts England first. He stated that it was high time that the old "Roosevelt Dynasty" be retired from public life as they have reached the point where they thought that anyone who criticized the ROOSEVELTS, FRANKFURTERS, and ROSENBERGS were of a subversive group. He further stated that the United States is not ready for the Gestapo yet.

SMITH continued his attack by saying that CAESAR, NAPOLEON and others of their ilk had been pikers compared to the present administration and if we do not clean house soon, that future investigations "will make the teapot dome scandal a cold teapot". SMITH continually referred to various articles in his publication, "The Cross and the Flag" and read an article from the January issue ridiculing Mrs. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

He stated that the America First had reached a position where it was not necessary to convert any more people as they had sufficient followers and now it was necessary to crystalize, organize, mobilize those followers they have. At this point he read the Seven-point program of Party Aims as set out in the January issue of the Cross and the Flag. SMITH stated that every individual in the United States should fight all European Influence in our domestic affairs and that they should only obey the laws as made by the Congress of the United States.

SMITH attacked the Administration by stating that the Bureaucrats were attempting to tear down the Immigration and Naturalization Laws. He stated that he had heard a talk by Rabbi WISE advocating the entrance of 17 million Jewish refugees into the United States. SMITH bitterly condemned this, asserting that these Jews would absorb all the employment in the United States and that the returning veterans from the battle front would go jobless.

SMITH next denounced the Labor Draft Bill #S-666 as a useless, needless bill since this country was over-producing rather than facing a shortage. He stated that the intent of this bill is to subject all United States citizens to the present administration. He stated that the Labor Draft Bill will separate husbands from wives and mothers from children, and that it was merely a political scheme so that the administration could control the balloting of each state. He stated that this would be done by transferring groups into and out of states so that the administration would control the

majority.

SMITH raised the question, "Why do we have to be drafted? Does not the Administration trust us? The Government never requests volunteers but always forces us by drafts." He stated that Canada had no conscription and if the Administration trusted the United States Citizens we would not need to be conscripted in this country.

SMITH attacked ROOSEVELT's plan of sending a blank ballot to the soldiers, saying that it was a deliberate attempt to get the entire vote of the service men by not allowing them to know who the presidential candidates were. He accused ROOSEVELT of being the greatest demagog in history who was not satisfied with three terms but desired to destroy our democracy by gaining a fourth term.

SMITH attacked the Pan-American policy, stating that the administratio was squandering six million dollars in South America in building up good-will. He further stated that in reality this was a program in which Rockefeller who directs the Good-Neighbor Policy, is building up a Rockefeller business in South America at the expense of the government.

SMITH stated that we were sending England money at the rate of two million dollars an hour and they desire to keep "Santa Claus"; that is they consider the defeat of ROOSEVELT in the next election a calamity.

SMITH stated that he did not oppose the spending of money for military affairs but that all other spending outside of the United States should cease and the money be used toward the rehabilitation of the returning soldiers.

SMITH introduced the plan that all soldiers be given one thousand dollars mustering-out pay. He passed out petitions to be completed by his followers urging Congress to grant the returning soldiers this amount. SMITH requested contributions from his followers to aid in the circulating of these petitions. SMITH related the following experience he allegedly had with a returning soldier:

SMITH stated that he had picked up a young soldier who was hitch-hiking on the road and that this soldier had told him that he had sold all of his clothes and belongings when inducted into the Army and that when he was released from the army he had no clothes and was penniless and therefore had to borrow one hundred dollars from a bank with interest to finance himself. The soldier further stated that he had been requested by the Red Cross to send

his uniform back as soon as possible on his return to his home. SMITH stated that he cited this to show how our returning soldiers were in want while we were sending money to South America.

SMITH next spoke on the book entitled, "And so They Indicted Me" by J. EDWARD JONES and urged that all read this book. He defied the President or anyone else to contradict the contents of this book.

SMITH, during his remarks, bitterly attacked WALTER WINCHEL, whom he continually referred to as "Walter Lipschitz". He also attacked Secretary FRANK KNOX and Secretary HENRY STIMSON, referring to them as "Political Prostitutes" because of their joining the present administration. SMITH advised the assemblage that between now and November we are fighting to preserve our Democracy against the dictatorship we will have if ROOSEVELT goes in for a fourth term.

SMITH further claimed that the America First Party holds the balance of power in Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan, and no man can win the presidency without the votes of these states. SMITH stated that America First would form a new insurgent party before it would again accept a "Wilkie-Roosevelt Double-cross".

SMITH then introduced Mrs. JOSEPH RICHARD, whose discourse was entitled "Russia as I Saw It".

Mrs. RICHARD advised that she had spent four years in Russia in the company of her husband, who was hired by the Russian government as a consulting engineer. Mrs. RICHARD painted a picture of great suffering and want among the peoples of Russia. She stated that the Russian people hate STALIN and all he stands for, but fear keeps them in control.

She advised that the Russian Government has complete control of each citizen and keeps in close contact with their every move. She stated that each person must have a passport to travel from city to city and that in each block an individual is designated to keep account of the actions of the persons residing in that block.

Mrs. RICHARD related incidents to show that whole villages would be exiled to Siberia if they opposed the government's wishes. She stressed the complete control the Russian Government has over its people and the suffering forced upon the people by the government.

Mrs. RICHARD then attempted to draw a comparison between the United States and Russia at the present time. She noted that it was the aim of this

administration was to control our citizens in the same manner as Russia. She attempted to substantiate this comparison by citing the Bill #1161, pertaining to Socialized Medicine, and the numerous war-time restrictions. Mrs. RICHARD warned her listeners that Communism was a monster that was on our doorstep ready to devour us. She stated that Russia was not fighting for the allies but for "Mother Russia" and as an ally Russia should not be trusted.

Mrs. RICHARD related a story concerning a soldier who had advised her that tons of government food were wasted daily and thrown away and that to see this sickened some of the soldiers to such a degree that they could not eat.

Mrs. RICHARD read an article from a newspaper which he attributed to FRANK KNOX, Secretary of the Navy, in which he stated that "The principles of the Russian Government were repugnant to him". The speaker stated that this was written before KNOX had changed and become a Communist himself.

GERALD L. K. SMITH returned to the rostrum and spoke briefly concerning the attack on Mrs. STANLEY, President of the United Mothers, Cleveland, Ohio by Rabbi BRICKNER. SMITH urged the audience to contribute to this organization upon leaving the hall so that this group might continue its outstanding work. The meeting was closed with the Pledge of Allegiance read by SMITH. During the meeting the usual collection was taken up, and various pieces of America First literature was distributed and sold at the meeting.

-REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN-

JPHa:MJ
62-43818
3-6-44

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

62-43818-436

RECORDED For your further information in connection with your consideration of this case, there is attached hereto a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Cleveland, Ohio, on February 25, 1944.

Enclosure

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Tolson
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Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 10
MAR 15 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
RECEIVED READING ROOM
F B I
53 MAR 15 1944

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
February 4, 1944

DIRECTOR, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION
(62-43818)

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080/LCDM ON 8/11/77

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/6/82 BY 8880/MC

Dear Sir:

This office has recently been contacted by the local office of Naval Intelligence at Detroit, Michigan at which time the office of Naval Intelligence advised that they were very interested in any investigation being conducted by the Detroit office relative to the above captioned Subjects. The office of Naval Intelligence has more or less indicated that they would appreciate receiving copies of reports in this particular matter.

This is to advise that to date no definite commitment has been made by this office relative to the submission of copies of reports to the office of Naval Intelligence. In this respect it is being pointed out at this time that since this office has secured the services of [redacted] whose identity is known to you, copies of the reports have not been sent to any outside agencies including the local United States Attorney's office. Copies of reports have been marked confidential for the reason that it was felt that if copies of the reports were furnished to any source other than Bureau headquarters or Bureau offices there was the possibility of [redacted] identity being disclosed.

In view of the fact that [redacted] has been such an extremely valuable informant this office would appreciate advice from the Bureau relative to the Bureau policy to be followed in connection with furnishing copies of investigative reports to the offices of Naval Intelligence and Military Intelligence. It would also be greatly appreciated that in the event the Bureau does not see fit to furnished copies of reports to these agencies what policy the Bureau wishes to set down relative to the furnishing of information secured by the Detroit office relative to the above named Subject.

It would be appreciated if the Bureau would advise the Detroit office as soon as possible relative to the above.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

62-43818-437
F B I
MAR 2 1944

INDEXED

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/6/82 BY SP2 BTJ/pmc

62-43818 - 437

SAC, Detroit

February 24, 1944

J. Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

Reference is made to your letter of February 4, 1944, wherein you mentioned the interest displayed in this investigation by the Office of Naval Intelligence and requested advice as to the policy and procedure in referring pertinent information relative to Smith to the local Office of Naval Intelligence and perhaps to the local office of the Military Intelligence Service.

In your letter you specifically mentioned that [redacted] has furnished very valuable information [redacted] In addition to this factor I think you are well aware of the fact that in connection with this investigation information is frequently developed, usually in a collateral way, relative to numerous personalities and issues often of a political or controversial nature. A typical example of the development of data of this type was presented in connection with the information recently received at St. Louis to the effect that a Dr. Walter A. Maier who conducts the Lutheran Radio Hour was giving some consideration to launching into political activities in connection with his radio broadcast. Another example is presented in connection with the information recently received by your office to the effect that [redacted] This bit of information involves personalities and issues of both a national and international character, and although it is pertinent to the Bureau's coverage of Smith's activities, certainly it does not appear at the present time to be directly related to the primary objective of the investigation, that of ascertaining whether Smith has violated the Sedition Statutes. Furthermore, it is believed that data of this type is not of legitimate or logical interest to Military or Naval officials.

In view of these factors [redacted] and the fact that the instant reports often reflect information of a compromising or controversial nature relative to political personages and issues) the Bureau feels that copies of investigative reports should not be disseminated to ONI, G-2, or other agencies in the field. However, it is believed that a suitable alternative presents itself in that summaries of pertinent information could be furnished periodically to ONI and G-2. These summaries should be confined to summarizing data as to Smith's pertinent activities from time to time, these in respect to his contacts, his speaking activities, any efforts he may make toward appealing to servicemen or other subject matters of interest to the armed forces, or anything of such a nature as to suggest a possible violation of the Sedition Statutes. However, these summaries should not concern themselves with political or controversial matters of the type described above.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DECLASSIFIED BY [illegible]
ON [illegible]

For your assistance a memorandum has been prepared at the Bureau which it is believed appropriately summarizes Smith's background and antecedents and his activities to date in so far as such activities would be of legitimate interest to military or naval officials. Copies of this memorandum are attached in order that you may make them available to G-2 and ONI in the event they actually request information concerning this case or in the event you feel that even in the absence of a specific request this should be done in order to preserve amicable relations. According to the plan outlined above you should thereafter at periodical intervals relay to ONI and G-2 further information concerning Smith's general activities and contacts, this data, of course, being devoid of controversial and political matters which come to your attention from time to time during the course of the inquiry.

The Bureau has further noted that auxiliary offices in covering leads in this matter set out by the Detroit Office occasionally refer copies of reports submitted to the local offices of ONI and G-2 in their respective districts. For the reasons set forth above the Bureau desires that this practice be discontinued and that preferably all information developed in the Smith case, irrespective of where the investigation is conducted, be referred to ONI and G-2 at Detroit in the manner outlined above. However, should some local office of ONI or G-2 request some other Field Office to make available information concerning Smith, it will be satisfactory in answer to a specific request for the office to supply a general summary of the type described. Under no circumstances however should copies of reports be furnished to ONI or G-2 by auxiliary offices and in order that there will be no misunderstanding relative to this, auxiliary offices should be informed of the desired procedure at the time leads are set out for them to undertake investigation in the Smith case.

For your further assistance in understanding the Bureau's desires in connection with this matter it is suggested that you examine the letter addressed in this case by the Bureau to the St. Louis Field Division on February 10, 1944, a copy of this letter being designated for the Detroit Field Division. However, should any positive objections to this procedure occur to you or should you desire further clarification concerning specific matters, you should, of course, communicate with the Bureau.

Enclosure

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February 24, 1944

Summary of GERALD L. K. SMITH

Set forth in the following paragraphs under appropriate subcaptions is a summary of pertinent information which has been received from various sources relative to the activities of Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit, Michigan:

Personal History and Background

Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, better known as Gerald L. K. Smith, was born during February, 1898, at Pardeeville, Wisconsin. He attended Butler Seminary at Indianapolis, Indiana, and later was graduated from Valparaiso University (Indiana) where he pursued a course in theology. Smith's antecedents and early life were in no way unusual and are of no particular interest.

After leaving college, Smith took up active duty as a minister and successively held pastorates at Footville, Wisconsin, at the Seventh Street Christian Church of Indianapolis and at the King's Highway Church of Shreveport, Louisiana.

Prior to assuming his ministerial duties at Shreveport, Smith's activities were rather conservative and of a type characteristically befitting one in the ministerial profession. However, while in Louisiana, he became interested in the late Huey Long's "Share the Wealth" movement and eventually extended this interest to the point of actively and openly participating in politics as an adherent of Long. Attendant publicity evoked the displeasure of the Elders of his church, eventually resulting in Smith's dismissal during 1934. Following Long's death, Smith attempted to identify himself with the remnants of the Long machine but being unsuccessful in this left Louisiana in 1937 and came to New York where he attempted to organize an association called "The Committee of One Million." This effort was unfruitful. During the following year he moved to Detroit where he has since been located.

At Detroit, Smith reorganized "The Committee of One Million" as an organization "founded for the purpose of combatting the menace of Communism". During 1939, Smith shifted his policy, advocating the isolationist viewpoint, and since the involvement of the United States in war he has busied himself principally in directing criticism to the Government's war effort and what he is pleased to characterize as the government's efforts to enslave the United States as an entity in an International State dominated by Great Britain.

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More detailed comments are set forth subsequently as to Smith's alleged connection with Huey Long and his activities as the organizer of "The Committee of One Million", but it is of significance to observe that it is reported that the turning point of Smith's life dates from his association with Huey Long. Prior to that time he was described as the usual type of minister concerned with problems incidental to his calling. However, it is reported that his participating in the "Share the Wealth" movement fired his ambition to the extent of self visualization of himself as a dominant political figure. Being unsuccessful in associating himself with Long's successors he has reportedly continued his dream of political prominence through his efforts in connection with his so-called "Committee of One Million" and later his "America First

pk

Party". It is noted that Smith sought nomination as Republican candidate for United States Senator for the State of Michigan during the summer of 1942. This campaign was unsuccessful.

Smith's personal life is reported to be normal. He is married, lives with his wife and has one son who is reportedly a member of the armed forces. From time to time stories have been circulated attributing improprieties to Smith in connection with his associations with women other than his wife. However, nothing factual is known to substantiate these allegations.

Activities Prior to 1938

While serving as pastor at the King's Highway Church, Shreveport, Louisiana, Smith became interested in Huey Long's "Share the Wealth" plan. He eventually met Long and shortly thereafter there developed, according to Smith's description, "a close and fast friendship" between the two. It is definitely known that shortly thereafter, and lasting for a period of several years, Smith assumed the position of one of Long's chief lieutenants. Although Smith is prone to describe this relationship as a personal one, several persons who were close to Long at the time, state that Long had little personal regard for Smith and apparently evaluated him as being untrustworthy and dishonest. These persons state that Long was merely utilizing Smith's services, and in this connection it is known that Long, as well as others associated with him, regarded Smith as a very dynamic and powerful public speaker. It appears that Smith was widely used by the Long organization in the role of a public speaker for the "Share the Wealth" movement. It is said that Smith, at one time, received as much as $650 per week from the Long organization as reimbursement for expenses and as salary.

Information has been received that while associated with the Long movement, Smith joined William Dudley Pelley's Silver Shirt organization. Nothing in the way of documentary evidence is available to prove this membership, but in recent years, Smith has, on several occasions, admitted membership in the Pelley movement. He states, however, that he joined Pelley's organization merely for the purpose of securing information in connection with his work in behalf of Huey Long.

Although during Huey Long's lifetime Smith was an outstanding personage in the Long machine, he rapidly lost his standing after the death of Long. It appears that his services were continued for a short period of time by Long's successors, but that he eventually was displaced due, allegedly, to his untoward efforts to attain personal power. By 1937, any influence which he previously had was reportedly dissipated and it was during that year that he left Louisiana for New York.

On arriving at New York, Smith attempted to organize a group known as "The Committee of One Million." According to the self-announced purposes of this organization its primary concern was that of combating the forces of Communism. However, Smith's efforts in New York met with little success, and reportedly he was disheartened to the extent of ceasing his activities and removing to Detroit, Michigan, early in 1938.

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Toward the end of his stay in Louisiana, Smith's personal reputation apparently suffered to some extent. On November 3, 1936, he was arrested by the New Orleans Police Department on a charge of having disturbed the peace in the using of obscene language in a public place. Reportedly, this arrest resulted in his receiving a suspended sentence of $10 and ten days.

During 1936 and 1937 Smith was also involved as a plaintiff in several libel and slander cases. These cases were apparently of minor importance, but reportedly the consensus appears to be that Smith's reputation suffered more than did the reputation of those whom he sought to sue.

Current Activities

On arriving in Detroit in 1938, Smith almost immediately set out to reorganize the defunct "Committee of One Million." In this connection he distributed a considerable amount of literature designating the purposes of "The Committee of One Million" as follows:

1. To rebuild the spirit of America

2. To wipe out the last vestiges of Communism, Nazism and Fascism in all forms

3. The redefinition of the American National character

4. The installation of a new spirit in American youth, dedicated to the maintenance of American institutions

5. To issue a call to farmers and laborers to resist what is now known as an international plot to involve them in a world revolution

6. To rededicate the citizenry of America to the family altar and to the spirit of the church

7. To secure the maintenance of a well defined standard of American living

Other literature of "The Committee of One Million" sought particularly to stress the activities of this organization in combating Communist influences.

With the coming of the European war in 1939, Smith shifted the policy of "The Committee of One Million" to that of promoting the cause of isolationism. In various pieces of literature distributed during 1939, 1940 and 1941, he was reportedly especially critical of the Government's policy of rendering assistance to the Allied Governments.

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Since the involvement of the United States in the war, Smith reportedly again shifted his policy as well as that of "The Committee of One Million" to the direction of criticism against the government's efforts in prosecuting the war. He has not questioned the necessity of winning the war, but on the other hand, in various of his publications, as well as his public utterances, has been careful to lay stress on the necessity of the people's aiding and assisting in every way in defeating America's foes.

However, he has advanced contentions that the government is using the war as an excuse for depriving the public of its just liberties. He has also freely voiced criticism against what he has been disposed to characterize as the government's efforts to reduce the United States to a mere entity in a great international state dominated by Great Britain.

In connection with his work in regard to "The Committee of One Million" Smith at one time gave radio addresses over station WJR at Detroit. He also distributed considerable literature, his best known publication being a monthly magazine known as "The Cross and the Flag." Although Smith claimed that "The Committee of One Million" had a following of three million persons, it has been reported that the group was really not an organization as such and was merely used as a name by Smith. It has further been reported however that Smith has a rather large mailing list of individuals to whom he sends his publications.

Early in 1942 Smith sought to establish another organization known as "The Inner Circle." As suggested by its name, this group was described by Smith as consisting of the more prominent and trustworthy members of "The Committee of One Million." He announced the foundation of this group through the distribution of literature calling for the donation of additional funds, and it appears that its purposes were the same as those of "The Committee of One Million." According to information received, "The Inner Circle" is no more of a real organization than "The Committee of One Million" and was conceived and used by Smith merely for the purpose of collecting additional money from persons on his mailing list.

During the summer of 1942, Smith sought the Republican nomination for the position of United States Senator from the State of Michigan. He made a number of speeches and conducted quite an active campaign and in the primary election received approximately 120,000 votes. Although this was not sufficient for nomination, reportedly political observers were of the opinion that Smith had made an unusually good showing. Even after this defeat, Smith continued his candidacy in the general election in November, 1942, when he projected himself as a write-in candidate. He was badly defeated in the general election, his following being less than that in the primary campaign.

Late in 1942 Smith publicly announced the intention of forming a third political party on a national scale. The proposed platform for this party, as announced, was said to be somewhat similar to that advanced by Smith in connection with "The Committee of One Million" and it has further been reported that Smith was hoping to gain support for his new party from members of the former group, the "America First Committee".

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In recent months Smith has been touring the country making public addresses on behalf of this party which he calls the "America First Party." In connection with his public appearances Smith always reportedly professes loyalty in connection with the war effort but frequently condemns the methods being employed by the government in prosecuting the war and asserts that the government is not representing "true American interests" in that it is allegedly seeking to set up some sort of world state dominated by Great Britain. Smith also continues to publish his magazine "The Cross and the Flag" which is reported to be devoted primarily to promoting the "America First Party."

In connection with his various appearances as a public speaker Smith has obtained the reputation of being quite an effective and forceful speaker. Although he is said to be somewhat bombastic and at times given too freely to overemphasis, it is said that he is an unusually good speaker and that he is effective in influencing audiences. Some persons have described him as among the foremost public speakers of the day.

It is of interest to note that Smith's publication "The Cross and the Flag" was named, along with a number of other publications, in indictments returned in the District of Columbia on July 21, 1942, and January 4, 1943, charging twenty-eight and thirty-four defendants respectively with having engaged in a conspiracy to violate the Sedition Statutes. These indictments have pertinence to the case popularly referred to as United States vs. Gerald B. Winrod, et al. Although Smith's publication was mentioned in the indictment, as being one of a number of publications throughout the country which have contributed to undermining the loyalty and morale of the Armed Forces, neither Smith nor the publication was named as a defendant.

Smith's Activities in connection with the "Veterans Petition Committee"

According to a confidential source of information Smith, at a meeting of his "America First Party" held at Detroit on the evening of January 18, 1944, announced that he and the "America First Party", using the name of "Veterans Petition Committee" planned to circulate petitions calling for substantial payments to personnel mustered out of the armed forces.

Reportedly Smith, while speaking at the meeting, claimed that he and his organization were largely responsible for the increased rate of pay now allowed enlisted personnel inasmuch as he some time ago sent 80,000 signatures to Congress demanding a pay increase for enlisted personnel. Continuing in this vein, Smith urged his followers to circulate and cause to be signed the instant petitions, and apparently when a sufficient number of petitions have been executed, they will be forwarded to Congress en masse.

Smith, while speaking in behalf of his plan for increased mustering out pay, described in the petition, allegedly asserted that "a measly $300" is not sufficient for our servicemen, especially in view "of the fact that America can give every person

in the 22 South American republics the sum of $50." Smith reportedly commented that every month 70,000 men are being mustered out of the services even at the present time and that due to financial difficulties and physical defects incident to their participation in the war, they are facing hardships which could be alleviated by the designation of more substantial payments for them.

Subsequently Smith announced that his petitions would call for payment of $1000 to each veteran mustered out of the services with an honorable discharge and he further asserted that he has distributed some 150,000 copies of this petition. Despite several allegations which have been made to the contrary, no definite information has been received indicating that Smith has actually attempted to set up a veterans organization.

It further appears that Smith plans to cause these various petitions to be signed and then forward them on to Congress.

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FBI/DOJ

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

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Detroit, Michigan
February 16, 1944

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Director, FBI

DECLASSIFIED BY 60 SALEDIN
ON 8/11/77

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth below the gist of information obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, during the period January 24, through February 11, 1944. b7D

Informant advised that he had noticed on several occasions that when placing a long-distance call especially to Senator REYNOLDS, SMITH had more or less made it a point to claim Priority No. 3 in making the long-distance calls.

Informant advised that under date of January 28, 1944, SMITH had been in contact with Senator REYNOLDS' secretary in Washington, D. C. at which time he inquired of the secretary as to SMITH'S possibilities of testifying before a committee apparently to be headed by Senator REYNOLDS. SMITH advised that he wished to appear personally before the committee and explain his opposition to the Austin-Wadsworth Bill, and in the event it was impossible for him to testify in person he would forward a written statement setting forth his views relative to this particular bill.

Informant advised that under date of February 1, 1944, he had received information to the effect that [redacted] was in Detroit and staying at the Tuller Hotel. Informant stated that he was under the impression that SMITH had conducted an interview with [redacted] while [redacted] was in town. [redacted] left Detroit apparently February 2, 1944. b7C

Under date of February 5, 1944, SMITH contacted Mrs. DONALD LOHBECK at which time he advised her he was sending between 1,500 and 2,000 stamped envelopes with all enclosures sealed for them to address. These envelopes were to be sent to Mrs. LOHBECK, 420 Fairmont Street, Saint Louis, Missouri. This material was sent by SMITH apparently in preparation for his meeting at Saint Louis at a later date.

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

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MAR 13 1944

Letter to the Director
February 16, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

Informant advised under date of February 6, 1944, to the effect that an individual by the name of BAERMAN was in Detroit, Michigan and apparently wished to confer with SMITH relative to important matters. [redacted] Details relative to this incident were set forth in a separate letter to the Bureau.

b7c
b7D

See to [illegible] 3/7/44

On February 7, 1944, SMITH was telephonically contacted by an individual calling himself JOE, at which time JOE gave as his address 3 East Fifty-Fourth Street, New York City. JOE at that time advised SMITH that he wanted a standard book about 400 pages and he wanted 10,000 to start with. JOE asked SMITH at that time if he had "gotten ahold of POWERS." SMITH stated that he had made arrangements to have a conference with the individual referred to as "POWERS" that afternoon. SMITH inquired of JOE as to how much money was to be paid and JOE advised, "as much as he needs." JOE then stated that he could start giving him copies in about a week and that payments for the job would be arranged at SMITH'S so that the job will be paid for before he, JOE, got it.

Under date of February 7, 1944, SMITH'S office sent a telegram to Mrs. LUNDEEN at 820 Essex, S. E., Minneapolis, Minnesota, which telegram is quoted as follows: "Have arranged for you to speak in Chicago, Sunday night, February 20. Please locate meeting place in Minneapolis for night of February 22 or 23. Contact SPADSKEV if necessary."

On February 8, 1944, Informant advised that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had a telephone conversation with Senator NYE inquiring of Senator NYE if Senator NYE remembered a fellow who was associated with a sort of "Arabian Knights" story and who NYE had told SMITH about. SMITH at that time advised Senator NYE that this individual's name began with the letter "B" and SMITH also stated that NYE had introduced this individual to Senator TAFT by letter. SMITH stated that he thought he was "O.K." It is believed that SMITH might have referred to RALPH B. BAERMAN, described in a prior section of this letter. B advised SMITH under date of February 8 that he had apparently not been able to get anywhere at the Ford Motor Company

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Letter to the Director
February 16, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

with his particular proposition, and in answer to this SMITH stated that sometimes the people at Ford voice criticism of him just to test the loyalty of the interviewer. SMITH and BAERMAN then planned a conference for later that particular afternoon relative to BAERMAN'S contact at the Ford Motor Company. Information has been received from another source verifying the fact that BAERMAN had actually called at the Ford Motor Company relative to his proposition.

Information was received on February 9, 1944, to the effect that Mrs. BROWN in Philadelphia had contacted SMITH and advised SMITH that she made arrangements for a meeting to be held in Philadelphia on March 2, this meeting to be conducted under the auspices of the National Blue Star Mothers of America. SMITH warned Mrs. BROWN not to let anyone talk her out of using that particular name.

Under date of February 9, 1944, SMITH was advised by Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, Minneapolis that Mrs. LUNDEEN had made arrangements for a meeting to be held in that particular city on February 22, 1944.

Under date of February 11, 1944, SMITH was telephonically contacted by J. EDWARD JONES, author of the book "And So They Indicted Me," at which time JONES inquired of SMITH'S secretary whether or not SMITH was familiar with the "Kent case." JONES at that time stated that he had had a recent conference with Mrs. KENT and wanted to discuss this particular case. [redacted] b7c

Under date of February 11, 1944, Mrs. SMITH telephonically contacted Mr. LIEBOLD at the Ford Motor Company at which time Mrs. SMITH advised LIEBOLD that the veterans of World War 2 were going to hold a meeting at the Art Institute in Detroit and LIEBOLD'S name had been given as a reference by SMITH. Mrs. SMITH merely wanted to tell LIEBOLD that when he was contacted by members of the institute he should keep SMITH'S name quiet as there were certain elements who would furnish opposition to the meeting if they knew SMITH was concerned. LIEBOLD agreed to do as he was requested. This meeting is apparently a meeting being planned by the SMITH group under the name of Veterans of World War 2 and might be in line with SMITH'S contemplated plan to link himself with the veterans' claim for bonus as a result of service in the present world war.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin
R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

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FBI/DOJ

TIMES-HERALD
Washington, D. C., November 12, 1941

Commons Airs Churchill Cables To Roosevelt

Messages Exchanged Behind Chamberlain's Back, M.P. Charges

By ARTHUR SEARS HENNING

Questions in the British House of Commons yesterday regarding Winston Churchill's cablegrams to President Roosevelt behind the back of Prime Minister Chamberlain brought into the open a subject of much whispering in official circles here.

The question put to the government in the House of Commons was whether a British subject who sent telegrams to Mr. Roosevelt and thereby evaded the censorship had been prosecuted. Thus the reference was confined to communications sent to the President by Mr. Churchill, who at the time was First Lord of the Admiralty in the Chamberlain cabinet.

No Information on Subject

The understanding here is that not only cablegrams from Mr. Churchill to Mr. Roosevelt behind Chamberlain's back but from Mr. Roosevelt to Mr. Churchill are involved. The White House in response to an inquiry yesterday professed to have no information on the subject.

The correspondence is supposed to have related to British and American policy regarding the European war. Among the questions touched upon are said to have been a more vigorous prosecution of the war than had been achieved by Mr. Chamberlain and the possibilities of the United States taking an active part in support of Great Britain.

According to one version, the device of the lend-lease legislation for circumventing the United States neutrality law and the Johnson Act forbidding extension of credit to Britain as a war debt defaulter was discussed in this secret correspondence between the American President and the British navy head.

Passed Through Embassy

Disclosure of the text of the cablegrams would establish whether Mr. Churchill invited or Mr. Roosevelt made any commitments of the United States Government to a policy of aiding Britain that was not contemplated by existing United States law.

From the outbreak of the war the President had been under fire for permitting, if not encouraging, William C. Bullitt, American Ambassador to France, and other American diplomats to encourage France and Poland to get into the war with promises of American support.

The correspondence between Mr. Churchill and the President passed through the American Embassy in London. Tyler Kent, a young American employed as a clerk in the embassy, made copies of the Churchill and Roosevelt cablegrams and showed them to Capt. Archibald Ramsay, a member of the House of Commons.

Leak Traced to Kent

The leak of the correspondence soon became known and the responsibility therefor was traced to young Kent. The vengeance of the British and American governments for this breach of trust was swift and certain.

Joseph P. Kennedy, then American Ambassador to Great Britain, discharged Kent, and the British government immediately arrested him on charges of espionage. After Kent had been held in jail for some time he was given a trial. The espionage charges fell flat, but he finally was convicted of larceny of government documents and sentenced to seven years in prison, where he now is.

Captain Ramsay, who had been shown or given copies of the correspondence, was placed under detention under the Defense of the Realm Act.

Morrison's Answer

The question was brought up in Commons yesterday by Richard R. Stokes, a Laborite who is a bitter opponent of Prime Minister Churchill. Answering the question, Home Secretary Herbert Morrison said:

"No information can properly be given out about confidential documents which were extracted from the American Embassy, but whatever may have been the nature of the documents in question they do not provide the slightest foundation for the suggestion that someone has been guilty of evading the censorship or contravening the defense regulations."

John McGovern, independent Laborite, then said:

"Cannot the home secretary say whether any of these cablegrams or messages were sent by the prime minister behind the back of the then prime minister (Chamberlain)?"

Morrison said he had nothing to add to his answer.

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62-43818-437X2

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
March 6, 1944

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. 62-1126

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP8BKS/ab

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth below a substance of information obtained from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, during the period from February 11, 1944, through March 4, 1944.

b7D

During this particular period of time, Informant advised that meetings were to be held in the following places on the dates specified:

Pittsburgh	March 1, 1944 Carnegie Hall
Minneapolis	February 22, 1944
Cleveland	February 29, 1944
Chicago	February 20 or 21, 1944
Philadelphia	March 2, 1944

Letters have been sent to the auxiliary offices requesting that these meetings be covered and investigative reports submitted.

Informant advised on February 15 that in a conversation between SMITH and McCULLOUGH (phonetic) of the "St. Louis Post Dispatch" SMITH stated that he was about to start on a nation-wide tour to establish a new third party and to establish a foundation having to do with the AMERICAN FIRST PARTY possibilities for the year. SMITH, at that time, advised McCULLOUGH of the various platforms which his group stood for.

On February 22, in a conversation between Mrs. SMITH and DOMAN, Mrs. SMITH advised that Mr. SMITH wanted 12,000 copies of his monthly magazine printed for the month of February.

It is being noted at this time that Informant advised that SMITH was quite excited about the article recently published in "Collier's"

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magazine entitled, "The Mysterious Gerald Smith". Informant stated that SMITH had purchased numerous copies of this particular article and intended to use it for publicity purposes. This article was written by WALTER DAVENPORT and was based on personal interviews and investigations conducted by DAVENPORT.

Informant advised that SMITH had ordered the following list of supplies to be sent to the various cities named.

Cleveland and Pittsburgh -

1200 Cross and Flag envelopes
1500 AMERICA FIRST envelopes
500 petitions
100 February magazines
50 January magazines (Cross and Flag)
50 Jones books

Philadelphia -

1000 America First envelopes
600 Cross and Flag envelopes
500 petitions
100 February magazines
50 January magazines
50 Jones books

SMITH was in communication with the office of Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS in Washington, D. C., at which time he advised the Senator that he intended to be in Washington on March 4, 5, and 6 and desired to make an appointment with the Senator on one of these days. SMITH inquired as to the possibility of having the Senator address one of his meetings in St. Louis on March 25.

On February 27, Mrs. SMITH sent a telegram to GERALD B. WINROD at Wichita, Kansas, stating as follows:

"All books have been sent as ordered."

On February 29, the following telegram was sent by SMITH to H. McALLISTER GRIFFITH, 340 West 55th Street, New York City:

"Will meet you Bellevue-Stratfort Hotel
Philadelphia, Thursday, March 2."

Letter to the Director

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases, et al.
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

On February 29, it was ascertained through Informant that SMITH was advised by the person in charge at the Maccabees Auditorium in Detroit to the effect that the Rental Committee at the Maccabees Building had decided that they did not want to rent their HALL to SMITH in the future.

On March 1, 1944, Informant stated that a female giving the name of [redacted] had telephonically contacted SMITH's office and inquired relative to the "Veterans' Committee". [redacted] was advised at this time by MARY JANE HEALY, niece of SMITH, that the Veterans' Committee did not intend to have any social functions "but that it was purely a crusade organization trying to help the demobolized soldiers get a start in civilian life and receive $1,000 on their discharge and cut down on all the red tape it now takes to get any help from the government by a soldier." b7c

Miss HEALY also advised that the organization was presently sending out petitions for people to sign and requesting the people to forward them to their congressmen and senators in an attempt to have a bill passed by Congress with reference to the above.

Miss HEALY stated it was through the efforts of SMITH the soldiers had received a raise in pay from $20.00 to $50.00 a month.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]nam b7c
62-1126

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 14-7 DB

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	3-8-44	2/23,24/44	[redacted] b7c

TITLE:

GERALD L. K. SMITH, was.
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION

CHARACTER OF CASE

SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: JOSEPH H. STOFFEL, President of the Economics League of Buffalo, sought to compel the Buffalo Stadium and the Economics Board to rent the municipal auditorium to on the night of February a speech by GERALD L. K. SMITH Board's decision not to rent the auditorium. The court upheld the purpose. Economics League reported to be composed this followers of SMITH in Buffalo.

-RUC-

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SEARCHED

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted], dated September 15, 1943, at Buffalo, New York. b7c

DETAILS: AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK

The following information was obtained from [redacted] b7c b7D

City Hall, Buffalo, New York:

JOSEPH H. STOFFEL, President of the Economics League, Buffalo, applied to the Buffalo Stadium and Auditorium Board to rent the Buffalo municipal auditorium for a meeting on the night of February 21, 1944, in a letter addressed to MR. J. BAXTER SMITH, a member of the Board. STOFFEL's letter indicate that the Ballroom of the auditorium would be used for a celebration and that the speakers would be CHARLES MADDEN of

DEINDEXED
DATE 2/10/55

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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62-41398-431

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the American Legion of Pittsburgh, Captain SOUTHARD, Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars, of Illinois, or Honorable CLARE HOFFMAN of Michigan. One of these speakers was to be introduced by GERALD L. K. SMITH of Detroit. This request was denied by MR. SMITH as previous requests had been denied.

Thereafter, through his attorney, MR. JAY T. BARNSDALL, JR., a [illegible] President of the Economics League which is an unincorporated association consisting of seven or more members, in the Supreme Court of New York at Buffalo, citing the Auditorium Board show cause why it should not rent the Buffalo municipal auditorium for the above mentioned purposes. The petition recited that all members of the League live in Buffalo and that the Ballroom was to be used for the purpose of a celebration in honor of George Washington.

The Corporation Counsel prepared a defense on behalf of the Auditorium Board on the legal grounds among others that the auditorium was municipally owned property over which the City Authorities had complete discretion as to the purposes for which it was used. The court sustained the Board's ruling on this ground. The defense included statements and affidavits of a general nature relating to the activities of SMITH. One particular affidavit furnished by MR. PAUL WAMSLEY, Erie County Americanism Chairman of the American Legion, is set out in part as follows:

> "PAUL WAMSLEY, being duly sworn, deposes and says ..... That on May 24, 1943 he attended a meeting conducted by the Economics League at the Fraternal Order of Eagles Hall, located at Pearl and Tupper Streets in said city; that the meeting was addressed by GERALD L. K. SMITH and was attended by about 300 people; that for three hours he harangued and aroused the group to a frenzied, fanatical condition; that he appeared to be bent on reviving the America First Committee; that although he invited questions from the audience, when I stood up and questioned him relative to the difference between the Canadian and American methods of raising an Army, he said 'Shut up, I will have you thrown from the hall'; that he thereafter produced a flag having thirteen alternate red and white stripes as in our American flag, with a cross of which appeared to me to be that of St. George and St. Andrew and which I believed to be a replica of the Cambridge American Flag of 1776-77; that he threw this flag upon the floor and then proceeded to jump up and down on it while the audience yelled its approval.
>
> "Deponent further says that in his talk he attacked rationing, the contributions to our Allies, our leaders and the Austin Wadsworth Bill, and commented adversely upon sending of troops to foreign soil; that he implied that Civilian Defense, particularly

"the Air Raid Warden set-up, was a part and parcel of the Roosevelt 4th Term Campaign, and that he said members of the Civilian Defense and Air Raid Wardens might make visits to the individual homes of our citizens to sell that idea; that he also suggested that these Air Raid Wardens and members of the Civilian Defense should be kicked out if they visited any of our homes for that purpose; that he likewise made statements which inferred that the F.B.I. would soon become a Gestapo outfit and be trained to infringe upon our individual liberties."

[redacted] who is also a member of the Buffalo Stadium and Auditorium Board, furnished the writer the following information:

b7c
b7D

During the controversy over this matter he received a visit by five or six women in his office. They first inquired of him in very crude and profane language as to why he would not rent the auditorium. He said he declined to discuss auditorium business at that time and place. One of the women remarked that he was just another "d—— Jew" and that they would not be able to do anything with him. As they left he overheard one of them remark that he [redacted] should be hanged along with Roosevelt. At that time [redacted] left his office and as he walked down the street this group of women followed him making insulting comments about him with several derogatory references to the Jews. [redacted] did not obtain the names of any of these persons but said they were identified with the Economics League.

[redacted] volunteered the following information:

b7c
b7D

He is a member of the Economics League though he has not attended any of its meetings for the past several months. He stated that the Economics League is entirely dominated by JOSEPH H. STOFFEL; that STOFFEL's secretary who handles much of the details relating to the organization's work, is ELIZABETH STREISSING (phonetic). Another person prominent in the Economics League is FRANCIS DUCETTE, who owns and operates the Buffalo Scientific Company, a chemical concern, and resides at 168 Dorchester Street. [redacted] understood that DUCETTE is actively interested in the Economics League and its work but he has an agreement with STOFFEL that he will take no public part at this time because he has some Government contracts in his business and is afraid that his business might be affected if it becomes known that he is an active follower of SMITH.

[redacted] states the Economics League meets every Monday night in the Catholic Library Hall at Main and Virginia Streets and that there are

frequently in attendance Reverend MICHAEL ANSTETT, Pastor of St. Louis Roman Catholic Church, and Reverend RICHARD O'BRIEN, pastor of Annunciation Roman Catholic Church.

[redacted] advised that he had no other detailed information concerning recent activities of the Economics League in its efforts to obtain the auditorium for SMITH. During the conversation he pointed out that he had learned indirectly that Father ANSTETT, who was recently made pastor of St. Louis Church, is interested in the activities of the Economics League; that St. Louis Parish owns considerable property including the building in which the Catholic Library is situated and in which the Economics League holds its meetings.

b7c
b7D

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 25

PAGES REVIEWED: 89

PAGES RELEASED: 87

NOTES: _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-7744

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	3/9/44	1/16,21;2/17, 28/44	[redacted]:HFP

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases: Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY (G) SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject addressed meeting at Curtis Hall, 10th floor, Fine Arts Building, 410 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, at 8:15 P.M. on Sunday, 1/16/44. Approximately 350 persons in attendance. SMITH said he was conducting tour over United States trying to give America First group new fuel to pour on fire against New Deal. SMITH said enough supplies were not being sent to MacARTHUR so he would not be victorious and gain popularity. He added if this political manipulation of the Army was going on at cost of hunger and lives of American soldiers, ROOSEVELT and New Deal were guilty of treason. Literature distributed by subject enclosed.

RUC.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8BZJ/MW

REFERENCE: Bureau File 62-43818.

DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:

This is a joint report of Special Agent [redacted] and the writer.

II.

Special Agent [redacted] and the writer attended a meeting addressed by subject at Curtis Hall on 10th floor of Fine Arts Building, 410 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, at 8:15 P.M. on Sunday, January 16, 1944. The meeting was called to order at 8:15 P.M. by SMITH with approximately 350

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Chicago File
No. 100-7744

persons in attendance. The meeting was opened with the singing of the Star Spangled Banner, followed by the Salute to the Flag, and the Lord's Prayer.

SMITH was the only speaker of the evening, and occupied the platform alone. Persons were admitted to this meeting only on presentation of passes which had previously been sent out. Agent [redacted] and the writer were able to gain admission to this meeting by presentation of passes which were furnished to the Chicago Field Division by [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau.

b7c, b7d

SMITH said that this meeting had not been scheduled, but had been hurriedly planned when he found that he was passing through Chicago.

SMITH stated he had just come from a meeting at St. Louis where he had been well received. He said that he was conducting a tour over the United States, and was trying to give the America First group new fuel to pour on the fire against the New Deal. He advised that this meeting was an intimate visit with the group and not for purposes of his making a speech.

SMITH stated that the entrance of the United States into the war could have been avoided if the Government had been building battleships in 1933 and 1934 instead of bridges in the desert and canals in Florida where there was no need for them. He said that the New Deal was the cause of the United States having to enter the war under these circumstances, and it was apparent that most of his statements made during his talk were either a direct or an indirect attack on the present administration. SMITH said that attempts had been made by the Government to smear and intimidate all America First members and officers who were outspoken in their criticism of the New Deal. The subject stated that the FBI was used to investigate the America First group along seditious lines if they were outspoken and because of his activity they had tried to intimidate him in this way.

In this connection SMITH said there were not fifty men in the United States who had nerve enough to speak a year ago against the New Deal and that he considered himself one of the first. He mentioned the names of a few others who were outspoken in this group as being Senator NYE, Governor HIRAM JOHNSON of California, ROBERT REYNOLDS, Col. ROBERT McCORMICK and Father COUGHLIN.

SMITH stated he had a son in the Army from whom he had not heard for twelve weeks. SMITH added that his son had spent six years in a military academy and all his classmates were Officers, but his son was leading a mule and was not even a Private First Class. SMITH said he had no idea in what the

Chicago File
No. 100-7744

of war his son was located, but he was out of the country. SMITH added that this was no doubt better as he was responsible only for his own life. In this connection, SMITH gave the example of a Captain in the United States Army he knew who made a wrong decision which cost the lives of two hundred men, and this Captain felt this burden on his heart and later took his own life.

SMITH said that he had a speech scheduled in Denver, Colorado and the City Council had granted the use of the City Auditorium which seated 3,000 people. He said that all the morning papers which came out on the day that his speech was scheduled in the evening, announced that because of the organized resistance of the Jews and Communists, that the permission which had been granted for the use of the Hall had been cancelled by the City Officials of Denver. SMITH said as a result there were so many phone calls made into the Mayor's Office that his switchboard was blocked and he again granted the use of the Hall for the meeting which SMITH was to address. SMITH said that the Communists started picketing the Hall after approximately three hundred people had entered, b ut that the America First members went out and took care of these Communists.

SMITH said he was approached by the Chief of Police; that the Chief had three hundred policemen at the scene; that the Chief of Police inquired as to the nature of the speech he planned to give. SMITH stated that he replied that he was going to give the New Deal H----. SMITH added that after he had finished his speech the Chief of Police complimented him on it, and wanted to make a speech. However, SMITH stated he discouraged the Chief of Police, and as a result the latter only took a bow before the meeting.

SMITH stated that if the Jews wanted to stop Anti-Semitic attacks being made on them, they should do two things. First, drop WALTER LIPSCHITZ WINCHELL in the Atlantic Ocean, and second, stop the Jewish Rabbis from reviewing the book "Under Cover" before their congregations.

SMITH attacked WILLKIE as being of the Internationalist group saying that it should be remembered that both he and ROOSEVELT pledged themselves against United States participation in the war during their campaigns. SMITH related that WILLKIE had been scheduled to speak at a Presbyterian Conference in Detroit, Michigan, which was picketed by about five hundred members of the America First Committee. SMITH said that this made WILLKIE mad, and he opened with an oath against the America First group. SMITH said that WILLKIE had come to Detroit a day early so that he could make a political speech.

Chicago File
No. 100-7744

SMITH stated that WILLKIE spent six days in England mingling with the common people and drinking beer in taverns, but in fact he had so many reporters around him that the common people could not get near him. SMITH added that WILLKIE then flew back to the United States and testified before the Senate Committee as an authority on the Lend-Lease program.

SMITH told the group at instant meeting that the New Deal was rumored as having kicked General Marshall upstairs in a political move, and was not giving General MacARTHUR sufficient supplies in order that MacARTHUR would not be too victorious and gain too much popularity. SMITH said he had never publicly expressed himself in favor of MacARTHUR. However, he thought he was a very fine man. SMITH added that if this political manipulation of the Army was going on at the cost of hunger and lives of American soldiers, that ROOSEVELT and the New Deal were guilty of treason.

SMITH said he was the first man to advocate $50.00 per month for Privates in the United States Army, and he was met by the argument that this would undermine the morale of the Army. SMITH stated that it was not right to pay a man $10.00 a day for making a gun, while the Government was only paying 60¢ per day to the man who is to use this gun and take a chance of getting shot.

SMITH said that the United States is spending $6,000,000,000.00 in South America on political projects, and that this money would mean $1,000.00 apiece to 6,000,000 soldiers when they are mustered out of the Army, if it was used for Americans instead of by the New Deal in foreign politics.

SMITH then made inquiry of the persons present at the meeting if they knew anyone who had been mustered out of the service in the United States Army. When a number of hands went up in the crowd, he said that these persons should have these veterans sign the petitions to Congress on behalf of war veterans which he would later pass out at this meeting.

SMITH said that the soldiers on returning to this country would be forced to go about selling apples in order to make a living because unemployment would be so prevalent after the war.

SMITH then gave the following 7 Point Program or Platform of the America First group:

1. America First in the war, by which he meant that America's welfare should be first in this war as contrasted with Internationalism.
2. Nationalism with no compromise to our sovereignty.
3. Repeal New Deal Fascism.
4. Repeal war boondoogling and policy of dabbling in world politics.
5. Elimination of use of mails in furtherance of political aims by incumbent office holders at Government expense.
6. No labor draft, or plan that results in penal servitude.
7. Restoration of private enterprise which means restoration of capitalism.

A collection was called for by SMITH, the receipts of which he explained were to defray the expenses of the Hall and traveling expenses of Mrs. SMITH and himself as well as their hotel bill.

A copy of the following report relative to instant meeting on January 16, 1944, was furnished to Special Agent [redacted] by the Anti-Defamation League in Chicago on January 21, 1944: b7c

"Gerald L. K. Smith Meeting
Sunday, January 16, 1944 - 8:00 P.M.
Curtis Hall - Fine Arts Bldg.,
410 S. Michigan Ave.

Meeting lasted from 8:15 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. Rev. Gerald L. K. Smith, the speaker, occupied the rostrum by himself. Although six large chairs were on the spacious platform, Smith was the only party to occupy same. He is a one-man show. At the conclusion of his talk, he rendered a prayer. Approximately 350 people attended and it was obvious why a room of this size was selected as it appeared very easy to fill. About 55% of the audience were women of middle and advanced ages and the majority of the people seemed to be of a hard-working class. They seemed to be regular "America First" followers who believed in his utterances implicitly.

One of his principal attacks was against Walter Winchell who he referred to as "Walter Lipschultz", giving him a terrific tongue-lashing for his supposedly false utterances and Winchell's efforts in promoting "Union Now".

He displayed the flag that was made up of symbols of all the principal allied nations portraying this to be Winchell's belief of a new flag for America. It brought a lot of jeers.

John Roy Carlson and his book "Under Cover" came in for another lashing. He claimed the book was principally developed and printed for the purpose of selling it to the 'kikes' but they would be the suckers. Of course, everything in the book is a lie.

Smith said the wave of anti-Semitism can be reduced if the Jews do two things: 1. throw Walter Winchell into the Atlantic Ocean; 2. if the Rabbis refrain from discussing and reviewing "Under Cover" from their pulpits. He discussed an incident he experienced in Denver where a meeting had been arranged for him and because of the efforts of the Jews and Communists, the meeting was to be cancelled, but the 'America First' Party heard about it, and they stormed the Council and the meeting was held.

He gave a tirade against the New Deal, President Roosevelt, Hopkins, Ickes, etc., and discussed the Baruch party for Hopkins.

He spoke along Republican lines asking for support of the Republican candidate, except Willkie, and if they did not select a candidate suitable to these people, they would select a candidate of their own.

Smith mentioned that an effort is being made to organize the returning veterans as a division of the 'America First Party.' He said the soldiers returning today are receiving no pay and he criticized this procedure.

Smith is a great student of mass psychology and only a master like himself could have taken up the collection that he did. It appeared everybody from $1.00 to $10.00 in a very organized manner which Mrs. Smith supervised. Envelopes were distributed and after they were collected a second set of envelopes were distributed which was supposed to be deposited at the door where Mrs. Smith stood with a few helpers, and he cautioned people to give them to the right party.

Pamphlets and a leather-bound collection of past issues of 'The Cross and the Flag' were offered for sale and I subscribed for a copy of 'Why I was Indicted'.

Smith said there weren't fifty people in this country doing the work he is doing, but if there were that many, he would like to know who they are. William Grace's name was called from the audience.

He asked the audience not to applaud every statement he made - he knew that everything he said deserved applause, but if he had to stop every second it would drag the meeting out too long. He said he would indicate when to applaud and then they could go at it full force.

Smith said there was no bigotry in his system, he is not out to run down any race or religious group, he believes that all should be entitled to their own rights to worship as they see fit. "There is only one thing I am asking of these Jewish gentlemen and that is to leave me alone," said Smith.

I think one of the high points in his talk was his confession that the constant discussions and reviews of 'Under Cover' are bothering him.

A woman at the door tried to get signatures on a petition for McCormick for President, but she seemed to have difficulty in getting signatures."

There is being enclosed to the Bureau with this report, the following material distributed at the meeting on January 16, 1944, by the subject:

1. Envelope for subscription to "The Cross and the Flag".
2. Envelope for pledges to the America First Party.
3. One leaflet purported to be a clipping from the Washington Whirligig by RAY TUCKER.
4. One Petition to Congress in behalf of war veterans.

There are also being enclosed to the Bureau, the following newspaper clippings relative to the meeting addressed by SMITH on January 16, 1944, in Chicago, Illinois:

1. Clipping from Chicago Daily News taken from the issue of January 17, 1944.
2. Clipping from the Chicago Sun taken from the issue of January 17, 1944.

Chicago File
No. 100-7744

There is also being enclosed to the Bureau the following material received through [redacted]

b7D

1. One letter soliciting pledges to the America First Party, and envelope enclosed therewith for reply on which postage was guaranteed to be paid by the addressee: Gerald L. K. Smith
   Director and Organizer
   America First Party
   P. O. Box 459
   Detroit 31, Michigan

2. One letter from Gerald L. K. Smith and Certificate of Membership in America First Party issued to [redacted]

b7D

3. One booklet entitled "And so They Indicted Me!" characterized on the front page as being a story of New Deal persecution by J. EDWARD JONES.

ENCLOSURES: TO THE BUREAU:

1. Envelope for subscription to "The Cross & the Flag".
2. Envelope for pledges to the America First Party.
3. One leaflet purported to be a clipping from the Washington Whirligig by RAY TUCKER.
4. One Petition to Congress in behalf of war veterans.
5. One clipping from Chicago Daily News taken from issue of January 17, 1944.
6. One clipping from Chicago Sun taken from issue of January 17, 1944.
7. One letter soliciting pledges to the America First Party and envelope enclosed therewith.
8. One letter from SMITH and Certificate of Membership in America First Party.
9. One booklet entitled "And so They Indicted Me!"

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

Chicago File
No. 100-7744

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT:

[redacted]. This symbol [redacted] was used in this report to [redacted] of the Chicago Field Division, given by the writer with a small contribution in order that the Chicago Field Division be furnished with literature and invitations to future meetings to be held by the subject in Chicago:

b7D
b7E

[redacted]

RECORDED

JPHa:elc Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark
62-43818 - 440
3/15/44 J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION.

For your further information in connection with your consideration of this matter, there is attached hereto a copy of an additional report prepared at Chicago, Illinois, on March 9, 1944, by Special Agent [redacted] b7c
[redacted] in the matter entitled "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, with aliases; The Committee of One Million; Internal Security (C); Sedition."

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/ma

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
MAR 16 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAR 15

MAR 21 1944

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

CSB:MT

TO : MR. ROSEN

DATE: 3/6/44

FROM : C. S. Bellino

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
MAIL FRAUD

While talking to Mr. Roy C. Frank, Attorney in charge of the Mail Frauds Section in the Criminal Division, he advised that a 40-page summary was given to him setting forth a possible violation of the Mail Fraud Statute on the part of the above-named individual. He stated that this summary was then briefed to 10 pages, and although he has not carefully reviewed this matter at this time, he contemplates prosecutive action being brought for a possible Mail Fraud violation against Smith.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-18 JMC

RECORDED

EX-1

62-43818-441

F B I

33 MAR 11 1944

Letter memo Lodge
3/8/44

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

March 8, 1944

Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

JPHa:WMJ
Call: 10:30 A.M.
Dictation: 11:00 A.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY; INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

Reference is made to the attached memorandum dated March 6, 1944, from Mr. Bellino to Mr. Rosen, advising that Mr. Roy C. Frank, Attorney in charge of the Mail Frauds Section in the Criminal Division, has stated that the Department contemplates prosecutive action against Smith for a Mail Fraud violation.

Mr. James McInerney, who handles the Smith case in the Department, while talking with Special Agent Hanratty at the above-indicated time concerning the case, stated that the Department does not contemplate any action against Smith at this time under the Mail Fraud Statutes or any other statutes. He advised that several weeks ago [redacted] of New York City, who is associated with the Anti-Defamation League, came to the Department and in talking with Mr. Lou Schwartz of the Criminal Administration Section, suggested that a Mail Fraud case might be made out against Smith through showing that he has defrauded his followers in collecting large sums of money from them. Schwartz later assigned Attorney William Masser of the Criminal Division to look over this suggestion and thereafter Masser prepared a memorandum of some forty pages setting forth data which he thought might be sufficient to show a Mail Fraud violation. Apparently this memorandum included some miscellaneous data furnished by [redacted]

Mr. McInerney observed that he had not even known of the foregoing until Masser's memorandum was completed and that upon reviewing Masser's memorandum he is of the opinion that it was absolutely nothing other than [redacted]'s personal viewpoint that Smith is really not sincere and is exploiting his followers by collecting sums of money from them which Smith alleges are being used "to keep America from becoming a bureaucracy." Mr. McInerney pointed out that there has been no showing that Smith is not sincere and stated that the Criminal Division definitely does not contemplate any prosecution at the present time against Smith.

Mr. McInerney indicated confidentially that this entire thing was a "piece of pressure work" by [redacted] In this connection you will recall that [redacted] has heretofore furnished the New York Office considerable data relative to Smith and other matters and that as concerns Smith this data, although generally informative, has not at all been sufficient to show any substantive violation. Mr. McInerney also intimated that Schwartz, in accepting [redacted] suggestion, did not know the facts of the Smith case and that Masser was perhaps overenthusiastic and not attentive to legal detail in reaching the conclusion that Smith could be prosecuted for a Mail Fraud violation.

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DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-1 [illegible]

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MAR 29 1944

62-42918-44
MAR 11 1944

At this time Mr. McInerney also revealed that the Criminal Division has received an extensive report of the Treasury Department's "income tax violation" investigation of Smith. He said that on the whole this report is not reflective of any substantial violation but on the contrary tends to indicate that Smith has not defrauded anyone and has kept his books in fairly good order. Mr. McInerney stated that he intends to send a copy of this Treasury report to the Bureau for informative purposes.

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch

F. L. Welch

JAM

Attachment

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-7463

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CLEVELAND, OHIO	3-13-44	2-29-44 3-6-44	[redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, Gerald L. K. Schmidt THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY-G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

On 2-29-44 at the Ball Room of the Public Auditorium, Cleveland, Ohio, GERALD L. K. SMITH addressed approximately one thousand persons. SMITH in typical fashion attacked the administration's handling of the war veterans and liberal draft bill. He advised his followers to back MARTIN SWEENEY for Governor of Ohio because he was for "America First". SMITH ridiculed Willkie and warned the assemblage that Communism was attempting to destroy all religion. SMITH announced a National American First Rally at St. Louis, March 25. Guest speaker, DEAN SMITH, emphasized the blunders of the British in the Burma Campaign and attacked our Lend Lease Policy.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/6/12 BY

-RUC-

REFERENCE: Bureau file #62-43818.
Letter from Detroit dated February 16, 1944.

DETAILS: At 8 pm on February 29, 1944, GERALD L. K. SMITH, National Director of the America First Party, addressed an audience of approximately one thousand persons at the Ball Room of the Public Auditorium at Cleveland, Ohio. To gain admission to the hall it was necessary to present a card of

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: W. D. Fletcher SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES: 62-43818-442

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admission. On the platform in addition to SMITH was DEAN E. SMITH, Chicago, Illinois, former head of the Standard Oil Company in Burma, Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, President of the United Mothers of America, Mrs. MONREAL of the United Mothers of America and CLARENCE M. TYLICKI, Campaign manager for MARTIN L. SWEENEY. A transcript of the speech made by SMITH was obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau which transcript is being set out [redacted]

b7D

"I want to congratulate you people on coming out here to listen to me on a night when a blizzard is raging. You might know that I could not have a meeting in Cleveland without there being a blizzard or a cyclone. The last time I was here, as I remember, there was a blizzard, and the time before that a near cloudburst. One time, also, you had a tornado here, the worst in 10 years. These things I doubt if they could blame on America First party, although there are some people in this town who would if they could get by with it.

"Some of you people, I understand, did not get invitations to this meeting until very late. They were mailed out 2 weeks ago, but I have talked to some of you who did not get your invitations until today. Those of you who got your invitations late hold up your hands, please. About 20 people, I see. I don't want to condemn the Post Office for this; these things were mailed third class, but Cleveland is the only place where we have any trouble getting them out. In Pittsburgh, people say they have already received their invitations which were sent out one week later than these. Perhaps the reason is a help problem, but if you would elect a Republican who would appoint a Republican Postmaster, it would probably remedy the condition. I don't want to roast the mail carriers, they are the most poorly paid people in America, for they are Civil Service, and cannot mingle in politics.

"Roosevelt will not raise anybody's wages unless you play politics. Roosevelt does not help the soldiers; he was never interested in veterans. Congress was forced to pass the bonus bill designed for the first World War veterans because Roosevelt vetoed the bonus measure twice; And then only after 19 years had gone by since the Armistice. Unless you are a foreigner, you can't get any money in Washington. You've got to be a king, or duke or something like that to get anything in Washington.

"They also finally got a mustering-out pay bill for the soldiers passed, but it was a fight. The American Legion had to fight, the Veterans of Foreign Wars had to fight, and the great people's movements like ours had to say we were going to fight to get this law.

"I checked up in a Detroit Free Press the other morning, and an article

stated that the two-bit flophouses in Detroit were filled with many mustered out, wounded, or sick servicemen. Many of these men are penniless waiting for their benefits.

"Some people say you should not talk politics in a time of war; I wish we did not have to talk politics; I wish we had a president who lived up to the best traditions of the Presidency in the past and did not want to run for a fourth term. As long as he wants four terms, I will fight him, war or not.

"Roosevelt would like to conscript everyone under the Bill #666 and to put you where he wants you, so he can control you at election time this fall. If he puts people around rightly, he can carry any districts for the New Deal. I will talk politics as long as they use politics in their dealings with the armed service.

"My son is now in the Army in India, 12,000 miles from home. We did not hear from him for 4 weeks when he went over. I know he will die for his country and his flag, but he will not die for Franklin and Eleanor, nor to keep them in the White House for 4 more years.

"I want you all to stand, please. Rise from your seats, and let us unite in repeating the Lord's Prayer, as we learned it in our respective churches. (The Lord's Prayer was then repeated in unison).

"The press interviewed me some moments ago and asked me what I was going to do about SWEENEY's candidacy for Governor of Ohio. In both primaries I will support candidates who always put America first, in this and any other campaign. I talked to MARTIN SWEENEY this afternoon, and found him the same courageous MARTIN SWEENEY as before, unafraid to place America first; unless the Democrats have the foresight to place their party in the hands of SWEENEY, WHEELER, and REYNOLDS, the Democratic Party will never come to life again after it is buried this fall. It must have new leadership.

"I have talked to working men, veterans, and many other people, and they all want a policy of putting America first. Mr. SWEENEY could not be here tonight but he was thoughtful enough to send Mr. TYLICKI , his assistant, and I want him to come up and sit here on the platform. Give Mr. TYLICKI a hand, won't you?

"Some of you here tonight who are Republicans will say how can I vote for a Republican candidate if I support MARTIN SWEENEY for Governor. That does not enter into the situation now. Mr. SWEENEY is getting ready for the Democratic primary. Only Democrats can vote for him then.

"Who is this stooge of Burton's who is announcing his candidacy for the Governorship? The Plain Dealer says that Herbert is Burton's man, so it must be that way. You people know that Burton is an internationalist. He was part of the B2H2 group in the Senate and he wants to get us into a super-duper world government, made up of all the races in the world. Of course, the U. S. must have some delegates, to write the checks and pay the bills.

"Burton is the Plain Dealer's man, an internationalist, and a Willkieite. The Willkie group is the deadest political body in America today. It is as dead as the Dodo. Talk about the Japs and their hara kiri; Willkie committed political hara kiri. Roosevelt has been trying to get Congress to pass a big tax bill. He has been trying to ram this bill down the people's throats. When Congress refused to pass it and put through a bill for 1/4 the amount the President wanted, Roosevelt vetoed it and sent a message back to Congress repudiating Congress and questioning its integrity. This act made even Barkley vomit on the floor. Some said that Barkley was a courageous statesman for his speech resigning the leadership but what Barkley wanted much more than his self respect was the votes of Kentucky when he comes up for re-election. Barkley knows that he must do something to get away from Roosevelt to win again in Kentucky.

"When the President's tax veto was overridden, just one Republican in Congress voted to sustain Roosevelt. That man was Burton, but Willkie, that expert timer of political explosions, came out for a tax bill twich as high as the one Roosevelt wanted. If Congress doesn't like Roosevelt, it likes Willkie and his proposal 1/2 as much. That is how Willkie committed political hara kiri.

"We picketed a Willkie meeting in Detroit recently and that stopped him. Willkie threw his hat in the ring in Washington, and St. Louis, and other places, but nobody seems to want to accept it. In St. Louis he had only 700 people at a meeting in an auditorium that will seat 3000. We had more there than Willkie did, and we are going back to St. Louis for our National Rally of the America First Party on March 25th, and we will have 5 times as many people as Willkie could ever get.

"After Willkie's stand on the tax legislation, he is politically dead. He has been sunk in the deep freeze and when he goes down he has a little sinker tied around his neck and Burton is that little lead sinker that will go down with Willkie.

Should Burton's man, Herbert get the nomination for Governor on the Republican ticket and Sweeney get the Democratic nomination, then you can see that even the Republicans should vote for Sweeney. We want the best possible ticket on both sides. If we can redeem both parties the same way, that's good. The internationalists would like to see the tickets with Tweedledee Roosevelt on one side, and Tweedledum Willkie on the other. However, if we could get Wheeler on one side and another good man such as Martin Sweeney on the other side we won't care who wins the election.

"Petitions are now being circulated to get Martin Sweeney's name on the ballot for the Governorship. It takes just 1000 registered Democrats' signatures to get him on. These petitions will each hold about 25 names. How many people here tonight are willing to both sign and circulate one of these petitions? Fine, about 100 people raised their hands. Put that down, Plain Dealer, 100 people will circulate petitions for Martin Sweeney.

"Now, how about those who are willing to sign and not circulate a petition? Probably about 250 of you. If we get these petitions circulated, we'll at least give Ohio a chance to get a man, Martin Sweeney, who places America first, and Martin Sweeney has been for America first right down through the years. I would vote for Martin Sweeney if for no other reason than that he was the man who had guts enough to write a letter to the King and Queen of England and asked them to pay their war debt, when they were here last.

I am always glad to meet and hear from Mrs. David Stanley, who will say something to you now that will take about 2 minutes. Mrs. Stanley and Mrs. Monreil and others have kept this United Mothers group going even tho they have been harassed and persecuted, by our enemies. (Mrs. Stanley then gave a short talk congratulating Mr. Smith on his recent birthday and presented him with a silk American flag and a crucifix to represent the "Cross and the Flag".

"Mr. Smith again took the rostrum and stated, that sometimes I am tempted to indulge in self pity, because I am accused of many things, but here I am, the fourth generation of pulpit-pounding, Bible preaching Christians. All my relatives were born in America from colonial days on down, and they have been heroes in many wars. Yet I go to Buffalo, and the bureaucrats, who will open the auditorium to Earl Browder and others of his ilk, won't let me into the hall, because they say I am not a good American.

"My idea of a good election campaign this fall would be to change the people's ideas of the national hero from Walter Winchell to Charles Lindberg.

"I want to say that I am one reared in Protestantism; but I am with those who are Christians, of any faith. The Communists and other enemies of democracy are attempting to pit Protestants against Catholics, but do not fall for that propaganda. 'Christians of the World, Unite'. I am going to tell you a little story, and provide you with a little symbolism, to show you how cunning this conspiracy to foment religious intolerance is.

"A few weeks ago there appeared in the "Sunday Visitor", a Catholic journal, a feature article named Lynn. In this piece, he swiped at Huey Long and Gerald L. K. Smith, among others. I immediately sat down and wrote Bishop Nau of the diocese publishing this paper, expressing my objections. The Bishop wrote me a very cordial reply, in which he said that the article had appeared without his sanction and knowledge, and he apologized and said he could not prevent it's having gotten in the paper. He then offered to publish my reply to this article, if I desired.

"Last Sunday, the "Sunday Visitor" printed my answer. It appeared on page 3, the most read page of the "Sunday Visitor", which is the largest Catholic journal published.

"I consider that the great Catholic church stands wedged between the world and Communism and Nazism. It stands as a symbol of opposition to these things, and will destroy them if it can. It is a crime to preach the gospel of the church in the whole of Soviet Russia. If you don't preach the gospel the way Joe Stalin wants you to, you don't preach in Russia.

"I have been condemned because I have placed the cross beside the flag, but if it were not for the cross, there never would have been a flag. Some of my Jewish neighbors do not like me, and some fight me for putting the cross beside the flag. I say, let the Jews have their synagogues and their Star of David; if we deny them this right, we are un-American, for they have a right to their own faith. I would count myself unworthy of that flag if I denied the Jews their liberty. So, why do the Jews fight and harass Father Coughlin and Gerald L. K. Smith?

"We are going to have our big National America First Rally in St. Louis on the night of March 25th. A young man has come here all the way from St. Louis. He is Mr. Don LOBECK, and he came here to help arrange the rally. Let's have him get up here on the platform. Give

him a good hand.

"You people will begin to get invitations to the rally, and if you can arrange to come to St. Louis on March 25th, there will be a seat reserved for you there. By that time, we should know how the Republicans and Democrats are coming along. If it looks like they are going to go internationalist, we will make the rally our nominating convention, and nominate someone for the Presidency at that time. But if the Republicans don't stay away from Willkie, they will have an insurgent new party on their hands. I would rather have a party that polled only 10 votes than be doubled crossed by Willkie like we were in 1940.

"Tomorrow night we are having a big rally in Pittsburgh, and the night following, in Philadelphia. Congressman Claire Hoffman will speak with me at the Philadelphia meeting.

"Maybe some of you saw the article appearing in Collier's Weekly, in the current issue. It was a 6page to 7 page article, on Gerald L. K. Smith, the mysterious rabble rouser from Detroit.

"The article brings out three things: first, the writer of the article says that every Federal Bureau has investigated Gerald L. K. Smith and found his patriotism clean and untouched by subversion and disloyalty. Second, he also says and admits that their survey reveals that we are not subsidized by any rich angels, but by the plain people; our movement is a great people's movement. Third, he also admits (and this magazine is read by about 3,000,000 subscribers) that Gerald L. K. Smith is likely the balance of power in the next Presidential election, and the Republican candidates are all afraid to hurt Gerald Smith's feelings. They are afraid to go toward me or away from me; I am the kiss of death to them. I appreciate that position. Also, the writer of the article discovered that we have over 3,000,000 enrolled members all over the U.S. They are in the areas where they will count the most, and have been scientifically presented in these areas by the party. The most of these 3,000,000 are in Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan, the balance states. No one can be President unless he takes at least 2 of these states, and they can't be carried by anyone without help of the America First people. We will vote only for those who will really put America first. Churchill puts England first; Stalin puts Russia first; why doesn't Roosevelt put America first?

"Tonight, everyone who has not received a collection envelope, put your hand up. Everyone filling out an envelope tonight will get a

picture of me, my wife, son, and daughter-in-law, on a calendar. Also, if you don't already have a copy of it, and make a donation, we will give you a copy of Ed Jones' book, "So They Indicted Me". If you already have the book, you will be given the picture calendar.

"To those of you who give $10 or more tonight, we will send a beautiful bound volume of "The Cross and the Flag", containing all issues from the first one down to the present. Some of these are now selling for $5 a copy. If you will write your name on the envelope, we will print it on the volume in gold. New we will pass out the envelopes and have them filled and collected. After you have filled your envelope and sealed it, watch it until it gets into the hands of the collector; some New Dealer may put it in his pocket.

"We find that every time we sent out our invitations in Cleveland third class, they got delivered late, and we have to send third class to get them through all right. I am going to make a report on this to the Postmaster.

"You know, this is not an ordinary political meeting; we are going to organize an ending for the meeting, with prayers, facing the flag, and make it more like a convention of the Catholic Daughters, or church deacons.

"Until the country is run like these meetings, we will always have trouble. Roosevelt has gleaned all the thieves and ballot stealers and given them jobs, and they are the bureaucrats. There has never been such a patronage machine, and there have never been so many election stealers.

"We have a man with us here tonight who is quite a distinguished visitor. He was Standard Oil Company Chief in the Orient for about 20 years, and lived in Rangoon for some time. A few years ago, he quit the company, for he could not understand their imperialistic politics in the East. He was in Rangoon when the Japanese bombed it, and he has lived under the British flag for most of those 20 years. He understands British imperialism and Japanese imperialism, and his speech tonight fits into the America First platform, for he and we are opposed to any world government. We want to keep our government in Washington, and never permit the Communists, or England, or the dictator-minded people of Central Europe to have a hand in our government. Our next president should not be named by Churchill, or our foreign policy be written by Stalin. They are our allies in winning the war, but Churchill has no right to say there will be a disaster if Roosevelt is not re-elected and if Congress goes Republican; And George Bernard Shaw should not tell

us that America never can get anywhere as long as it keeps that "d---- Constitution".

"I present to you a man who will tell you his personal experience over there in the area my son now is in, along with so many others. Mr. Smith, at this time, introduced Dean E. Smith, Chicago, Illinois.

"The guest speaker went to great details describing his personal experience during the Burma Campaign from December 7, 1941 to April 1, 1943. He emphasized the blunders of the British Army during this period and attibuted this to the fact that the British acts were smothered by red tape and Bureaus. He warned the assemblage that we would soon find ourselves in that condition if the present administration was not removed. Dean Smith then discussed the unfairness of our Lend Lease Policy which over supplies Great Britain while almost nothing is given to China. Smith explained Great Britain's imperialistic attitude and its treatment of the Chinese.

"Following this talk, a general question and answer period occurred. It resolved into a conversation between Gerald L. K. Smith and Dean E. Smith. Gerald L. K. Smith asked Dean Smith if, after we whip the Nazis, would Britain make a deal with the Japanese, if it served her interests at that time to get out of the war. Dean Smith answered you don't have to wait until you lick the Nazis and stated he wished he were permitted to say all that he could.

"Gerald L. K. Smith asked the speaker if it was not true that the British were such thorough imperialists, that when they got into trouble in Malaya and Burma, with the Japs nobody would help them, not even the Japanese. Dean Smith stated this was true and went on to say that 4 people out of 5 living under the British flag are its unwilling subjects and that even after centuries of colonial rule, Britain had not won the affection of the subject peoples.

"Dean Smith further advised that he had never seen democracy under the British flag, except in some of the Dominions. A few people have an economic stranglehold on the people of England and there is a rigid caste system in England, worse than the one in India. Gerald L. K. Smith stated that we will take all the help we can get in the war, but that he doesn't want anybody telling him that Churchill is a second George Washington and Stalin a Lincoln. Gerald L. K. Smith stated that he asked Standard Oil men in Singapore about the fact that oil for the war in that area was being shipped 14,000 miles from the U. S. when there was plenty of British oil in Arabia only 5,000 miles away, but no body could answer this question. Dean Smith said that there was plenty of Oil in Arabia to supply the whole Far Eastern War. Gerald L. K. Smith said he wanted these facts brought out

as a key to the game the bureaucrats were playing, giving away money, exhausting oil reserves, and getting us into a world government so the "7-caste boys" can run us.

Smith at this time brought the meeting to a close. The meeting was attended by Special Agents [redacted] and the writer. Pledge envelopes were distributed and pledges collected. Subscription envelopes for the "Cross and the Flag," Smith's publication, were also distributed. At the end of the meeting, members of the United Mothers of America sold literature and took up a collection. b7c

-REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN-

JPHa:WMJ
62-43818
3-21-44

RECORDED

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your further information in your consideration of this case, there is attached hereto a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Cleveland, Ohio, on March 13, 1944.

b2c

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8BT/ng

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Correy
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
MAR 23 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

8 MAR 28 1944

RECEIVED READING ROOM
MAR 22 4 22 PM '44
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF Class
DATE 10-23-81 ENO

CONFIDENTIAL

March 20, 1944

Re: [redacted]

b2c

The following information concerning [redacted] has been made available by an official of the Ford Motor Company in Detroit, Michigan:

[redacted]

b2c
b2d

[redacted]

RECORDED 154 162-73818-443

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Gadd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Egan
Gurnea
Harbo
Mohr
Winterrowd
Clarke
Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

[redacted]

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP5 [illegible]
REASON-FCIM II [illegible] 4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 9/2/91

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

CONFIDENTIAL

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

_____

_____

☐ For your information: _____

_____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818 -443 p. 2

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

Of further pertinence to this matter is certain information recently received from a confidential source to the effect that [redacted] described as an oil man in Louisiana, lately contacted Gerald L. K. Smith at Detroit posing the inquiry as to "whether Smith was familiar with the Kent case". No further information is available as to [redacted] interest in the matter, but it has been reported that prior to the interview at the Ford Company described above, [redacted] discussed the Kent case with Smith and Smith thereafter sought to make an appointment at the Ford Company for [redacted] interview. Relative to [redacted], the confidential source of information has stated that this individual is a close associate of Smith and was formerly employed as an official of the N.R.A. Reportedly he resigned this position and was thereafter the defendant in several fraud suits instituted against him by the Government charging dishonesty and fraudulent methods while attached to the government's service. It is reported that Jones has recently published a book "And So They Indicted Me" in which he alleges that he was "framed" and otherwise imposed upon even though these suits were dismissed.

b7c

Concerning Gerald L. K. Smith and the Peace Now Movement, both mentioned several times heretofore in this memorandum, it is noted that both have been thoroughly investigated. However, the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice has not indicated that the activities of either are sufficient to warrant any prosecutive action under Federal statutes. Smith resides at Detroit and currently is engaged in the promotion of the America First Party, which, he asserts, is a third political party. He issues numerous publications and makes frequent public speeches and from time to time his criticisms of the government and its policies have been alleged to be possibly seditious. The Peace Now Movement, as its name would signify, is a pacifist organization, the objective of which is the realization of an immediate negotiated peace. The headquarters of this organization are at New York City, and according to report its influence has never been extensive, and what little support it once had is rapidly on the wane.

[redacted]

b1

The conviction of Kent apparently occasioned some comment in the British Parliament and in this connection there is attached hereto a copy of an article concerning the matter which appeared in the November 12, 1941, edition of the "Washington Times-Herald". It is noted that [redacted] was reportedly in possession of a copy of this article and displayed it to the official of the Ford Motor Company during the course of the interview recounted previously in this memorandum.

b7c

Attachment

TRUE COPY

Times-Herald
Washington, D. C., November 12, 1941

COMMONS AIRS CHURCHILL CABLES TO ROOSEVELT

Messages Exchanged Behind Chamberlain's Back, M.P. Charges

By Arthur Sears Henning

Questions in the British House of Commons yesterday regarding Winston Churchill's cablegrams to President Roosevelt behind the back of Prime Minister Chamberlain brought into the open a subject of much whispering in official circles here.

The question put to the government in the House of Commons was whether a British subject who sent telegrams to Mr. Roosevelt and thereby evaded the censorship had been prosecuted. Thus the reference was confined to communications sent to the President by Mr. Churchill, who at the time was First Lord of the Admiralty in the Chamberlain cabinet.

No Information on Subject

The understanding here is that not only cablegrams from Mr. Churchill to Mr. Roosevelt behind Chamberlain's back but from Mr. Roosevelt to Mr. Churchill are involved. The White House in response to an inquiry yesterday professed to have no information on the subject.

The correspondence is supposed to have related to British and American policy regarding the European war. Among the questions touched upon are said to have been a more vigorous prosecution of the war than had been achieved by Mr. Chamberlain and the possibilities of the United States taking an active part in support of Great Britain.

According to one version, the device of the lend lease legislation for circumventing the United States neutrality law and the Johnson Act forbidding extension of credit to Britain as a war debt defaulter was discussed in this secret correspondence between the American President and the British navy head.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/2/81 BY SP5 RJ W/ME

[redacted]

ENCLOSURE 62-43216-443

Passed Through Embassy

Disclosure of the text of the cablegrams would establish whether Mr. Churchill invited or Mr. Roosevelt made any commitments of the United States Government to a policy of aiding Britain that was not contemplated by existing United States law.

From the outbreak of the war the President had been under fire for permitting, if not encouraging, William C. Bullitt, American Ambassador to France, and other American diplomats to encourage France and Poland to get into the war with promises of American support.

The correspondence between Mr. Churchill and the President passed through the American Embassy in London. Tyler Kent, a young American employed as a clerk in the embassy, made copies of the Churchill and Roosevelt cablegrams and showed them to Capt. Archibald Ramsay, a member of the House of Commons.

Leak Traced to Kent

The leak of the correspondence soon became known and the responsibility therefore was traced to young Kent. The vengeance of the British and American governments for this breach of trust was swift and certain.

Joseph P. Kennedy, then American Ambassador to Great Britain, discharged Kent, and the British government immediately arrested him on charges of espionage. After Kent had been held in jail for some time he was given a trial. The espionage charges fell flat, but he finally was convicted of larceny of government documents and sentenced to seven years in prison, where he now is.

Captain Ramsay, who had been shown or given copies of the correspondence, was placed under detention under the Defense of the Realm Act.

Morrison's Answer

The question was brought up in Commons yesterday by Richard R. Stokes, a Laborite who is a bitter opponent of Prime Minister Churchill. Answering the question, Home Secretary Herbert Morrison said:

"No information can properly be given out about confidential documents which were extracted from the American Embassy, but whatever may have been the nature of the documents in question they do not provide the slightest foundation for the suggestion that someone has been guilty of evading the censorship or contravening the defense regulations."

John McGovern, independent Laborite, then said:

"Cannot the home secretary say whether any of these cablegrams or messages were sent by the prime minister behind the back of the then prime minister (Chamberlain)?"

Morrison said he had nothing to add to his answer.

JPHa/pk
3-18-44

RECORDED 62-43,818-443 P[redacted] BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear General Watson:

I am attaching a memorandum setting forth certain data recently received by this Bureau which indicates that one [redacted] and other persons are attempting to secure large sums of [redacted] money to be used in securing copies of alleged cablegrams said to have been exchanged between the President and Mr. Churchill. b7c

These alleged cablegrams are said to relate to the so-called Tyler Kent espionage case in England and reportedly the persons interested in this endeavor intend in "exposing the cablegrams" to embarrass the President and bring about a situation favoring a negotiated peace.

I thought this information should be brought to your attention as of possible interest to the President. No action relative to the matter is contemplated by this Bureau at this time, but in the event further information of pertinence is received, it will, of course, be immediately relayed to you.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/2/87 BY SPSRJH/pk

Enclosure

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
MAR 21 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED READING ROOM
MAR 21 11 51 AM '44
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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FBI - DIRECTOR
DEPT OF JUSTICE

-A-

C-287

EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

CONFIDENTIAL

JPHa:MIP
100-202534
62-43818

March 7, 1944

CLASS. & EXT. BY SCG/pal/ac
REASON-FCIM II 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 9/2/81

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starko
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Information has recently been received in connection with this investigation, as well as from other sources, to the effect that certain parties have attempted to secure large sums of money from various wealthy people (in one instance the Ford Motor Company) to be used in securing access to copies of certain reported cablegrams which allegedly passed between President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill. Allegedly these cablegrams showed that the President and the Prime Minister (even before the latter held that position) conspired with one another in an effort to cause America's entrance into the war without proper justification. These efforts relate to the well-known Tyler Kent, Espionage case in England, and it would appear that the persons behind these efforts are interested in embarrassing the President politically and through the publication of these reported cablegrams to discredit the war effort and thereby cause a negotiated peace. In view of the ramifications involved, detailed information which has been received by the Bureau in this regard is set forth in the following paragraphs.

[redacted]

INDEXED 62-43818-444

[redacted]

BU
UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

Letter to Lord Watson 3/28/44

COPIES DESTROYED
205 OCT 15 1964

53/PR

b2, b7

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

As to the part played by Gerald L. K. Smith in this entire affair, it is noted that according to what [redacted] told [redacted] went over this entire discussion with Smith for a period of about twelve hours. [redacted] indicated that Smith was interested and thereafter Smith made an appointment for [redacted] to be interviewed by an official of the Ford Company.

It has also been learned through a technical source at Detroit that on February 11, 1944, J. Edward Jones, an oilman in Louisiana, contacted Smith's office telephonically and inquired of Smith's secretary as to whether Smith was "familiar with the Kent case." At that time Jones advised that he had had a recent conference with Mrs. Kent and wished to discuss this particular case with Smith. It is noted that J. Edward Jones is a friend and close associate of Smith and was formerly employed as an official of the NRA. He reportedly had difficulties with Secretary Ickes and eventually resigned his position. Thereafter, several fraud suits were instituted against him by the Government charging dishonesty and fraudulent methods while attached to the Government

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CONFIDENTIAL

service. These suits were later dismissed and recently Jones has published a book with Smith's help (called "And So They Indicted Me") wherein he alleges that Secretary Ickes and other "bureaucrats" are attempting to persecute him.

[redacted]

b2
b7D

Relative to the Peace Now Movement, it is noted that in connection with the investigation previously information has been received from time to time that the leaders of the group are very much interested in the Tyler Kent case and are of the opinion that Kent was unjustifiably convicted. They apparently believe that if they can make an "expose" showing that this was the case and that Mr. Churchill and Mr. Roosevelt "conspired to cause the war" a great boon can be gained in behalf of the pacifist movement, eventually resulting in a negotiated peace. In contrast to [redacted]s interest in the matter which seems to be entirely political, it definitely appears that the Peace Now Movement's interest is that of promoting pacifism.

[redacted]

b1

[redacted]

b1

CONFIDENTIAL

Memorandum for Mr. E. A. Tamm

[redacted] b1

Although nothing appears in the Bureau's files tending to substantiate the allegations of [redacted] and [redacted] It is noted that an article which appeared in the November 12, 1941, edition of the Washington Times-Herald states that at about that time a heated discussion was engaged in in the British Parliament relative to the Kent case. This article indicates that some members of the Parliament asserted that the Kent case had definitely shown that Mr. Churchill had gone "behind the back of Prime Minister Chamberlain" in communicating with Mr. Roosevelt by cablegrams encoded at the American Embassy. A copy of this article was furnished to Mr. Bugas by [redacted] and is attached hereto for your information. [redacted] also furnished Mr. Bugas with a copy of Miss Rankin's speech made before the House of Representatives on December 8, 1942. b7c

The Bureau's files are reflective of no information which can be identified with [redacted] b7c

ACTION:

As indicated, the above-set-forth data is brought to your attention for informative purposes. This information is not being disseminated to outside agencies and no specific investigation pertaining to the efforts of [redacted] and [redacted] of the type outlined above has been made by the Bureau. The Bureau in connection with its investigation of Gerald L. K. Smith and the Peace Now Movement, will probably receive additional information concerning this matter if these individuals continue their activity toward making an issue of the so-called Tyler Kent case, and in that event any further data of significance will immediately be brought to your attention. b7c

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

Attachment

CONFIDENTIAL

444

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DATE 9/14/81 BY SP5 RJB/SA

A perusal of the Department of State bulletins covering the period from the Atlantic Conference of August 12, 1941, to the attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941, discloses only a single item relating to Japan—a brief mention of repatriation of American and Japanese nationals in the bulletin of October 11, 1941, page 276—though this weekly journal of the State Department was replete with even trivialities regarding other countries during this period, thus indicating that the American people were not being fully informed as to the negotiations with Japan. On December 15, 1941, a week after Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt released a message to Congress purporting to cover the negotiations with Japan.

While candid admission that any of the communications sent Japan constituted an ultimatum is not made, the 1941, it becomes proper to inquire, "From whom are these statistics being concealed?"

As a Member of Congress, I was, of course, able to exercise my congressional prerogative of securing this data from an administrative department. Because of its allegedly confidential nature, I cannot, however, reveal it at this time.

However, a perusal of other sources throws considerable light upon the extent to which the Roosevelt administration invoked economic sanctions against Japan in the months between the Atlantic Conference and the attack upon Pearl Harbor. For instance, in the New York Times of August 17, 1941, page 7, we read:

Vice President WALLACE, the chairman—

Of the Economic Defense Board—

today confirmed reports that this group was already working on projects for exerting trade pressure on Japan.

Committee on July 24, 1941, as reported in the Department of State Bulletin of July 26, 1941, page 72, and also in the Saturday Evening Post of February 7, 1942, page 26:

Now, if we cut the oil off, they—

The Japanese—

probably would have gone to the Dutch East Indies a year ago, and you would have had war.

Whereupon, immediately after the Atlantic Conference of 2 weeks later, Mr. Roosevelt proceeded to invoke these self-acknowledged war-producing sanctions.

Was it not strange that Mr. Roosevelt, who, by refusing for years to enforce the Neutrality Act of 1936 to prevent shipments of war supplies to Japan despite popular demand, had largely contributed to supplying that nation with the raw materials for the armament now being

hostilities on the part of Japan were momentarily possible. * * * On the same day—

November 27, 1941—

the Chief of Naval Operations sent a message to the commander in chief of the Pacific Fleet, which stated in substance that the dispatch was to be considered a war warning * * * that Japan was expected to make an aggressive move in the next few days.

Additional warnings were sent November 28, November 29, November 30, December 1, December 3, December 4, December 6, and December 7—the last one arriving in Hawaii after the Japanese onslaught had begun.

Thus, we see that for 2 weeks prior to the Pearl Harbor attack almost daily warnings had been sent, not to mention less frequent precautionary dispatches earlier. What more could have been done in the way of warnings is hard to see. Indeed, do not the frequency, urgency, the very wording of these warnings, indicate in themselves that the Pearl Harbor attack came as no surprise whatever to the President?

Why, then, were our forces taken unawares December 7, 1941? Apparently simply because a deep-rooted and traditional sense of overconfidence insulated our Pacific commanders from taking these warnings seriously.

Has Prime Minister Churchill ever admitted attempting to get the United States into this war?

Yes; quite frankly—after we were in. Why was it that previously he said he wanted only the "tools"? In February 1942, in a speech delivered before the House of Commons in an effort to save his administration at the time of the fall of Singapore, this boast was wrung from him—as reported in the New York Times of February 16, 1942, page 6:

When I survey and compute the power of the United States and its vast resources and feel that they are now in it with us, with the British Commonwealth of Nations all together, however long it lasts, till death or victory, I cannot believe that there is any other fact in the whole world which can compare with that. This is what I have dreamed of, aimed at, and worked for, and now it has come to pass.

A blunt acknowledgment, surely.

Has either Mr. Churchill or Mr. Roosevelt ever acknowledged that the Atlantic conference was the specific occasion of their efforts to get the United States into the war by embroiling us with Japan?

It is hard to see what else the following admission from Mr. Churchill's speech in Parliament, January 28, 1942—as reported in the New York Times of that date, page 10—can be called:

It has been the policy of the Cabinet at almost all costs to avoid embroilment with Japan until we were sure that the United States would also be engaged. * * *

On the other hand, the probability since the Atlantic conference, at which I discussed these matters with President Roosevelt, that the United States, even if not herself attacked, would come into the war in the Far East and thus make the final victory assured, seemed to allay some of these anxieties, and that expectation has not been falsified by the events.

This would seem to indicate that not only did President Roosevelt accede to Churchill's pressure to send an ultimatum to, and impose sanctions upon, Japan but made a blanket commitment to bring America into the war even if Japan did not attack.

A very curious piece of evidence appeared in the Saturday Evening Post of October 10, 1942, page 9, in an article by Lt. Clarence E. Dickinson, United States Navy, entitled "I Fly For Vengeance." Lieutenant Dickinson relates:

On this cruise we had sailed from Pearl Harbor on November 28—

1941—

under absolute war orders. Vice Admiral Wm. F. Halsey, Jr., the commander of the aircraft battle force, had given instructions that the secrecy of our mission was to be protected at all costs. We were to shoot down anything we saw in the sky and to bomb anything we saw on the sea. In that way, there could be no leak to the Japs.

Could such orders have been issued by Vice Admiral Halsey except by specific direction from the Commander in Chief, namely, the President of the United States?

In other words, if Lieutenant Dickinson's account is true, did not the President at least 9 days before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, without a declaration of war, authorize an identical attack upon the Japanese—also without a declaration of war?

Today approximately 1,000,000 American boys are fighting from three to eight thousand miles away from home. The American people are willing to struggle for the "four freedoms" but we realize that we must retain them at home if we are going to give them to others. Exercising our traditional right of free speech and free inquiry, we are going to continue to ask and to seek answers to all questions as they arise.

When are we going to get the full story of what happened at the Atlantic Conference? We asked for it then and ask for it now.

When President Roosevelt had so persistently refused to enforce the Neutrality Act against Japan when public opinion definitely demanded it, why did he so suddenly change his policy at the Atlantic Conference?

A year ago, one of my congressional colleagues, having observed for months the adroitness with which President Roosevelt had brought us ever closer to the brink of war in the Atlantic only to be continually frustrated in the final step by a reluctant Congress, seeing fate present the President on December 7, 1941, with a magnificent moral categorical, right out of the blue—a casus belli beyond all criticism—exclaimed in despair: "What luck that man has!"

But was it luck?

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1948

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DATE 9/2/81 BY SP5 [illegible]

ENCLOSURE

62-43818-444

(Not printed at Government expense)

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 77th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Some Questions About Pearl Harbor

REMARKS

OF

HON. JEANNETTE RANKIN

ists? His book, Propaganda in the Next War, published in London in 1938 as one of a series of books on The Next War edited by the well-known writer, Capt. Liddell Hart, was banned from export to America by the British censorship in 1939. A copy had been secured earlier by [illegible]

friend of the President—make the following significant revelation:

When they—

President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill—

met in a Newfoundland bight for the Atlantic

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 1942

Miss RANKIN of Montana. Mr. Speaker, we have been at war a year. During that time the American people have had abundant opportunity to take stock of the Nation's situation and to raise a large number of pertinent questions, not out of any spirit of disunity but in a firm belief that the Nation's welfare requires a vigilant exercise of the traditional American right of free inquiry.

As a Member of Congress who voted against the declaration of war on December 8, 1941, I wish to take advantage of this anniversary occasion to insert into the RECORD a number of historically significant documents bearing upon the hitherto obscure antecedents of the Pearl Harbor attack and to raise a few questions of my own as to the meaning of certain activities which led up to that attack.

Pearl Harbor was the greatest thunderbolt in American history. It is proper to inquire, indeed, whether any responsible American source foresaw the Japanese attack. In this regard I wish to present the following remarkable statement, amounting to a prediction, from the Christian Century magazine of November 19, 1941—3 weeks prior to the Japanese attack—page 1433:

> It is no secret that the whole colonial structure of the white empires is threatening to fall apart unless we intervene in Asia. Many British leaders would welcome American involvement with Japan. * * * So the thesis of Sidney Rogerson's pre-war book Propaganda in the Next War—that the surest way Britain can bring the United States to her aid will be to involve us in war with Japan—is being validated by events.

"Show me the motive, and I'll show you the criminal," was a favorite saying of Sherlock Holmes. Here we have an apparently well-defined motive and also a suggestion as to the intended method of realization.

What does Mr. Rogerson, who is an English author, have to say specifically about the plans of the British imperialists? Mr. Rogerson's book, incidentally, is in the Library of Congress, however, and now reposes in the rare-book room. On page 148 Mr. Rogerson makes this admission as to the plans of the British imperialists:

> To persuade her—
>
> The United States—
>
> to take our part will be much more difficult—
>
> Than in 1914—
>
> so difficult as to be unlikely to succeed. It will need a definite threat to America; a threat, moreover, which will have to be brought home by propaganda to every citizen, before the Republic will again take arms in an external quarrel. The position will naturally be considerably eased if Japan were involved and this might and probably would bring America in without further ado. At any rate, it would be a natural and obvious object of our propagandists to achieve this, just as during the Great War they succeeded in embroiling the United States with Germany.

In other words, 3 years before Pearl Harbor, Britain's imperialists had figured out just how to bring the United States once more to their aid.

But exactly how was Japan to be embroiled with the United States? There is no better way of goading a nation into war than by imposing economic sanctions, especially in the case of nations devoid of essential raw materials. Indeed, at the very time Mr. Rogerson was writing his revealing book, the phrase "economic sanctions mean war"—an echo from the League of Nations' threat to Italy in 1937—was still on everybody's lips. If Britain were merely to induce the United States to sever commercial relations with Japan, who was extremely dependent upon imports of raw materials in exchange for silk and manufactures for the continuance of her economic life, would not that suffice?

Is there any evidence of any specific occasion on which the British Government sold this policy of economic sanctions against Japan to the Roosevelt administration? In the Ladies Home Journal of July 1942, page 17, in an article entitled "How War Came," Forrest Davis and Ernest K. Lindley—an intimate [illegible] issue head-on. He asked the President—as the British, Australians, and Dutch repeatedly had besought this Government before—to join in an ultimative declaration to Japan.

Now, an ultimatum is a demand accompanied by a threat. It sets up a dilemma: "Do so and so—or else." In this case the punitive alternative to be offered to Japan was to consist, as we shall see, of an economic blockade—in other words, sanctions—an admitted provocation to war.

But of what demand was the ultimatum itself—the first horn of the dilemma to be offered to Japan—to consist? And what evidence do we have that President Roosevelt actually accepted Mr. Churchill's Atlantic conference request that such an ultimatum be sent?

There seems to be excellent evidence that such an ultimatum was sent by President Roosevelt. No less an apologist for the administration's foreign policy than Mr. Henry Luce, editor of Time, Life, and Fortune, has admitted both that President Roosevelt served such an ultimatum on Japan, and that it was the sending of this ultimatum which resulted in the Pearl Harbor attack. Mr. Luce alleges that the ultimatum was sent out of America's love for China, but inasmuch as it was sent at Mr. Churchill's instigation at a time when Britain desperately needed an ally in Europe as well as in the Orient and not at the beginning of the Sino-Japanese war, during which indeed we continually sent to Japan both oil and scrap iron, may not the American public wonder whether it was the interests of the British Empire in the Orient which were primarily at stake? Here is Mr. Luce's historic admission, as found in Life magazine for July 20, 1942, page 30:

> The Chinese, for whom the United States had delivered the ultimatum that brought on Pearl Harbor—
>
> Expected large lend-lease shipments, and so forth.

Just what was the wording of the ultimatum, then, since its existence is admitted?

requirement made on September 3, 1941, that Japan accept the principle of "nondisturbance of the status quo in the Pacific" as detailed in the Department of State Bulletin of December 20, 1941, page 538, apparently constituted the gist of the Roosevelt administration's demands.

This requirement was the equivalent to asking Japan to guarantee the inviolateness of the white empires in the Orient, of which the British Empire comprised approximately 90 percent in both area and population. The American people would have been gratified had President Roosevelt demanded assurance that Japan respect the territorial integrity of the Philippines, to whom we had agreed to grant independence in 1946, but the American public may well wonder where President Roosevelt got the authority to conduct our foreign affairs "as if Congress did not exist"—to quote one of my colleagues—and to commit American lives, fortunes, and prestige to securing a guaranty for British and Dutch imperial interests in the Orient—irrespective of the merits of those interests.

Later, more specific guaranties were demanded of Japan as to China, Indo-China, and so forth.

Concurrently, Japan was presented with the other horn of the dilemma hatched at the Atlantic conference; namely, economic sanctions of ever-increasing severity.

What is the evidence that the Roosevelt administration, which had frozen Japanese assets in this country as early as July 25, 1941, rapidly accelerated its economic strangulation of Japan following the Atlantic conference?

To secure an accurate statistical answer, I applied to both the Department of State and the Department of Commerce, asking for month-by-month figures on American exports to Japan in 1941. To my surprise, I received from both Departments an identical response: "Because of a special Executive order, statistics on trade with Japan beginning with April 1941 are not being given out."

Inasmuch as the Japanese certainly know what they received in the way of goods from the United States throughout

In other words, in less than a week after the Atlantic Conference the machinery of economic sanctions was getting under way.

Six weeks later the economic stringency in Japan had become acute, as we read in the New York Times of October 24, 1941, page 36:

> Japan's raw-material shortage has been sharply aggravated and her industrial activity seriously disrupted by the cessation of her trade with important foreign countries, the Department of Commerce reported today.
>
> Ship movements and trade between Japan and the United States, the British Empire, and the Netherlands Indies, it is pointed out, have become virtually nonexistent.

By December 2, 1941—5 days before Pearl Harbor—we read in the New York Times of that date, page 6:

> Japan has been cut off from about 75 percent of her normal imports as a result of the Allied blockade, the National Industrial Conference Board reported yesterday. In an analysis entitled "The Effects of the Allied Economic Blockade on Japan," the Board asserted that despite the drastic restrictions imposed by that Government to stretch out available supplies, the blockade may ultimately prove disastrous. * * *
>
> "Premier Hideki Tojo of Japan dispatched the Kurusu mission to Washington because Japan today is on the verge of economic collapse * * *," Contemporary China, fortnightly digest of the Chinese News Service, Inc., stated yesterday.

A week before the attack on Pearl Harbor I asked a prominent non-Japanese oriental:

> Is the situation in the Pacific as serious as it appears?
>
> Yes—

He replied—

> it is serious. Japan has no choice but to go to war or to submit to economic slavery for the rest of her existence.

The question remains, Did President Roosevelt realize that "economic sanctions mean war" at the time he appears to have adopted Mr. Churchill's suggestion to impose them as the punitive alternative for his ultimatum to Japan?

It is hard to see how he could have failed to realize this, inasmuch as he himself had made the following statement to the Volunteer Participation used against our own troops, after the Atlantic Conference when an incident with Japan seems to have been desired, suddenly changed his policy and not only cut off war supplies but virtually everything required by the civilian population of Japan as well?

As a member of the President's own party, Congressman HATTON W. SUMNERS, of Texas, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, remarked in a letter to the Saturday Evening Post, published in that periodical on April 4, 1942, page 26:

> We have been a very foolish people, which has made it possible for * * * politicians to get away with murder. This blaming the Pearl Harbor tragedy on the treachery of the Japs is like the fellow who had been tickling the hind leg of a mule trying to explain his bunged-up condition by blaming the mule for having violated his confidence.

Astounding as the Pearl Harbor attack was to the American public as a whole, if it was anticipated by the administration why did the President permit our forces at Pearl Harbor to be taken by surprise? Even if a Japanese attack was desired, certainly no one desired a successful attack.

The answer seems to be that everything possible was done to warn our forces at Pearl Harbor of the extreme likelihood of attack. According to the report of the Roberts commission on the facts of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Admiral Kimmel and Lieutenant General Short, who were in charge of the Hawaiian area, were sent repeated warnings by the War and Navy Departments.

Thus we read in the text of the Roberts report, as given in Senate Document No. 159, pages 6–9, and also in the New York Times of January 25, 1942, page 30, that—

> On October 16, 1941, the commanding general, Hawaiian department, and the commander in chief of the fleet were advised by the War and Navy Departments of * * * the possibility of an attack by Japan.

Another warning was sent on November 24, 1941.

The Roberts report continues:

> On November 27, 1941, the Chief of Staff of the Army informed the commanding general, Hawaiian department, that * * *

FROM

DO-7

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

Mr. Tolson	( )
Mr. E. A. Tamm	( )
Mr. Clegg	( )
Mr. Coffey	( )
Mr. Glavin	( )
Mr. Ladd	( )
Mr. Nichols	( )
Mr. Rosen	( )
Mr. Tracy	( )
Mr. Carson	( )
Mr. Hendon	( )
Mr. Jones	( )
Mr. Mohr	( )
Mr. Mumford	( )
Mr. Quinn Tamm	( )
Mr. Nease	( )
Miss Gandy	( )
	( )
See Me	( )
Note and Return	( )

Remarks:

Send complete memo on whole situation to Gen. Watson. Point out in cover letter we are not taking any action as we thought it best to call to President's attention first.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 9/2/81 BY SP3 DB/Kk

Letter Watson 3/20/44

(5)

ENCLOSURE

62-43418-444

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum · UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

EAT:DS

DATE: March 9, 1944

TO : THE DIRECTOR

FROM : Edw. A. Tamm

SUBJECT :

file at

Please note the attached memorandum relating to an apparent attempt to finance a program designed to expose certain telegrams exchanged between Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill which are allegedly critical of the Soviet, etc.

There would appear to be two courses of action that might be taken in this situation, the first being to refer the matter to Harry Hopkins or General Watson for the confidential information of the President. Secondly, since the Tyler Kent case involved a State Department employee, we might write Mr. Stettinius a comprehensive letter about the situation, and in the meanwhile maintain contact with possible sources of information so that we will be in a position to furnish such further data as are received.

Respectfully,

Edw. A. Tamm

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/6/92 BY

RECORDED 62-43818-4 F B I

32 MAR 28 1944

53 APR 3 1944

[redacted]

48654

March 13, 1944

The Federal Bureau
of Investigation
Official Business
Washington, D.C.
Personal: Mr. J.E.H.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8857/MC

Dear Mr. Hoover:

This is to certify that a dangerous character is at large in this country, and is soon to make his appearance in this city. He is Gerald L.K. Smith---Facist-minded personification of Adolf Hitler.

The citizens here are profoundly indignant because it appears that legal technicalititpes will prevent us from having the City Fathers cancel his speech and appearance on the 25th. of this month. In order to get results, we realize that ample justification for such an accusation and subsequent action---necessitates justification, on the grounds of proof and a suspicious record.

Contact [redacted] She, like myself and other suspense-ridden citizens, are on a committee at large---for the one purpose of combatting Gerald L.K. Smith and all he stands for.

It was my pleasure to sit in on a meeting called for the purpose of considering concrete steps to prevent the aforesaid Hitlerite from gaining influence in St. Louis and vicinity through his Nazi propoganda. He is a threat to society and a meance to Democracy. This if nothing else, warrants ample ground for counter-action against him. His followers operate through clandestine meetings; they dare not show themselves in open.

Perhaps it would be well for you to correspond with Mayor Kaufman of this city. We have planned to have him make a personal appearance at our last meeting prior to the 25th. Hoping to see concrete results, and thanking you in advance, on behalf of the American Youth for Democracy, I close:

Cordially

[redacted]

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Ack Rec 3/21
memo to clerks
3/21/44

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62-43818

48652

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

RE: 62-43712-446

Reference is made to our previous correspondence in the above-entitled matter.

As a matter of information there is attached hereto a copy of a letter addressed to the Bureau by [redacted] of [redacted], under date of March 13, 1944. You will note that this letter concerns Smith's recent activities in Saint Louis and to some extent a meeting Smith proposes to sponsor at Saint Louis on March 25, 1944.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/3/82 BY SP-1 [illegible]

MAR 24 7 00 PM '44
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FBI
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 10
MAR 25 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Candy

APR 15

48653

JPHa:WMJ

March 23, 1944

[redacted] b2

Dear Sir:

RECORDED 63-43818-446

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated March 13, 1944.

You may be assured that the information furnished by you has been given careful consideration.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP3 [illegible]

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Nease
Tracy
Mohr
Carson
Hurley
Harbo
Walters
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 9
MAR 25 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAR 24 1944

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

JFB:TD
9:15 AM
9:18 AM

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
March 24, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith;
Sedition

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

At this time Mr. Buckley received a call from SAC G. B. Norris, St. Louis, regarding the captioned case and pointing out that the subject was due in St. Louis for another stay. He referred to recent conversations between SA Pieper and Supervisor Hanratty relative to the use of the hearing aid known as "Aurex". The contemplated use is in a hotel room next to the one occupied by Smith. This has been utilized before. Mr. Norris stated that arrangements were such that no possible embarrassment could occur to the Bureau and, accordingly, on this basis authorization was granted for the use of the "Aurex". [redacted] b7c

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch

F. L. Welch

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/MCW

RECORDED

162-4-312-44
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MAR 29 1944

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JPHa:WMJ
~~100-3-15-386~~
62-43818
3-27-44

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your information there are attached photostatic copies of leaflets headed, "Gerald L. K. Smith Stands Branded as a Traitor," and "The Spirit of St. Louis." The originals of these leaflets were recently furnished to the Bureau by an anonymous source, and as you will note, both leaflets pertain to Smith's recent appearances in St. Louis in connection with his America First Party.

Enclosure

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DATE 10/7/82 BY SP8BTJ/MCG

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COPY
ON ORIGINAL

RECORDED 62-43818-448

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 30 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Nelson
D. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Harbo
Mendenhall
Mumford
Tarbo
Quinn Tamm
Gurnea
Gandy

APR 11 1944

ORIGINAL FILE IN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE NO. 100-7744

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Chicago	3/16/44	2/20/44	[redacted]:ELM

b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt, THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: America First Party meeting held Fine Arts Building Chicago, February 20, 1944. About 500 in attendance. Speech made by GERALD L. K. SMITH condemning Jews for opposing him and President Roosevelt for his foreign policies. SMITH stated President was a dictator and would try to prevent an election in November, 1944. SMITH accused vice-president WALLACE and Justice FRANKFURTER as being supporters of STALIN. Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, guest speaker, criticized President for not following Washington's Farewell Address and criticized the Government for not sending support to Gen. Mac Arthur.

RUC

REFERENCE: Detroit letter to Chicago of February 16, 1944.

DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:

This investigation is predicated upon a Detroit letter to Chicago dated February 16, 1944, requesting information to be obtained concerning the meeting of the America First Party February 20, 1944 in Chicago, at which meeting GERALD L. K. SMITH was to speak.

A meeting of the America First Party was held at Curtiss Hall, Fine Arts Building, 410 South Michigan Avenue, February 20, 1944 at 8 p.m., which meeting was concluded at 10:25 p.m. This meeting was attended by reporting agent. Attendance at this meeting was by invitation only. There were approximately 500 people in attendance, many of whom were unable to obtain seats and stood through the entire meeting. At 8:20 p.m. the doors of Curtiss Hall were closed, in order to prevent additional

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: S. J. Drayton

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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62-45818-449

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3-Detroit
2-Chicago

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MAR 20 1944

c.c. Clerk 3/27/44

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people from attending inasmuch as the hall was very much over-crowded. The persons who attended this meeting seemed to be elderly, middle class, working people. Over half of the audience was composed of women. GERALD L. K. SMITH was in charge of the meeting and had as his guest speaker Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN. SMITH in his opening statements stated he knew representatives of Jewish organizations and bureaus of the government were present to hear what went on. He said that the government was trying to get something on him to stop him from making talks about the New Deal, but that some of these bureaus would be dissolved; that the Jews had freedom of speech, but did not want him to have freedom of speech. SMITH stated that all he asked of the Jews was that they leave him alone, and he would leave them alone and stop making derogatory statements concerning them. SMITH stated that the President and his family designed to be dictators; that President Roosevelt was the greatest dictator that ever lived; that he was greater than Alexander, Nero, Cicero, Napoleon, or Hitler. SMITH stated that only persons like Colonel ROBERT MC CORMICK, Senators WHEELER and NYE, Father COUGHLIN, and about ten others in the United States, prevented the President from asserting his dictatorial powers. SMITH stated that he did not have freedom of speech; that if he and about ten other people in the United States had freedom of speech, and were allowed to talk on the radio as they desired, they would tell the public of the United States the truth and they would not stand for the acts of the President. SMITH stated that President Roosevelt and others were trying to delay the election in November, 1944, until November 1945; that even Republican Congressmen desired that the election be delayed inasmuch as they would have one additional year in Congress and would not stand a chance of losing the election in November. SMITH stated that the President does not want the soldiers to vote; that he is using his dictatorial powers to prevent the soldiers of the United States from voting.

SMITH stated that the President did not want to be talked about and may have made statements that the President should not be talked about in war time, but that if the President desired to violate the unwritten law of the United States by becoming a president for a third term and attempting to become a president for a fourth term, he must expect to be criticized. SMITH stated that the people had to get rid of the internationalists and have America first, and if Churchill was president of the United States, he would put America first, and he would by this time have most of the British islands off the coast of the United States under the flag of the United States. SMITH stated that the British desired the President to become president for a fourth term; that they were putting forth much effort in order to have the President elected for another term. The British wanted this because they were getting everything they desired from the United States and were giving nothing in return.

SMITH stated that STALIN did not want an international Communist party and that he was no longer interested in spending the money of Russia to have a Communist party in the United States as it was no longer necessary as STALIN had his support in vice-president HENRY WALLACE and Associate Justice FRANKFURTER.

SMITH stated that WALLACE made a statement in his speech that upon the conclusion of the war, the United States did not have to adopt the Russian form of government in its entirety, but that the United States must adopt some of the Russian policies. SMITH stated that he sent WALLACE a telegram challenging him to a debate on the subject as to whether or not the United States should adopt Russian policies.

SMITH stated that the America First party would support the Republican party if the Republican party did not run WILLKE as a candidate for president. SMITH stated that the America First party could not support WILLKE as he was an internationalist and desired one world.

SMITH stated that he did not like to talk about Jews but that the Jews would not leave him alone; that they tried to prevent his speeches and attempted to degrade him in the eyes of the public. SMITH stated that he rented a hall in Milwaukee but that a Jew held the mortgage on this hall and advised the owner of the hall that if the owner allowed him to speak, he would foreclose and cause the owner to lose the hall. SMITH stated that recently he made a speech in St. Louis, Missouri; that the American Legion in St. Louis attempted to get the mayor of that city to prevent him from speaking in the municipal auditorium. SMITH stated that other American Legionnaires, who were not Jewish had been prevailed upon by the Jewish people to prevent him from speaking in the municipal auditoriums in other cities. SMITH stated that if a rabbi came to Detroit and was unable to obtain a hall, he would not prevent him from obtaining this hall, and if the rabbi requested help to obtain the hall, he would help him.

SMITH also condemned WALTER (LIPSCHULTZ) WINCHELL as being a gossiper, and one who was attempting to spread scandal in the United States.

SMITH, during his speech, praised Colonel Lindbergh and stated that Lindberg spoke the truth; that whoever spoke the truth in the United States was branded a fascist by the Jews; that Lindbergh was branded a fascist by the Jews, and over-night lost his popularity among the people of the United States. SMITH stated that President Roosevelt forced the United States into war by means of his warlike acts while we were supposed to be neutral and at peace. SMITH stated that Churchill made the statement that he worked hard to get the United States into the war on the side of Britain, and that he succeeded in doing so; he stated that the internationalists in the United States wanted to help some countries after this war; that he was very sorry for the destitute countries but that he thought the people of the United States should help the more unfortunate persons in the United States and help the soldiers returning to the United States before they helped any destitute people in foreign countries.

SMITH stated that the Jews and other internationalists in the United States were against the America First party because the party was against the New Deal and against the war, which was wanted by the Jews and the Communists.

SMITH stated that since the United States was in the war, everyone in the United States must do all in their power to fight until victory is won.

SMITH made the statement that he had a son who was in the armed forces in India fighting for the United States and that his son would probably give his life for the United States.

SMITH stated that J. EDWARD JONES, former member of the Federal Oil Conservation Board in the Department of the Interior, was discharged by Secretary ICKES and later indicted; that MYLES LASKER, business manager for Eleanor Roosevelt, offered to introduce JONES to STEPHEN EARLY for $25,000, and that the indictment against JONES was to be withdrawn if JONES would pay LASKER additional money at a future date. Later another person for a similar amount of money, told JONES that he had been framed and that he could have the indictment against him withdrawn if that money was paid. SMITH stated that this was an example of the operation of the New Deal.

SMITH introduced Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN as the wife of the late senator, ERNEST LUNDEEN, an isolationist who died in an airplane explosion in a very mysterious way, which explosion has never been explained and at the time of the explosion, Senator LUNDEEN was on his way to Minneapolis to head an America First meeting. Mrs. LUNDEEN's contribution consisted mostly of reading Washington's Farewell Address and reading newspaper articles. Mrs. LUNDEEN stated that Washington warned the people of the United States not to get into foreign entanglements, but that the New Deal considered his address as ancient history which no longer applied to this country. Mrs. LUNDEEN condemned Prime Minister Churchill's statement that Roosevelt must be elected again. Mrs. LUNDEEN stated that the President as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States should not be interested in the soldier vote bill; that he should only be interested in getting supplies to the soldiers. Mrs. LUNDEEN stated that there are approximately 580,000 refugees in the United States who are taking jobs from the Americans and who would take jobs from the soldiers who were fighting to preserve the United States after their return to this country; that these refugees should be sent back to fight the persons they called their enemies. Mrs. LUNDEEN stated that General Mac Arthur was being kept from the eyes of the public, that he was not getting supplies, and supplies were being sent to Russia that could help Mac Arthur win the war. This statement was supported by a newspaper article which set forth statistics on war materials which were sent to the British and Russians prior to the United States' entry into war and also statistics on war material which was sent to Mac Arthur prior to Pearl Harbor. All statements made by Mrs. LUNDEEN during her speech were supported by newspaper articles which she quoted. Mrs. LUNDEEN praised the Chicago Tribune as being one of the finest American newspapers in the United States.

A collection was taken by SMITH during the course of the meeting, at which time he stated that he did not have an "angel" to support him; that the people were his angels who donated at these meetings. The reporting agent also noted that approximately $25 was given by the ten people sitting in his row. SMITH stated that if a dollar more was contributed by any person

there, he would receive a copy of his publication "The Cross and the Flag." If they did not desire this magazine, they could make a notation on their contribution envelope and they would receive a copy of the piece of literature entitled "And so they Indicted Me".

It was noted that most of the people at this meeting seemed to know each other; that they seemed to be very much in accord with SMITH's principles and made statements during the course of the meeting which would indicate they were ardent followers of SMITH.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

JPHa:WMJ
62-43818
3-27-44

48647

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

RECORDED 62-43817-449

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information in your consideration of this case, there is attached hereto a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Chicago, Illinois, on March 16, 1944.

b2c

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mh

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
☆ MAR 29 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAR 29 1 56 PM '44
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FBI-DOJ

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

4 APR 4 1944

JPHar:WMJ

18651

March 22, 1944

SAC, Detroit

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was; AMERICA FIRST PARTY; SECURITY MATTER; INTERNAL SECURITY - C; SEDITION.

Reference is made to the Bureau's letter of February 21, 1944, referring to your letter of February 8, 1944, and pointing out that the enclosure designated as having accompanied your letter was not in fact received at the Bureau.

Pursuant to the request set forth in reference letter, please immediately furnish copies of this enclosure and indicate whether, as it would appear, the enclosure was omitted through inadvertence.

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DATE 10/7/82 BY SP1 [illegible]

RECORDED 62-43481-450

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 24 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 10
MAR 23 1944 P.M.

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MAR 22 4 22 PM

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-5778

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
PITTSBURGH, PA.	3-20-44	3-1-44	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was; THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Meeting of America First Party under direction of GERALD SMITH held 3-1-44 at Carnegie Lecture Hall, N.S., Pittsburgh, Pa.; attended by some 700 people. Speaker of the evening DEAN E. SMITH, topic "Imperialism As I Know It". GERALD SMITH denounced the President and his family, WENDELL WILLKIE and HENRY WALLACE. CHARLES A. MADDEN and MARIE I. LOHLE were on platform.

- RUC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8255/mlm

REFERENCE: Detroit letter to Pittsburgh, 2-16-44.

DETAILS: AT PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA.

The meeting of the America First Party which was held under the direction of GERALD SMITH on March 1, 1944, at the Carnegie Lecture Hall, North Side, Pittsburgh, Pa., was attended by some 700 people. This meeting was attended by Special Agent [redacted] and the writer. b7c Present on the platform were CHARLES A. MADDEN and MARIE I. LOHLE.

GERALD SMITH opened the meeting by "knocking" the New Deal, the President and his family, WENDELL WILLKIE and HENRY WALLACE. He criticized the third and possible fourth term. He stated that if we had a man in office like Washington, Jefferson or Madison, we would not have a man in office for 12 or 16 years. Mr. GERALD SMITH mentioned that he had helped to educate five children. He has a son overseas in service who is a Private, although he had attended officers' training school. All of the boys who were in his class are now officers. GERALD SMITH said, "It would

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cc clerk 3/30/44

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not do to have a son of GERALD SMITH an officer in the United States Army". He mentioned that there was a movement on foot to eliminate the national election for this year covering the President and Congress, and that if the national election were eliminated, our republic would be gone. He stated that he had been checked by every federal agency including the FBI and given a good going over and that he was still around. He claimed that a Washington correspondent stated that he, SMITH, has become a political influence and responsible for many changes in the Congressional seats in the last election. This, SMITH said, would indicate that they were on the road to victory, and now is the time to continue their efforts. He said that foreign leaders always think of their country first - Stalin thinks of Russia first - Churchill thinks of England first - then why not the American people for America first. Before the collection was taken up SMITH stated that their response would determine whether or not he was to continue his work.

The speaker of the evening, DEAN E. SMITH, was introduced by GERALD SMITH as now being retired after having spent 27 years in the east as a representative of the Standard Oil Company. The Subject was "Imperialism As I Know It". The trend of his talk was neglect in not using the facilities in the far east as they existed and the incompetency of those in authority.

DEAN E. SMITH said, "England does not hate Japan. Both have imperialistic tendencies and both want a weak post-war China. China is the best ally and friend the United States has. It is not seeking territorial conquest. At the outbreak of the war in the east there were too many little men in big positions. As a result, there was entirely too much red tape to the actual defense of Burma and Malaya. The Standard Oil Company had large quantities of gas, oil and trucks which they desired to turn over to the Chinese, but due to the red tape involved, this property had been destroyed before it could be turned over to the Chinese. The Standard Oil Company had utilized the 30-inch pony roads in China and transported large quantities of supplies. However, these roads were not made use of.

"As a result of not making the best of existing conditions, there was an unnecessary loss of life and property. England had lost 5 big ships less than one hour's flying time from where land-based planes were located and supplies of bombs, etc., were on hand.

"As to the Lease-Lend Program, China was getting only one-half of one per cent, whereas she was actually opposing thirty per cent of the Japanese forces. Japan regards America with hatred because the United States had supplied her with scrap and oil. The United States had actually helped her prepare for war."

DEAN E. SMITH ended his talk by telling of the hardships and travel through the east and his return to the United States.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JPHa:WMJ
62-43818
3-30-44

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark
62-43818-457
J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your further information in your consideration of this case, there is attached a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on March 20, 1944.

b2c

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/7/82 BY SP9 [illegible]

DEPT OF JUSTICE
FBI
RECEIVED-MAIL ROOM
MAR 31 4 30 PM '44

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
MAR 31 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

APR 5 1944

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b1 with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

_____

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☐ For your information: _____

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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-452

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FBI/DOJ

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice
Post Office Box 2118
Detroit 31, Michigan
March 25, 1944

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was; AMERICA FIRST PARTY:
SECURITY MATTER: INTERNAL SECURITY - G: SEDITION.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated March 22, 1944 requesting that enclosure previously designated for the Bureau referring to an article prepared by Subject SMITH concerning the Austin-Wadsworth Bill be forwarded to the Bureau.

This enclosure was apparently, through inadvertence not forwarded at the time of reference letter of February 8, 1944 and is being submitted herewith.

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DATE 10/7/82 BY SA [illegible]

[redacted] Enclosure

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN
Special Agent in Charge

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818 F B I
36 MAR 29 1944
4 APR 1 1944

TESTIMONY OF GERALD L. K. SMITH PRESENTED TO THE MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE IN OPPOSITION TO SENATE BILL NO. 666, COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE AUSTIN-WADSWORTH BILL.

February 5, 1944

The Military Affairs Committee of the United States Senate
U. S. Senator Robert R. Reynolds, Chairman

Gentlemen:

I appear before you as an official representative of the following groups and organizations:

1. THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000, which has more than 3,000,000 enrolled constituents in the 48 States. More than half of these constituents are located in Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania and upstate New York.

2. THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY, which has Committees, Organizers, and active workers in each of the 48 States.

This statement not only represents my personal opinion, but has been approved in leadership rallies which we have conducted in all the major centers of population, including Pittsburgh, Buffalo, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Louis, and Denver. In each of these meetings we brought together typical leaders of the AMERICA FIRST MOVEMENT from surrounding cities and communities. It is our conviction that these people represent literally millions of our patriotic citizenry.

Our people are willing to pay any price and make any sacrifice necessary to a military victory. Our sons and daughters are in the armed services, and our people, though frequently victims of persecution and unfavorable publicity, have not only sacrificed during this war, but in most instances have sacrificed and given in blood and money more than their accusers. In fact, a survey will reveal that the centers of population where we are the strongest have actually led in bond sales, volunteer enlistments, and those other manifestations of patriotism required to win this war.

My own son, Gerald Smith, Jr., is serving in some foreign theater of war. He left America, October 31, and we have no knowledge of his whereabouts.

Our organization is now emphasizing the following seven basic issues:

1. America must be put first in war and peace.
2. There must be no compromise with our national sovereignty.
3. [illegible]al bureaucratic fascism.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP. 8070/MC

62-43818-453
ENCLOSURE

4. Fight New Deal communism.
5. Less money for foreign countries and more for discharged soldiers.
6. No labor draft.
7. Restoration of the system of private enterprise.

(Note: These seven issues are developed in the January issue of the magazine, THE CROSS AND THE FLAG, of which I am the Editor. We have paid-up subscribers in every state of the Union.)

The importance of our activities is emphasized in a recent article by Mr. Ray Tucker, the eminent Washington columnist, who on November 1t said in his column, entitled "Washington Whirligig," the following:

> "Gerald L. K. Smith, aide to the late Huey Long, has become a far more important political factor than most people realize. A flamboyant orator, he has been campaigning throughout the country against the New Deal. He was largely responsible for the anti-Roosevelt landslide in many sections on Nov. 2."

Reasons for Opposing Senate Bill No. 666

We Nationalists oppose President Roosevelt's plan for a National Service Act for many reasons, among which are the following:

1. We oppose the drafting of women.

   I receive thousands of letters from our leaders all over the United States. They shudder at the thought of women being drafted. Millions of housewives have never worked outside their own homes. They live a cloistered life. Millions of young women are reared under the gentle influence of Christian homes in the country and in the city. They never have occasion to to contact individuals who are profane, vulgar and coarse.

   They graduate from these Christian homes into wifehood and motherhood. They virtually live and die in the environment of innocence.

   Millions of other women who grow up in a more or less sophisticated environment are protected by a careful selection of their associates and their places of work. They are met following their working hours by sweethearts, husbands, or parents. They never think of attending public functions where strangers are likely to be present, except in the company of a chaperon, a boyfriend, or a parent.

These millions of wholesome, clean, Christian young women constitute the foundation on which the home life of tomorrow must be built. If they are conscripted by a National Service Act out of their well-guarded environment into a world of profanity, crude conversation, vulgar talk; if they are forced by their government to associate with people who use the language of the underworld and scoff at the things which are fine and noble, our nation will pay the price for such an error in the generations yet unborn.

Our people still believe that there is such a thing as the innocence and purity of womanhood. True enough, such has been done by propaganda and filthy films to besmirch this priceless heritage; but in spite of these satanic influences, we still have millions of clean, wholesome, innocent young women.

I would not say that contact with rougher elements destroys the purity of womanhood, but it does subject her to contacts and vocabularies designed to tear down rather than build up the gentle intangible qualities so necessary to pure and undefiled womanhood and motherhood.

2. <u>We question the integrity of certain politicians in power</u>.

Our people are very suspicious of certain powerful personalities in Washington. They believe that even the President himself is a politician first, an internationalist second, and an American third. We believe that when the President asked for a National Service Act in his address on the welfare of the Nation before Congress in January, 1944, that the whole speech was saturated with politics in its lowest and most obvious form.

Our people do not trust Harry Hopkins. They might consent to a limited form of national compulsory service if they thought that the enforcement of this act was to be in the hands of professional soldiers such as MacArthur and Marshall, and men of similar stand in the Navy. But our people do not have the impression that these men would enforce a National Service Act. They have the impression that it would be enforced under the direction of Harry Hopkins, Frank Knox, and the so-called 'palace guard.'

Our people cannot forget that it was Harry Hopkins, while directing relief expenditures and WPA enterprises, who permitted these government bureaus to be used and exploited ruthlessly by the New Deal political machine. Our people have the impression that under a so-called National Service Act during an election year, men and women would be compelled to play politics in order to avoid being transferred against their will from one job to another, or from one community to another.

3. Ruthless politicians might exploit this act for the purpose of of shifting populations.

My observation of the conduct of this Administration convinces me that there is nothing too brazen for them to do in order to remain in power. There are many Congressional Districts in the United States where the shift of 500 voters in or out of a District would change the results of a Congressional election. Five hundred New Dealers could be conscripted into a community and 500 anti-New Dealers could be conscripted out of a community in such a way as to elect a Congressman satisfactory to the Fourth Term machine. The same trick could be employed in the choice of Presidential electors. The shift of 1,000,000 negroes and whites out of the solid South into certain Northern industrial communities might easily determine who would be the next President of the United States. I must confess that I believe there are certain politicians in Washington whose Machiavellian nature is equal to any diabolical trick necessary to exploit a National Service Act politically.

4. Would menace home life.

I find among my people an attitude which almost approaches panic at the thought of husbands and wives being separated. For a politicalized Administration, such as we now have in Washington especially, to be given the power to separate a husband from his wife constitutes a menace beyond description. We, of course, assume that military conscription will do this to a limited degree, but the thought of it being practiced on a nation-wide scale is too impossible to imagine.

The moral fibre of many men depends largely on the refining influences of their wives. Even the man will admit that to be separated from his wife for a period of weeks constitutes a hazard to the tranquility of his home life.

This need not be developed. The facts are obvious. Many women live and die good wives because of the balancing influences of a steady, logically-minded husband. Without the daily association of a husband, many of these women would face decisions which would be unwisely made. There would be no end to the complications. Any separation of husbands from wives necessary to win this war must be limited to the demands of the armed services. The way to build the America of tomorrow is not to break up the homes of today, especially when such men as Harry Hopkins would be in charge of the breaking-up process.

5. A universal draft of citizens would not increase production.

I live in Detroit. Detroit is recognized as the national capital of this World War arsenal. Of course, certain things have happened in Detroit to the discredit of organized labor, government agencies and organized business. It is agreed that mistakes have been made. At times labor has been accorded liberty that has bordered on license.

Even so, 95% of the workers in Detroit are good, sound, honest American citizens, and they have produced more materials of war than any community on earth in any similar period of the Nation's history. There are, of course, some isolated instances in this city and other industrial centers where labor as well as management has been unfair, but we must not penalize the whole Nation for the sake of a few outlaws.

President Roosevelt's request for a National Service Act (universal conscription of citizens) does not sound convincing in the light of the facts concerning production of war materials. Our system of free enterprise and of free labor cannot be discredited when we recognize the fact that we are now virtually producing as much as all the other warring nations combined. Most of them have slave labor and conscripted labor. Furthermore, if we must have slavery in order to win a war, what have we won when we win it?

6. A survey of religious denominations will reveal that a National Service Act would run counter to the teachings of most churches.

It is a matter of record that numerous dignitaries in the Catholic Church have expressed great apprehension concerning the possibility of a universal conscription of citizens. One Bishop even announced his opposition to all female branches of the armed services, and advised his parishioners and constituents that the place for a young woman was not in the Army but in the home.

Before preparing this Testimony, I contacted the Pastor of the largest Baptist Church in a Western state. He is the chairman of a special committee representing some 3000 Protestant preachers. He told me that he did not know of a single preacher within his circle of acquaintance who was not bitterly opposed to the Austin-Wadsworth Bill.

This preacher pointed out that he was very much impressed by the fact that the number of this Bill was "666," and then he quoted for me the three last verses in the 13th Chapter of the Book of Revelation (the last book in the Bible). These verses read as

follows:

Verse 16: And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

Verse 17: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

Verse 18: Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.

7. Smacks of the Russian system.

Recently I conferred with a husband and wife who had been in Russia. He had been an important engineer in connection with the construction work in the Donets Basin, Kharkov and Leningrad. These people, when they returned from Russia shortly before the war, were shocked and surprised to see how many of the Russian ideas had been embraced by our Washington bureaucracy. They were especially shocked at the thought of a National Service Act. Said they: "If the Austin-Wadsworth Bill passes, Russia won't have anything on us."

Why, gentlemen, is it that our government has lost confidence in the American citizenry? Why are we compelled to support this and support that? Why are we not given an opportunity to volunteer our services and our lives?

I point out that our good neighbor Canada, to the North, has no sign of a National Service Act. She does not even draft her sons for overseas service. But can you question the loyalty of the Canadian people? I am informed that the same freedom enjoyed by the citizens of Canada is enjoyed by the Australians, the New Zealanders, and the South Africans.

8. Could easily be used as an instrument of persecution.

I was with Huey P. Long when he was assassinated. I know what certain New Deal politicians will do in order to stop opposition. There are many communities and even entire states in this Union where certain political leaders could be drafted out of their home communities or states just in time to dissipate their political leadership.

I am 46 years of age. I have had some experience with certain government bureaus within the last four or five years which convinces me that if Harry Hopkins or any other similar leader in Washington thought that my leadership could be destroyed by moving me across the Nation prior to the campaign, they would do it.

During the lifetime of Huey Long, we actually discovered, and Mr. Long brought it out on the floor of the Senate that there was a plan on foot to move enough Huey Long voters out of the State of Louisiana (in the name of resettlement) to win the next election for the Roosevelt partisans.

(Note: See Congressional Record for August 9, 1935.)

9. Could become involuntary servitude.

If one American citizen can be compelled by his government to work for another American citizen who is making a profit on his toil, that is involuntary servitude. There is no limit to the abuses that would be worked on labor by certain employers, if once we placed in their hands this bludgeon.

10. Will create disunity.

Beneath the surface and buried deep in the hearts of our people is a resentment toward anything that looks like involuntary servitude. Such an act would so embroil our people that I doubt if their bitterness and billigerency could be accurately estimated in advance of the passing of such an act. One Civil War was fought in this country to abolish slavery. The introduction of a service act, which would produce slavery in a new form, carries with it potentialities that no citizen can calculate.

11. Would menace morale of armed forces.

Students of morale among servicemen reveal that nothing breaks morale quicker than anxiety about the folks at home. Cheerful letters from home build morale as nothing else. Families are even exhorted to write nothing in their letters to worry the men and women in uniform. Correspondence from overseas reveals that many of our soldiers, sailors, and marines shudder at the thought of their sisters, wives, sweethearts, mothers and fathers being drafted and separated from their hearthstone. The men in the armed services believe that their family is being kept intact during their absence. To separate the family and disorganize the home during their absence might result in fatal consequences.

12. Bureaucrats would attempt to keep it in force after the war.

We hear much talk among the Washington Bureaucrats about the continuation of rationing and other bureaucratic functions after the war. We have no reason to believe that these ambitious 'commissars' would be anxious to surrender their authority over our private lives if once they got a chance at us through the National Service Act.

13. Destroys patriotism.

If the time should come that our patriotism became nothing but a legal compulsory function, then there would be nothing left to challenge our self-respect or to develope the finer emotions involving sacrificial service. It has been demonstrated on many occasions that the American people resent regimentation. It reduces their efficiency, morale, and patriotic zeal.

14. It would be exploited by the Fourth Term propagandists.

Our people are convinced that Mr. Roosevelt will be a Fourth Term candidate. He is now the Commander in Chief of the armed forces. If we pass a National Service Act, it will virtually make him the Commander in Chief of everybody between 18 and 49 among the women folks, and between 18 and 65 among the men folks. This includes the largest percentage of our voters.

Anyone familiar with the techniques of such political machines as Tammany Hall, the Hague machine of New Jersey, or the Kelly machine of Chicago, or the Crump machine of Memphis, could not imagine these political bosses overlooking any of the opportunities that such a labor draft as No. 666 would afford.

We would witness millions of instances where private citizens would somehow come to believe that opinions freely expressed might somehow cause them to be moved or shifted. Other millions would grow to believe that the way to get along would be to shout for the Fourth Term candidate.

Back in the old days of relief and WPA, it was generally believed that the way to stay on the payrool and the way to keep in the trough was to be for the 'right man,' and the 'right man' was always Roosevelt's man.

The same politicans that ran the relief machine would run this 'national service machine.'

God save America!

Gentlemen of the Military Affairs Committee of the United States Senate:

We Nationalists believe in America and her traditions. We admit that

we are provincial and narrow-minded. We believe that the traditional principles on which our Nation was founded cannot be broadened or toyed with if we are to remain free. The multiplication table cannot be broadened. We cannot play fast and loose with the law of gravity, with the honor of manhood, or with the purity of womanhood. Neither can we broaden the principles which made America rich and free and great and abundant.

We believe in individuality and its encouragement. We believe in free enterprise. We adhere to the political philosophy which has grown out of the teachings of Christ; namely, that there is nothing as valuable on this earth as one human soul. A high respect for the dignity of one human being, no matter how lowly or how rich or how poor, constitutes the acme of accomplishment among Christians and the builders of a free Republic.

Our people are concerned. They are apprehensive. They scrutinize measures which ordinarily would be accepted because they have lost confidence in certain Washington personalities. They believe that there is an organized effort being put forth to limit our personal freedom, to regiment our private lives, and to control our daily existence, not only during this war but after this war.

No good can be accomplished by the passage of this Bill No. 666. It inflames our people. It depresses our citizenry. It arouses smouldering resentments. It means something to our people which is not expressed in its language.

In God'sName, I implore you to report this Bill out, unfavorably. Prevail upon the governing Administration and the directors of this war to be temperate and patient with our people. They have already endured much at the hands of a bureaucracy because of their patriotic desire to preserve unity and to win victory.

The saturation point is being approached. The passage of this law might break the 'camel's back.'. God give you wisdom as you deal with this vicious, un-American, liberty-destroying, home-breaking, morale-menacing, piece of legislation.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Detroit, Michigan
March 21, 1944

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/92 BY SP-8815/mk

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth hereafter the results of information obtained from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, during the period from March 5, 1944, through March 16, 1944. b7D

On March 6 Informant advised that SMITH had received a telegram from [redacted], of Tulsa, Oklahoma, in which telegram the [redacted] suggested to GERALD SMITH that the NBC Radio hook-up be sued for alleged libel statements made by one SAINT JOHNS over their radio network. b7C

On various occasions Informant has advised the Detroit Office that SMITH has stated to his constituents that the meeting scheduled for March 25, 1944, in St. Louis, Missouri, is to be designated as a rally and it is the hope of SMITH that this rally will lay the groundwork for a future election policy to be followed by the America First Party.

On March 11 SMITH was contacted by [redacted] an Informant of SMITH, at which time [redacted] stated that he had attended a recent COUGHLIN meeting and that at that meeting comment was made to the effect that the National Service Act would create chaos and that it would be used as a bayonet in labor's back to allow the Administration to take all over $25,000.00 that the Unions had. b7C

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MAR 21 1944
FBI

62-43818-453

At this meeting it was stated that the National Service Act was not feasible inasmuch as England had one and that England had had strikes; that the Executive could refuse to execute the laws of Congress and if he did not execute the provisions of the Smith-Connolly Act, what would they do with the execution of the National Service Act?

FOR DEFENSE BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

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1964

Letter to the Director
March 21, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY; Et al

[redacted] continued by relating that at the meeting it was advocated that the members read the book entitled, "Father Lamy (phonetic)". This book is allegedly published by Burns, Oats and Washburn, and is supposed to relate how France would be after the war. It was allegedly stated at that meeting that all bonds over $2,000.00 denomination should be torn up inasmuch as the opinion was put forth that if we couldn't pay for the war now, how would we be able to pay for it during a depression; that we were fighting for a lost cause. It was also stated at the meeting that Churchill and Stalin would not let the Americans go into Berlin and were playing with TITO; that Churchill and Stalin were supposed to be all through with President Roosevelt as they knew that he could not deliver the goods.

Shortly after this and during the course of the conversation SMITH advised [redacted] that "COUGHLIN's friends were his friends all over the country". SMITH in a conversation with [redacted] of St. Louis, Missouri, in discussing the convention to be held at St. Louis on March 25, advised that he, SMITH, was using this meeting as a means to keep the Republican Party in line and that he would use the meeting to announce a bigger National meeting where they would either nominate their own candidate or state their labor support.

In a conversation with [redacted], of Cleveland, Ohio, SMITH was advised by MONREAL that an individual by the name of [redacted] (phonetic) had contacted the Cleveland organization and that he had discussed with Mrs. STANLEY, of the United Mothers of America, the ideas behind the Cleveland organization; that STANLEY had given him a "tablet". [redacted] is supposed to be the individual who gave this tablet to [redacted] (phonetic) and that [redacted] later contacted Mrs. STANLEY and others in the United Mothers of America in Cleveland, at which time [redacted] questioned STANLEY quite closely relative to the Cleveland organization, and that Mrs. STANLEY had become suspicious of her. There apparently was an article in the Cleveland paper speaking in rather derogatory terms about the SMITH organization.

On March 14, SMITH in a discussion with [redacted] at Baltimore, Maryland, relative to the matter of securing a proper meeting place in Baltimore, Maryland, was advised by [redacted] that they had secured the Alcazar Auditorium which was owned by the Knights of Columbus in Baltimore, Maryland.

At the time of this conversation SMITH advised [redacted] that he wanted to arrange a meeting with one WALTER RIDDLE, of Maryland; that RIDDLE was desirous of running for the Senate and wanted to seek the advice of SMITH. This meeting in Baltimore, Maryland, is to take place on April 13, although there is a possibility that it will take place on a later date.

ALL b7c

Letter to the Director
March 21, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY; Et al

There is also to be a meeting in Minneapolis the night of March 22, which meeting is more or less sponsored by Mrs. LUNDEEN, well known to the Bureau.

On March 15, 1944, SMITH contacted the Ford Motor Company and at that time he related that [redacted] had met SMITH at the Statler Hotel in Detroit and at that time [redacted] wanted to secure SMITH's unlisted telephone number, expressed a desire to see Father COUGHLIN, and wanted SMITH to see a copy of the indictment, bill of particulars, etc., that had been returned against [redacted] SMITH was under the impression that [redacted] was trying to get in contact with others and might be the campaign on some "smear" artists like WALTER WINCHELL.

Informant advised that SMITH recently attended a meeting at the Central Methodist Church, which meeting was addressed by MAX LERNER, and that after the speech given by LERNER, SMITH had gone up to the stage and challenged LERNER to a debate, at which time they became involved in somewhat of an argument and SMITH claims that the meeting broke up in a "near riot".

On March 16, 1944, SMITH received a letter from the St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, the substance of the letter being that the people connected with the St. Mary's Seminary at Baltimore were more or less in favor of his Baltimore meeting.

On March 16, SMITH was engaged in a conversation with one [redacted] of Detroit, at which time [redacted] stated he was a disabled World War I Veteran residing at 5031 Lincoln Avenue, Detroit. During the course of this conversation SMITH mentioned to [redacted] that he was trying to organize a Veterans Committee in the America First Party and that SMITH was desirous of securing the aid of a Veteran from this war who had been mustered out and who would be sympathetic to the cause to serve on the Committee. SMITH at that time was promised by [redacted] that he, [redacted] would attempt to locate such an individual. At a later date [redacted] contacted SMITH and advised him that he would get in touch with [redacted] at the Veterans Hospital and that [redacted] had promised to get in touch with the Commander of Post 45, apparently the American Legion, in an attempt to locate an individual who would help SMITH.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]
62-1126

ALV
DJC

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Saint Louis, Missouri

April 4, 1944

D-15121

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Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being forwarded herewith a letter which reportedly was sent out by the AMERICA FIRST PARTY. Inasmuch as only seven of these letters have been referred to the St. Louis Office and they are anonymous, it would probably be rather difficult to determine who actually prepared it and mailed it. However, should it actually have been sent by representatives of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY there are some very good suspects in [redacted] and [redacted] The St. Louis Office has developed, while SMITH was in St. Louis, that SMITH denied having anything to do with this letter himself or having any knowledge of it. On the other hand, there is some indication that this letter may have been put out by the Communist Party in order to discredit the AMERICA FIRST PARTY.

b7c

Therefore, it is requested that this letter be presented to the Department so that they may judge whether it in itself contains seditious language which would be a basis for prosecution. It is requested that the St. Louis Field Division be advised if the Bureau feels that any useful purpose would be served in trying to determine the author and distributor of this letter.

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818-455

Very truly yours,

APR 13 1944

G. B. NORRIS,
Special Agent in Charge

Let Lac St Louis 4-11-44

JJP:dck
100-6013
Enclosure: Envelope addressed to [redacted] and ditto letter signed, "THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY".

b7c

[redacted]

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

59 APR 24 1944

INDEXED LAB. FILE

E.P.

b7c

C3 4/18/44

TRUE COPY

Dear Fellow American:

You must realize by now that you were duped into this war by a gang of Jewish war mongers in Washington to save the British Empire, Communist Russia, and a mass of stupid chinese coolies. Under the leadership of Roosenfeld and his d-gooders we plunder our natural resources to save foreigners, we gag the press & radio, we force wage-earners into labor unions, we deprive the employer of his right to manage his own business, we deprive the farmer of the right to manage his land and dispose of his crops, and we send our boys to fight European wars.

America needs a new leadership.

This new leadership is rising like a wave of the future in the wake of great newspapers like the Chicago Tribune and brave congressmen such as the Hon. Burton K. Wheeler, the Hon. Gerald P. Nye, and the Hon. John E. Rankin.

Foremost in the revival of American Nationalism is Gerald L. K. Smith who has a great following of loyal Christian patriots which will form the backbone of the New America dominant in world power. America is the No. 1 country of the world without us nothing is possible.

Mr. Smith will address the convention of the America First Party at the Kiel Auditorium March 25. You are urged to attend and hear his program for the New America.

We must look at the war in a new light. We have seen how the new disciplined national states can overwhelm the so-called Democracies. Only when greatly out-numbered are they forced to give way. What could we not do if America with her vast population and resources were disciplined?

If the United States is good enough to save the world, we should be good enough to lead it, instead of our rushing out with promises, the world should be made to come to us. We should not be too concerned over British and Russian casualties since the weaker they become the stronger we remain.

The young vital nations like German, Italy and Japan are only doing what all nations have done in the past -- expanded to overcome population pressure and gain raw materials. We have unwittingly opposed this natural growth, this God-made law of survival, and therefore we suffer.

But a new day dawns for America with --

THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY

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DATE 10/7/82 BY sa9ers/mk

62-43816-455
ENCLOSURE

ND-46

SECURITY DIVISION - FBI

4/11 1948 4

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____Mr. Ladd
____Mr. Mumford
____Mr. Alden
____Mr. Burton
____Mr. Callan
____Mr. Carson
____Mr. Cunningham
____Mr. Fitch
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____Mr. Timm

____Mechanical Section
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Report out 5/2/48 WJP.

b2c

[redacted]

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____Appropriate action
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____Record, search, serialize, and route
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Reviewed
Serve
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pls compare with mat and in Nat. Def file - the attached envelope + file - write memo
rept. - not to go to file

J. P. HANRATTY
SUPERVISOR

JPHa/pk

RECORDED 62-43818-455

SAC, St. Louis

April 11, 1944

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH with aliases;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
SEDITION

Reference is made to your letter of April 4, 1944, transmitting a mimeographed letter signed and purportedly issued by the America First Party. You will recall that the particular letter you made available was addressed to [redacted] in an envelope postmarked at St. Louis, March 23, 1944, this envelope setting forth no further identifying data. b2c

In your letter you commented that several other copies of this letter had been brought to your attention and you observed that although the letter was reported to have been issued by the America First Party, there is some indication that the letter may have originated with the Communist Party or persons sympathetic to the Communist Party at St. Louis.

In answer to your request the Bureau does not desire further specific investigation at this time relative to this letter, but both the St. Louis Office and the Detroit Office should be on the alert for any additional information concerning the letter which may come to the attention of those offices in connection with their coverage of the Smith investigation and general Communist Party activities, particularly at St. Louis.

For the information of the Detroit Office there are attached hereto copies of your letter of April 4, 1944, as well as the form letter purportedly issued by the America First Party.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP8B3 jmc

cc Detroit
Enclosure

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Nease
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Chenoweth
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
APR 12 1944
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED

APR 17 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

ST. P FILE NO. 100-4156

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA	3/31/44	3/21,22,23/44	[redacted] b7c RS

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: SMITH spoke before closed meeting of America First sympathizers on 3/22/44 at the Gustavus Adolphus Hall, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Attendance estimated at 600 persons. Again lashed at the Internationalists, Bureaucrats, WILLKIE, Minnesota Senators JUDD and GALE, Communists, President and Mrs. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, WALTER WINCHELL, lend-lease aid to Great Britain and defended his stand in regard to the Jewish race as a whole by saying "The American people will never underwrite all the sinners in any race or creed". Revealed that CARLSON, author of "Undercover" had been found by the MARTIN DIES investigators to be a traitor to his country and should be indicted by Department of Justice. Quoted DIES as having said 60% of WINCHELL's statements in broadcasts were fabrications; that he, SMITH, had instituted libel proceedings against WINCHELL. Recommended men like RICKENBACHER and LINDBERGH in the White House to restore free speech. Also appeared in filled Minneapolis Council Chamber on 3/23/44 before Public Grounds & Building Committee hearing on petition for use of Minneapolis Municipal Auditorium on 5/24/44. Opposed by labor representatives who were Communist inspired. Would support CHARLES A. LINDBERGH for president if he would accept nomination.

- RUC - [redacted]

REFERENCE: Bureau file 62-43818;
Letter from Detroit Field Division dated March 16, 1944;
Report of Special Agent [redacted], Detroit, Michigan, dated March 27, 1944.

b7c

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-456

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3--St. Paul (1--100-1878)

cc Tom Clark in Dept with memo 4-8-44

15 APR 3 1944

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DATE 10/2/82 BY SP-8 SR/MC

7-3004

DETAILS: AT MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA:

SMITH spoke before a closed meeting of the America first sympathizers on March 22, 1944 at the Gustavus Adolphus Hall, 1628 East Lake Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The meeting was attended by approximately 600 persons and it was sponsored by Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, widow of the late Senator ERNEST LUNDEEN of Minnesota. Reporting Agent, under pretext, determined from the custodian of the hall that he had received a check from Rev. CARL O. STADSKLEV of Minneapolis, Minnesota, in payment for the rental of the hall on March 22, 1944.

SMITH's speech again followed very closely the same theme as contents of previous speeches reported by this office and subject again lashed at the Internationalists, Bureaucrats, Minnesota Senators JUDD and GALE, Communists, WILLKIE, the President and Mrs. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, WALTER WINCHELL, lend-lease aid to Great Britain and defended his stand in regard to the Jewish race.

The meeting was scheduled on the mailed invitations sent to various members of the America First Committee and sympathizers and was to have started at 8:00 P.M. This meeting was a closed meeting and only those who carried invitations or came with people having invitations, would be admitted. Reporting Agent obtained from a confidential source an invitational letter, a copy of which is being retained in the St. Paul Field Division file on subject. The hall was completely filled at approximately 7:35 P.M. and SMITH opened the meeting at approximately 7:45 P.M. On the platform were seated GUST H. CACHIARAS, Dean of the Minnesota Bible University, 1507 University Avenue Southeast, Minneapolis, Minnesota and Rev. CARL O. STADSKLEV. Mrs. LUNDEEN, wife of the late senator and the most prominent of the SMITH satelites, arrived with her daughter and took her place on the platform. Her entrance had been prefaced by an eulogy by SMITH extolling her fortitude in the face of persecution by vicious scandalmongers. The crowd responded to SMITH's request for an ovation to Mrs. LUNDEEN when she arrived at the hall, and the crowd responded accordingly when she entered. SMITH then led the crowd in the singing of one verse of the Star-Spangled Banner, after which Rev. STADSKLEV gave a brief prayer.

SMITH opened his talk by explaining that his return to Minneapolis was rather premature and the reason for his returning to Minneapolis was to defend himself; that if he were absent his enemies might misconstrue the fact and he wanted to show the Communists that he had the courage to come to Minneapolis and answer any questions about himself which might be asked, while the Minneapolis City Council's action was pending on his request for the use of the Municipal Auditorium.

SMITH advised that "when the time comes for the great rising tide to deny us the use of free speech and the use of the radio, then the strength is weakening and victory is ours because the great constructive spirit of this crusade is sweeping the nation. We're not going to allow the world to be

politicized into a fourth time scheme".

SMITH then explained his previous efforts to obtain the use of the Minneapolis Municipal Auditorium at which time Mrs. LUNDEEN, Mrs. SMITH and himself had met Mr. ADAMS, Manager of the Auditorium, at which time ADAMS explained that there should be no difficulty whatsoever in SMITH's obtaining the auditorium, but that it was up to the City Council in Minneapolis to decide.

SMITH then discussed at length the Americanism of various people who were to talk on the proposed program of the Northwest Rally of the America Firsters on May 24, 1944 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He said that it wasn't the speakers whose Americanism was being questioned "It's that big, bad, boogey man SMITH whose Americanism is being questioned". He then told of other meetings which he had held throughout the country. He mentioned particularly that he had some opposition in Cleveland about a year ago and that the Mayor there at one time had announced "never again will SMITH talk in the auditorium". Recently this same mayor said "Under no circumstances deny the auditorium to SMITH".

SMITH then moved closer to the microphone and in a confidential tone whispered, this same Mayor is running for Governor and still thinks that I should have free speech. It's funny how these politicians change around election time.

SMITH then turned to the subject of a fourth term saying that ROOSEVELT had almost assumed the attitude that we need him for the fourth term. SMITH then went on to tell how in Philadelphia on the roof garden of the prominent hotel where he had held a meeting that so many people had come to hear him that in order to comply with the city fire ordinances the hotel quit running the elevators and over 200 people walked up 18 flights of stairs "to hear a man with 'guts' talk about old-fashioned Americanism, that's encouraging"! (Tumultuous applause).

Rev. STADSKLEV was mentioned as having completed his plans to visit Washington, D. C. and to contact the Federal Communications Commission in regard to his having been denied the use of a broadcast period with Station WDGY in Minneapolis, Minnesota. SMITH then continued "all we need to restore free speech is the right man in the White House," which men he mentioned as being RICKENBACHER and LINDBERGH. He then blasted the two Minnesota Senators JUDD and GALE and advised that JUDD had been brought up in Shanghai, had spent practically all of his adult life in China and that China was not the place to learn how to be a Congressman. In regard to GALE, he mentioned that he took a free trip with MARSHALL FIELD, owner of the newspaper P.M., and stated "don't forget they don't give free trips for nothing!" He then dwelt on GALE's internationalist tendencies stating "I wish that we had a President that thought as much of America as CHURCHILL does of England and STALIN of Russia". "You have two Congressmen, one from Shanghai, the other from London. Why not elect a Senator from Minnesota? I would like to see you send Mrs. LUNDEEN to take

the place of GALE, the Internationalist. Everybody who thinks that's all right, say I. Double it. Give that a hand". He then told how WINCHELL and PEARSON were engaged in a campaign of vilification against Mrs. LUNDEEN.

SMITH then stated "I am prepared to report the best in Washington, D. C. The Bureaucrats are on the run. HARRY HOPKINS is hunting for a job; ELEANOR is trying to get in her last trip. The Bureaucrats are really beginning to get scared. ELEANOR doesn't know whose nose she is going to rub next. I understand she is consoling the wounded soldiers. If I ever am wounded I don't want to have to look up at that puss. I would rather bleed to death than die of fright. During her husband's administration she has gathered a profit of $3,000,000 in cash."

He continued "If ROOSEVELT goes back for another four years, he will completely loot the public treasury and control the Supreme Court. Conservative students of government have told me that we can kiss our republic goodbye if ROOSEVELT gets in again. The ROOSEVELTS will never want to give it up then; probably will want to bring ELLIOT in next. I hope that we have enough courage to enact a law making it unlawful for any man to seek the presidential chair for more than two terms. We have two attitudes: one on the part of the Bureaucrats who are facing defeat; and the other on the part of the America Firsters and Anti-New Deal Democrats who are over-confident - that over-confidence is a bad thing".

Mention was then made in regard to the stealing of the soldiers' vote by the issuing of a blank piece of paper for a vote to the soldiers. This subject had previously been reported in reports from this office.

He stated "they are shipping plows and farm machinery to Europe. Well, asbad as they need the machinery, we don't have to donate it to them, do we?" "Those European nations have billions frozen in the United States. There is 7 billion dollars invested in the United States by British citizens. I oppose lend-lease because it gave the President too much money to control. They are taxing incomes now of $10 a week. Why not take the 7 billion the British have to pay for the goods they are getting. They have spent 6 billion in South America. Why not give $1,000 cash to 6 million of our boys when they are mustered out of the armed forces, instead of squandering this money in South America. Why, we are handing our boys a mere $200 - that's enough to live on for about four weeks - then what? They don't go into war plants unless they can pass a physical examination - they don't want them without arms, etc." He then mentioned the case of the soldier with his hands shot off as has been reported in his last speech made in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

SMITH then discussed at length the "White Slave Traffic Bill" as he called it, referring to Senate Resolution #666 (National Conscription Bill). He then declared that this bill would break up families, send young girls away

from their homes which would bring about an increase in youth delinquency. He also called the act a penal servitude etc. and stated if it had passed, they would have used the act to transplant populations in order to control elections. HUEY LONG had mentioned that they were going to try to move populations out of Louisiana to Alaska to control the elections there. This can be found in the Congressional Record of August 9, 1935. SMITH talked for awhile advising that there was no conscription in Australia and Canada and that the Canadian and Australia boys were not conscripted and that he doesn't want the British to question our patriotism. Also mentioned that there was plenty of meat in Canada which could be obtained without the use of stamps etc.

He then mentioned that at a prior meeting held in St. Louis, the Communist Party had circulated 24" x 16" sheets and stated that SMITH was a traitor and signed at the bottom, Communist Party of Missouri. He then told about a Communist who had appeared before the St. Louis Council to oppose SMITH and when asked if he would let JOE STALIN talk in the St. Louis Auditorium, this Communist said Yes. They then gave SMITH the auditorium with an almost unanimous majority. He also mentioned that the Communists were attempting to have LINDBERGH Boulevard in St. Louis, Missouri changed to Victory Highway, Cohen Street or something. Of 3000 telephone calls made in St. Louis, SMITH advised that only some 20 people were opposed to his speaking there and SMITH went on "I think you will find it's the same in Minneapolis, St. Paul and Des Moines".

"They say that Vesuvius has blown up, well, that will look like a two-for-a-penny fire cracker when the American people get ready to blow up the New Deal." SMITH mentioned the forth-coming hearing on March 23, 1944 of his application for use of the Minneapolis Municipal Auditorium in Minneapolis, Minnesota before the Public Building and Grounds Committee of the Minneapolis City Council which would be held at 2:00 P.M. on that date. He requested that the American First sympathizers to be there one hour earlier - at 1:00 P.M. He then stated that he did not come to Minneapolis to drum up a crowd for that meeting, but he mentioned that he didn't want anyone in the audience to think he would be insulted if they all came to that meeting.

He then spoke regarding his Anti-Semitic attitude. "Many people think that I am anti-Semitic because I am against WINCHELL. Mr. ROOSEVELT is an Episcopalian and so was GEORGE WASHINGTON. I am against ROOSEVELT and for WASHINGTON, but that doesn't mean I am against the Episcopal Church. I attack HAROLD ICKES, FELIX FRANKFURTER and HARRY HOPKINS. There is a certain type of Jew that will say 'that man attacks LEHMAN because he is a Jew.' The American people will never underwrite all the sinners in any race or creed. You have never heard a man speak that was raised by better Christian people than my father and mother. One of the things that my father taught me is that it is wrong to persecute any man for his religion. There are crooks among the Catholics, Methodists and Presbyterians - I have even known a few Episcopalians you couldn't trust.

Just the moment that I suggest that there might be some Jews some place that might have made a mistake, I am smeared - it's an intolerant attitude.

"Under Cover lists the people that are supposed to make up the political underwod. MARTIN DIES investigators have discovered that this man CARLSON is a traitor to his country and should be indicted immediately by the Department of Justice. Born of Armenian parentage in Greece. I thought there was something wrong when an immigrant tries to run out native born Americans out. Think of listing HIRAM JOHNSON and Dr. RILEY in Undercover as enemies of America, and one of America's top citizens, HENRY FORD. Just to show you how ridiculous this CARLSON is with his six aliases, he was in Detroit and began talking about the Fascism of HENRY FORD and GERALD SMITH. A good man in the audience stood up and said, 'Mr. CARLSON, I want to ask you a question - where were you born?' 'I was born in Greece'. 'Do you think you are a better American than HENRY FORD?' CARLSON was said to have stood up and said 'yes', I don't agree with HENRY FORD's policies (mentioned FORD's prediction about the war ending), but I do believe that he is a great American, and if the time ever comes when we have to list HIRAM JOHNSON, RILEY and HENRY FORD as enemies of America, then we had better investigate the people that are listing such men as enemies of America. That book 'Undercover' has been reviewed by too many Jewish Rabbis. Do you know why? In the whole book they don't list one single Jew. Are all the Jews perfect? Brother LIPSHITZ (WINCHELL) is slipping. Mr. DIES has concluded that there is a conspiracy in America to break down the faith of the people in our legislative government, and he (DIES) declared that WINCHELL is a part of this conspiracy. Think of it. WINCHELL calls the House of Representatives, the House of Reprehensibles. HOFFMAN has been led to believe by important people that the Department of Justice has evidence to prove that the Jergens Company, which pays WINCHELL $5,000 for 15 minutes on the air, is tied closer to Germany than anyone WINCHELL wants to indict and therefore WINCHELL pulls out $250,000 from Jergens knowing this. DIES is investigating this."

"Prominent Jewish leader told me the first thing he would do to allay anti-Semitism would be to silence WINCHELL. Quoted DIES as having said "60% of WINCHELL's statements in broadcasts were fabrications and he (SMITH) had instituted libel proceedings against WINCHELL."

SMITH then quoted from an article in the Collier's Magazine, issue of March 3rd last, regarding an article by WALTER DAVENPORT and amplified on the statements contained therein.

SMITH then told of how the Internal Revenue Department had checked his income tax returns over a period of ten years and that there had been 40 men investigating this, three of them had desks in his office for six months. Letters were said to have been sent to every bank in the country attempting to see

if he, SMITH, had a lock box. They had come to SMITH's house, looked at the pictures on his walls and also scrutinized a pair of Mrs. SMITH's rhinestone rings which SMITH said he paid something like $12 for them. They went to all the apartments in Detroit to see if he was keeping another woman. When they got all through the government had spent about $125,000 to investigate me and they found out that I had made a little error in taking an exemption and that he owed them $200; that they assessed him a little over $200 due to his enemies protesting.

Subject then stated that he had been called on about three months ago by a WILLKE representative who said "Come on GERALD, why don't you and WENDELL get together, I can arrange a secret meeting - there is money in it." Less than 60 days ago, WILLKIE sent another agent to me who said "I am authorized by one of the 15 richest men in the worldto offer you anything you want GERALD, if you will cooperate with WILLKIE. We can work out a plan where you can help WILLKIE on the 'Q.T.' without hurting him in the East". Hell hath no greater fury than a woman - or a WILLKIE scorned. "He can't fool us, we know he belongs to the International Clique, Hollywood, Wall Street and the Whiskey Trust". SMITH stated that he had heard rumors that there might be a possible freezing of the present officers of the administration in their office for one year if a second front is opened in the near future against Germany. He also stated that small metal buttons were being passed out in the new conquered territory with the photograph of ROOSEVELT imprinted thereon. SMITH stated that even Nye and himself couldn't get metal buttons stamped because the metal was on the priority list, but ROOSEVELT was able to further his political stand.

A collection was then take up from the persons in his audience and the closing prayer was given by REV. STADSKLEV, after which a salute to the flag was given by everyone in the audience and the meeting closed at approximately 10:15 P.M.

[redacted] b7c b7D

[redacted] entitled "FREEDOM OF SPEECH DOES NOT INCLUDE THE RIGHT TO DESTROY OUR DEMOCRACY! Tell the City Council: FASCISTS MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO DESECRATE OUR MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM!" A copy was obtained by the Reporting Agent and is being made a part of instant file.

On the last page of this pamphlet are the words "GERALD SMITH branded TRAITOR" and statements were printed thereon by ALBERT ESNOUGH, CIO Co-Chairman Labor Coordinating Committee, Business Representative, Textile Workers Unions Joint Board; RAYMOND WRIGHT, AFL Co-Chairman Labor Coordinating Committee Secretary, Hotel and Restaurant Workers Locals Joint Executive Board and FRANK M. BALCOM, Representative, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and representatives of the

St. P 100-4156

University of Minnesota Student League for Democracy spoke against SMITH and the use of the auditorium.

The following representatives were identified by the Reporting Agent who spoke in opposition to SMITH's use of the Minneapolis Municipal Auditorium: ALBERT ESNOUGH, Business Agent of Twin City Joint Board of Textile Workers and Co-Chairman of the Labor Coordinating Committee, CIO, Minneapolis; VERN BUCK, organizer for Teamsters Union Local 544, AF of L; WILLIAM MUSETH, Member of the Minnesota State Industrial Union Council, CIO and key figure of the Communist Party, District #9; ERNA CLARDY, negress and formerly known to be connected withthe Young Communist League; EARL CLUKA, Financial Secretary of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers Union Local 1145 and Communist Party member; LEONARD LAGEMAN, member of the Hennepin County Industrial Union Council and member of the Communist Party Buro of District #9; RAYMOND WRIGHT, Business Agent, Hotel & Restaurant Employees, Local 665 and key figure of the Communist Party District #9; HUBERT H. PHREY, Political Science professor and former candidate for Mayor; EUGENE LARKIN, member of U. of Minnesota Student League for Democracy, a Young Communist League front organization; RUTH SALZMAN, member of University of Minnesota Student League for Democracy, a Young Communist League front organization; ESTHER MILLNER, University of Minnesota graduate student and member of the Minnesota Student League for Democracy and REV. C. S. SPARKES of the Forest Hill Congregational Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Reporting on the article of the Minneapolis Daily Times on Friday, March 24, 1944, the following is the context of SMITH's speech at the hearing. "I am accused of being anti-Negro. The first attack against HUEY LONG and GERALD L. K. SMITH was due to the fact that we advocated equal educational opportunities for negroes in Louisiana. They accuse me of being a member in the Silver Shirts. In 1933 both my wife and I got complimentary membership cards from DUDLEY PELLEY, but we sent them back. They accuse me of being anti-Jewish. I have here a letter from RICHARD GUTSTADT, director of the B'nai B'rith's anti-defamation league that says that that organization does not so accuse me. I'll tell you what all this accusation business is. It's the old Communist Party line. How many who were witnesses against me here this afternoon are opposed to the Fourth term? Stand up. (No one stood) Am I anti-Episcopalian because I am against ROOSEVELT? Am I anti-Jewish because I am against FELIX FRANKFURTER? Why, this GERALD L. K. SMITH you've heard described here by these witnesses this afternoon is a stranger to me and to my wife. The wizard of the Klan tried to run me and HUEY LONG out of Louisiana, but we ran him out instead".

SMITH continued "I'll tell you what", addressing himself directly to the committee members, "you'd like to get off this hot seat. Name three outstanding rabbis, have them investigate; if they say I shouldn't have the auditorium we'll withdraw the request. Name three outstanding Negro clergymen; put it up to them. You see, it's old Communist party line. It seems to be a bad now, that if you're opposed to the fourth term and opposed to collectivism - if you would

favor development of private enterprise - you're called a Fascist. The chief champion of that seems to be our vice president, HENRY WALLACE".

Alderman WALTER J. MURPHY, member of the Committee asked SMITH the following question: "Who are you supporting for President?" SMITH answered: "We haven't agreed, but in our discussions we have talked about it, if he'd accept it. It's CHARLES A. LINDBERGH, a native of your own state".

-----REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN-----

19-44

62-43018-456

RECORDED

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

For your further information in connection with your consideration of this case there is attached hereto a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] dated March 31, 1944, at St. Paul, Minnesota.

b7c

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/92 BY SP-8 BTJ/mlr

APR 11 1 34 PM '44

COMMUNICTIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
APR 11 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Nease
Tracy
Carson
Hoover
Mohr
Conrad
Quinn Tamm
Gurnea
Candy

27

23 APR 18 1944

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Post Office Drawer V, Plaza Station
Saint Louis 1, Missouri
April 5, 1944

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,
with aliases;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter (62-43818) dated March 28, 1944, returning three of the copies designated for the Bureau of the report of Special Agent [redacted] Saint Louis, Missouri, dated March 6, 1944, so that it could be rewritten in order to eliminate all indications which would show that the information had been obtained by constant observation and coverage. b7c

Three copies of the revised report are being forwarded to the Bureau, two to the Detroit Office, and one to the Oklahoma City Office. Saint Louis Office file copies have been changed.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP4 [illegible]

Very truly yours,

G. B. NORRIS, SAC

[redacted] b7c
100-6013

cc Detroit (Enc.)
cc Oklahoma City (Enc.)

RECORDED 62-43818-457
APR 7 1944

APR 1 1944

The following resolution was unanimously adopted by Local 43, I.U.M.S.W.A., C.I.O. at its regular membership meeting, Sunday, April 2:

WHEREAS, the American people and the peoples of our Allies are working, fighting and dying to put an end to aggression and the causes of aggression such as Hitlerism, Nazism, Fascism and Japanese Militarism.

WHEREAS, We the shipyard workers of Bethlehem Fairfield Shipyard are working long and arduous hours to build ships to bring this war to a speedy and victorious conclusion.

WHEREAS, we are determined that there shall not be any obstruction, physical or psychological permitted to stand in the way of our efforts to win the war and the peace.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that Local 43, I.U.M.S.W.A., C.I.O. does hereby protest the scheduled secret meeting which has been called by one, Gerald L. K. Smith, who, by both word and deed has allied himself with the advocates of a negotiated peace with Hitler and has been revealed by John Carlson according to his recent book "Under Cover" to also be an advocate of the same Fascist methods which Hitler and his storm troopers used to destroy the last vestige of democracy in Germany.

Be it further resolved that the proper authorities of the City, State, and Federal Governments make a thorough investigation of this Gerald L. K. Smith and those with whom he is consorting.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

Memo to Clark 4-27-44

EX-10
RECORDED & INDEXED 89
162-4-816-4
33 APR 8 1944

JPHa/pk
62-43818 - 458
4-27-44

48645

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

For your information there is attached a copy of a resolution concerning subject Smith reportedly adopted by Local #43 of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, Baltimore, Maryland, at its regular meeting held on April 2, 1944.

A carbon copy of this resolution was recently received by the Bureau in an envelope postmarked at Baltimore, Maryland, April 6, 1944, this envelope bearing the return address "Industrial Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers of America, 31 South Calvert Street, Baltimore 2, Maryland" but neither the envelope nor the copy of the resolution has any additional identifying data. The receipt of the copy of the resolution has accordingly not been acknowledged by the Bureau.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/24/57

4

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Benton
Mr. Dunford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 6
APR 29 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FBI
RECEIVED-MAIL
APR 28 1944 8 08 AM

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 11 OF 18

FILE NUMBER : 62-43818

SUBJECT Gerald L. K. Smith

PART 6

FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
REQUEST

SUBJECT GERALD L K. Smith

PAGES REVIEWED: 3994

PAGES RELEASED: 2979

NOTES: SECTIONS 26-30

NO DUPLICATION FEES FOR THIS PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 26

PAGES REVIEWED: 162

PAGES RELEASED: 86

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

_____

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☐ For your information: _____

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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-459

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

2

This invitation will admit bearer and friends to

America First Meeting

Kiel (Public) **Auditorium** (Assembly Hall)

Corner 14th and Market, St. Louis, Missouri

Sunday afternoon, March 26th, 8 p.m.

SPEAKERS:

GERALD L. K. SMITH

CHARLES A. MADDEN
(American Legion Post Commander—Pittsburgh)

MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN
(Widow of United States Senator)

CAPTAIN EARL SOUTHARD
(Former Commander V.F.W. of Illinois)

ENCLOSURE

62-43114-1

17290

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE NO. 100-22780 mlf

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
PHILADELPHIA	4/4/44	3/17/44	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L.K. SMITH, was; AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject addressed meeting sponsored by Mrs. JOHN BROWN and Mrs. LILLIAN PARKS, officers of National Blue Star Mothers of Am. on 3/2/44 at Phila. Six hundred persons including former Am. First and Coughlinite leaders in attendance. Summary of speeches set forth. Delegates from National Blue Star Mothers of Am. will attend St. Louis Convention called by SMITH.

-RUC-

REFERENCE: Letter from Detroit to Chicago dated February 16, 1944.

DETAILS: The following report on the meeting addressed by subject and held at the Bellevue Stratford Hotel in Philadelphia, on March 2, 1944, under the auspices of the officers of the National Blue Star Mothers of America, Mrs. JOHN BROWN and Mrs. LILLIAN PARKS, was submitted by the Pennsylvania State Police:

"At 8:20 P.M. Mrs. PARKS, the Chairman, opened the meeting by asking the audience to stand and sing the Star Spangled Banner and give the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

"Mrs. PARKS then moved to the rostrum and read from a prepared speech. 'We welcome you here tonight on behalf of the Blue Star Mothers who make it possible for audiences throughout the nation to hear such outstanding speakers as GERALD L.K. SMITH and others. It is our wish to uphold the Constitution and do away with the infringements of our Constitutional rights which have been forced upon us by the bureaucrats in Washington.

"We believe the sanctity of the American home and are unalterably opposed to any measures which break up the home, place our children in any state

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-143218-4-65

RECORDED & INDEXED

29 APR 8 1944

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3 - Detroit
7 - Philadelphia

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Ph. file 100-22780

regulated institutions, or the establishment of any other foreign system in this country.

"We are opposed by national conscription of women. Under it your daughter could be sent anywhere in the United States to work, the mother could be sent to China and children would be forced to shift for themselves or be entirely dependent upon government bureaucrats and at their mercy.

"Every loyal American citizen maintains these same views and it is the wish of the Blue Star Mothers to petition your elected representatives to keep Congress from becoming subservient to any other power. If you don't your President who is your elected servant becomes your dominating master.

"Mrs. CATHERINE BROWN - I have some letters here from which I wish to read excerpts to you. This is no laughing matter and shows the temperment of certain groups in this country. I mean the American Legion and I do not refer to the rank and file members who I think are good Americans and could be relied upon to defend this country in case of invasion.

"I refer to the officers of the American Legion who sent out these replies on the stationary of the State organization. She said she had written to them protesting their support of the national labor draft.

"The reply from Doylestown, 'You slimy creatures had better crawl back in your niches in the sewer, America is no place for you. You had better be careful before firing squads start to hunt you down.'

"The audience laughed and she said it was no laughing matter. She then read a letter from a Legion Post on North 33rd St., Philadelphia, Pa. The Post Commander had a distinctly Jewish name. They asked the names of the members of her organization and the names of their children who were serving in the armed forces and their present military addresses.

"She said she did not furnish these due to the fact that they might be intimidated. I sent a copy of the firing squad letter to the State Adjutant and he wrote 'tripe' on the letter and returned it. I worked for the Legion at one time and this was not one man's opinion. It came on their stationary and had to have the approval of the Commander and his Adjutant.

"I am for a four point program for veterans of this war when they return home and we are distributing petitions which we want you to get signed and return to us. I want any of you men who are Legion members to know what happened and take such action as you think should be taken under the circumstances.

Ph. file 100-22780

"My four point program for returning veterans is as follows:

1. A job with a living wage salary for every veteran.
2. No apple selling.
3. No making poppies to support themselves or members of their family.
4. No joining the American Legion when they return.

"She then introduced Gerald L.K. Smith as one of the outstanding and outspoken men in the United States.

"GERALD L.K. SMITH - I must give you some bad news regarding Congressman CLARE E. HOFFMAN. He is one of the few Congressmen who has not been caged by the New Deal. It is an unpleasant duty but I must report that he is not here tonight due to illness. He has been sick for several weeks but he got out of bed yesterday and hoped to come here to Philadelphia.

"I have a telegram from him personally which I will read to you but he had to stay home since it was his doctor's orders. This man is a great American and he feels terrible at missing the opportunity to address such a representative audience in the city of Philadelphia.

"SMITH then read a telegram from HOFFMAN apologizing for not being present and asking them to carry on the good work. SMITH then said that Mrs. BROWN was sitting back there biting her nails since she had not supervised the taking up of the collection when she was speaking so he would now let her do that. Then he would give them the raw meat right off the griddle.

"Mrs. BROWN then came to the rostrum and asked for funds. We need this money, part of it, to pay for the rent of the room tonight. Girls in evening dresses then came to the front and started to pass small baskets. Mrs. BROWN finally asked them to get bigger baskets so they could go faster.

"SMITH continued, I have heard that there are some Communists in the crowd to heckle me but I think this audience as well as myself know how to handle them. The first one that opens his mouth goes out feet first. Am I right? If you agree with that you can applaud and the crowd roared.

"This country has come to a fine state when the bureaucrats and others in Washington take an outstanding citizen like CHARLES A. LINDBERGH, a national hero, and hold him up to scorn for his beliefs. This same coterie of power hungry individuals do the same thing to men like HENRY FORD, GERALD NYE and BURTON K. WHEELER. I have also been subjected to this persecution by those in high offices who have attempted in every way to smear me and ruin my character. They have

Ph. file 100-22780

even turned such characters as WALTER LIPSHITZ WINCHELL loose against me and they have the power of the radio and the press behind them which I do not possess. The papers always misstate the facts.

"At this point he told the audience to stop applauding or he would not have a chance to say much. You just listen to me and I'll tell you when something good is coming up and you can applaud then.

"I don't think the word FIRST is a bad word and I like the phrase 'AMERICA FIRST.' Washington was first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen and he was a great American and our first president.

"When a hundred men compete in a race one man comes in first and every one is attracted by his efforts. I want America first because I come from four generations of Americans. My father, a minister of the Gospel, celebrated his 50th wedding anniversary by retiring and if my parents live until next December they will celebrate their 57th anniversary.

"My wife comes first in my affections and I hope she is the only one I ever have. She travels with me all the time and that solves ninety-eight per cent of my problems. If she didn't do this the Communists and other people who hate me would have a Blonde in my lap or one waiting in my room when I came back from this meeting.

"STALIN looks after Russia first but they are fighting to protect their territory. CHURCHILL looks after England first. Why shouldn't we look after America first? They are our allies but we should look after our interests just as they are looking after their interests. I objected to lend-lease and testified before the Senate Committee because I thought it was wrong to ship large quantities of material to them before our armies were thoroughly equipped. We should be as strong in the East as we are in the West.

"I have good news for you regarding the election in 1944. We are on our way to victory and the first thing is to get the ROOSEVELT dynasty out of Washington and all the slimy Communists that have surrounded him out of the way. I am in favor of retiring the ROOSEVELTS to Hyde Park, giving ELEANOR six round trip tickets to Shanghai, sending WILLKIE to Moscow, and making HENRY WALLACE a milkman in China.

"You know what slimy dirty-necked creatures the Communists in Philadelphia are. STALIN has repudiated the Communist Party but he doesn't need to worry about them for HENRY WALLACE is going around the country making speeches for them. He said in Minneapolis that certain Russian principles must be incorpated in our government after the war. I don't want any of Russia in America.

"EARL BROWDER who was released by pardon from the Federal penitentiary should be the running mate of ROOSEVELT for the fourth term. These men are glorified while other good Americans like LINDBERGH are held up to scorn.

"People say you shouldn't talk politics or talk against the President in war time but it has to be done for this group of power hungry vultures will seize all power and destroy the rights of every American citizen.

"We should have less President and more Congress. Let me tell you about Dear ALBAN BARKLEY. He saw his home state, Kentucky, swing to the Republican column in the last election. He had to do something to increase his prestige so he led the fight against ROOSEVELT and thus hoped to get on the winning side. He can smell victory for us in the air.

"This man who acted as a rubber stamp for the President for eleven years didn't just suddenly change and decide to get off the band wagon. He had a good reason. ROOSEVELT is now talking about sixteen years. WASHINGTON, JEFFERSON, MADISON and other served two terms which they said was enough. LINCOLN only believed in two terms. If a man stays in power too long he controls the Supreme Court and the power of Congress dwindles away. When a third term was suggested for GRANT, the Congress passed a resolution saying two terms was enough and now this man wants a fourth term.

"The bureaucrats and our global minded President are too busy trying to form super-duper governments with the President as head of the International government to pay attention to what is happening to us in the United States. They want to form an international congress in Casablanca, or South Africa, with just enough Americans present to pay the bill and I want no part of that. I never want to see any flag above the American Flag or any group passing laws for the Americans which are not composed completely of Americans.

"My son is leading a mule in India tonight. He belongs to the pack troops and he is not fighting for a fourth term for ROOSEVELT. He was embarrassed in Texas when WINCHELL said over the Radio that I stamped and spit on an American Flag. I sued the Bernard McFadden publications and they had to retract and reorganize for this libel, but I could not answer him on the radio. You can only speak on the radio if you are a candidate for office. I organized the SMITH for Senate Committee in Detroit and could speak every week. I was under no illusions and the New Deal shifted over enough votes to beat me despite the fact I polled as many votes as VANDENBERG. I am not a politician who goes around kissing babies; I am a Crusader. I am like an Army engineer who goes ahead and tests for booby traps. If I get blown up the others know what happened, if not it is safe to come on.

Ph. file 100-22780

"I exposed WILLKIE before he spoke to the National Presbyterian Assembly as a member of Wall Street, Hollywood and the whiskey trust. This fraud got a cold reception. He planned to address a big gathering in St. Louis and only 700 showed up. GERALD SMITH can blow a whistle and get a bigger crowd than WILLKIE can by firing six guns.

"Any Republican observers can go away and tell your party that we will have no parts for him. We are the balance of power.

"Now I will show you the International Flag. This is the Flag, or rag, I stamped on in Buffalo and if you think it is a joke the Adams Flag Company in New York makes them. I bought six of them for $3.57 apiece. (Flag was not prominently displayed but it could be seen that it had red and white stripes, part of the Union Jack and a star (yellow) in the top corner.) Said it looked like a Jap flag.

"Mentioned his son again as a handsome six footer with six years of military training, but is still a buck private-always will be because he is a son of GERALD L.K. SMITH.

"He then displayed a hand crocheted flag which he stated contained 200,000 stitches and which he stated had been given to him by one of his followers.

"He proceeded to ridicule, HARRY HOPKINS, WICKARD and HENDERSON with the same speech which he had used on November 13, 1943, when he spoke in Philadelphia.

"Cautioned that the rats were leaving a sinking ship. Read several clippings which praised him and his organization. 'Don't let these rats climb on our ship and rob us of the Victory.' Stated that the teachings of Christ are not foremost in this world or this war would not be taking place. The seeds of Marx theory took hold when the story of Virgin Mary was doubted.

"I have been accused of being anti-semitic. You can believe in teachings and laws of the old testament or be an atheist. If you let me believe in the teachings of Christ I will have no quarrel with you. All people are hiding behind religion now. I see the faces of ministers and priests in this audience.

"Repeated the story about getting WINCHELL out of the Navy.

"Held up a copy of P.M. Marshall Field uses this rag to lose money, does not accept advertisements, to charge off income so he doesn't have to pay bigger Government taxes. Wouldn't it be funny if you went down on March 15th and told the income tax collector such a story. You or I would land in the clink.

Ph. file 100-22780

"I have twenty-six people working in our offices in Detroit putting out the truth every day. We put out from 3,000 to 7,000 pieces of mail and have 3,000,000 members pledged to the fight. Mentioned the article in Colliers (March 4, 1944). They made an exhaustive search and investigation and three things are true: We are the balance of power, possess 3,000,000 membership and are growing.

"They call me a narrow-minded nationalist and I am proud of that for I am a crusader for America. Compared his narrow mindedness to a canal and a swamp, the canal is useful and a swamp harbors crocodiles and other vermin.

"I hate W.W.'s WALTER WINCHELL, WENDELL WILLKIE and WILLIAM WILL, Governor of Vermont, who suggested WILLKIE for the Republican nomination. He called me a black locust and I have never been called that before.

"They passed envelopes for money. He said it was painful. Suggested that $1.00 to $10.00 be put in the envelopes. Offered copies of 'So they Indicted Me' as premiums, according to the amount contributed, also offered copies of the 'Cross and The Flag.' This hurts me, don't give nickels. Come up to me and I'll give you one for I don't want to take money if you can't spare it. Your home comes first, your church next and then money for this kind of work.

"Promised another big meeting admission by ticket only. Wants representatives at the convention in St. Louis on March 25th. Woman sang 'Onward Christian Soldiers' and girls collected the envelopes. This last part telling you what to do tires me more than two and a half hours of talking, but if I don't do it you just go away and nothing happens. The meeting was brought to a close by singing of the 'Star Spangled Banner.'

"There were approximately 600 persons in attendance. From a confidential source it was learned that [redacted] b7d

"Observed in attendance at this meeting were the following named persons who are known followers of the AMERICA FIRST group: [redacted] for the National Blue Star Mothers of America. These persons are all known to the attending officers.

"Also observed in attendance were the following known Communists: [redacted] b7c

Ph. file 100-22780

"Information was obtained through a confidential source on the afternoon of this date that the Communists were going to heckle and try to break up the meeting, also that the C.I.O. may call the employees of the hotel out on strike to prevent the meeting. The meeting was held and there was no disorder."

b 7D

[redacted] that a group of members of the National Blue Star Mothers of America will attend the America First Party Convention to be held in St. Louis, Missouri, on March 25, 1944. The names of those who will make the trip have not as yet been ascertained.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

No Reason to Russia, Britain, Smith Asserts

ST-LOUIS GL 3-27 DEMOCRAT 3-27-44

The American voters must "ride the rascal bureaucrats" out of Washington in order to win the war and to avert postwar ruin for the nation, Gerald L. K. Smith, leader of the America First party, told 160 party workers at a meeting in Kiel Auditorium yesterday.

The meeting, to which only his most active followers were invited, was supplementary to a public gathering Saturday night in the Auditorium Opera House and was devoted in good part to discussion of ways of swinging more votes to some "nationalist" presidential candidates in the event the Democrats nominate President Roosevelt and the Republicans Wendell Willkie.

"I've been accused of being a narrow-minded nationalist," Smith said, "which is absolutely correct. American principles must be narrow. There is no way to be broad about the Constitution and precepts on which the United States were founded. Just because we all happen to be fighting Hitler is no reason why we should hug Russia and Great Britain."

Smith asserted the America First movement is gaining strength daily, and that certain Republican forces have been trying to "put pressure" on Gov. John Bricker of Ohio, former Gov. Harold Stassen of Minnesota and Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York to repudiate Smith and his party, and thus deprive them of possible support Willkie is unable to get.

"Some astute political writers have given the America First party credit for many of the Republican successes in state elections," Smith said, "particularly in Colorado and Kentucky. I urge the people of St. Louis to keep the good work rolling; for every person at these rallies there are at least 100 other St. Louisans who feel as you do."

At Saturday night's meeting Smith was authorized to call a party convention to nominate an insurgent candidate if Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Willkie are picked by the other parties. The names of Charles A. Lindbergh and Senator Gerald P. Nye of North Dakota were suggested.

Mrs. Ernest Lundeen, widow of the late Minnesota Senator, addressing yesterday's meeting, asserted "foreign minded" persons are advocating an internationalism that will ruin the United States after the war.

"The United States is spending five times as much for the war as Britain and six times as much as Russia," she said. "After victory is achieved, let us bring back our boys, and not leave them to police a Europe that has had 541 wars since the United States was founded."

Election of a President from "west of the Mississippi River, and not a stooge for Eastern international bankers" was urged by Charles A. Madden of Pittsburgh, head of the "Defenders of George Washington."

"This war is being fought for a world government and for no other reason," he said. "This world government would have a single head — not an American — and, through removal of tariff barriers, would have American labor competing with the Chinese, Java [illegible] and all the peasants of Eu[illegible]

Gerald L. K. Smith Sings His Song Of Hate Here Again

St. Louis Star-Times e 3-27-44

Two sessions of Gerald L. K. Smith's America First party—a mass meeting at Kiel Auditorium Saturday and a more intimate meeting of select faithful yesterday—today found the party precisely where it was before, opposed to all internationalism, President Roosevelt and "anything that looks or smells like Wendell Willkie."

Other items on the Smith agenda of hate also reaffirmed at the two conclaves included the good-neighbor policy, Harry Hopkins, "New Deal bureaucracy," Communism, Josef Stalin, a national labor draft and all the persons who do not admire Smith and his America First line.

At length Smith reaffirmed his devotion to the Constitution, free speech, the Rev. Charles E. Coughlin, free assembly, Charles A. Lindbergh, the national anthem and Gerald L. K. Smith.

Smith expressed great satisfaction with Saturday's meeting in the Opera Hall, saying: "Our official attendance was 2,189. When Wendell Willkie was here, he drew something like 589." (Actually Willkie drew approximately 3,300 for his address on world affairs.)

Scoffs At Adamic.

During the session of select party leaders, about 175 of whom attended [illegible] hall, Smith also con[illegible]onal check on a meet[illegible] addressed in a nearly hall by Slavic Author Louis Adamic, and reported to his followers: "They rented Adamic, leader of a pro-Communist wing, the room we had, and he has about as many as Willkie."

Other Smith pronouncements:

"In Saturday's meeting you folks authorized me to call a party convention to nominate an insurgent candidate if Roosevelt and Willkie—or any of their kind—are picked by the other parties." Sarcastically: "In view of the great hospitality generally found here, I suggest that St. Louis would be a good place to hold such a convention."

"Hitler and Stalin are tarred with the same stick. I like the quotation, 'If a serpent bite thy enemy, embrace not the serpent.' Just because Russia is fighting Germany is no reason why we should hug her."

Hits "Good-Neighbor Policy."

"We've spent $6,000,000,000 on our good-neighbor policy in Latin-American countries and $100,000,000 in Latin-American countries belonging to the United Nations—and they are not even sending their boys overseas to fight."

Smith had police escorts for both meetings here, but there were no demonstrations, although members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars paraded around the Auditorium Saturday with placards denouncing Smith, and members of the American Youth for Democracy distributed handbills calling for an investigation of his "Fascist activities."

34647

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DATE 10/7/82 BY SP8BTD/MC

world government would not insure peace; it would insure eternal war, since every race would be constantly scheming how to throw off the chains."

ENCLOSURE
62-42515-11

WHAT EVERY ST. LOUISAN SHOULD DO!!

34648

(1) Get a map of the United States. This map shows one of the important theaters of war -- the home front.

(2) Check your map over carefully and mark with X's the cities and towns where race rioting, wrecking of churches, desecration of cemeteries, and other forms of violence to life and property have occurred in the last twelve months.

(3) Study the movements of Gerald L. K. Smith and his henchmen. Refer to your map and remember the X's. WHAT DO YOU DISCOVER?

If you will find that these cities and towns are exactly the places where Gerald L. K. Smith and his henchmen had gained a toe-hold by holding meetings, secret and open, to organize their fascist organizations and to spread their Hitlerite doctrines of racial and religious hatred. These cities and towns are exactly the places where Smith has slandered our war effort, our war leadership and the American people.

Look at your map again. You will see that Gerald L. K. Smith, like the Hitler barbarians, has left a bloody trail of suspicion, disunity, sabotage and conflict across our nation. Wherever he has been allowed to sow the seeds of Hitlerism, an ugly crop of murder and violence has been harvested.

DO THE CITIZENS OF ST. LOUIS WANT TO HARVEST SUCH A CROP? NO!!! We do not want to add our name to the list of cities [illegible] citizen against citizen have taken place.

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VOICE YOUR PROTESTS AGAINST THE SMITH MEETING TO MAYOR KAUFMANN!!

WRITE TO ATTORNEY GENERAL BIDDLE TO INVESTIGATE THE FASCIST ACTIVITIES OF GERALD L. K. SMITH

Issued by The American Youth for Democracy
407 Wainright Building, St. Louis, Missouri

JPHa/pk
4-14-44
62-43818

(17289)

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

62-43818-460

J. Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

RECORDED

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

For your further information in connection with your consideration of this case there is attached a copy of an additional report submitted at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on April 4, 1944, by Special Agent [redacted]

b7c

Enclosure

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Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Clavin
Ladd
Nichols
Hoover
Tracy
Carson
Harbo
Gurnea
Mohr
Tamm
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Lindy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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APR 1 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

837

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan

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944

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

Dear Sir:

b7D

There is being set forth hereinafter a substance of information from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, during the period from March 17 through April 4, 1944.

On March 17th Informant stated that Subject was in contact with EDWARD J. JONES of Louisiana and at that time JONES advised that he was living at Del Ray Beach, Florida, in close proximity to Miami, Florida. JONES at that time stated that he expected to have a well come in and that as a result of this he in all probability would be able to furnish SMITH with a substantial check.

Informant stated further that on this same date SMITH had been in contact with Representative CLARE HOFFMAN and at that time HOFFMAN advised SMITH that he would attempt to address a meeting of the SMITH group led by Mrs. CATHERINE BROWN in Philadelphia sometime around the fifteenth of April.

Informant advised that SMITH had apparently been having some trouble with his local printer and SMITH was of the opinion that the Anti-Defamation League had contacted his printer and attempted to persuade the printer to discontinue printing SMITH's publications. SMITH stated that the printer had apparently contacted the local police department and had been advised by the police that if he, the printer, did not publish SMITH's literature someone else would, so he might just as well take the jobs.

SMITH stated that he had been having some trouble securing a ~~hall~~ HALL in Minneapolis and that he was being opposed by a group of Communists in that city. In this connection, SMITH apparently made a personal appearance before the City Council in Minneapolis and presented his case. At this same time, SMITH stated that he had received a letter from the Chief of Police of St. Louis and that the Chief had advised SMITH that he would have plenty of police protection at his St. Louis meeting.

INDEXED RECORDED 162-43218-46
198

On March 20th, SMITH in another conversation with JONES, was advised by JONES that JONES intended sending a check to SMITH in the amount of $890 to pay the bill owed by SMITH at the Embassy Press. SMITH stated at this time that he intended forwarding five thousand books to JONES. SMITH at this time stated that he was going to have

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

54 APR 27 1944

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Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

ten thousand more of the books printed. SMITH and JONES were apparently referring to the book, "And So They Indicted Me."

On March 27th, it was ascertained through this same Informant that Representative HOFFMAN had advised SMITH that he would be unable to attend the meeting at Philadelphia on the seventeenth due to the fact that there was some important legislation coming up in the House of Representatives on that date concerning lend-lease matters, and in all probability he would not be able to attend the meeting.

Informant related that SMITH in a conversation with his office manager DOMAN, was advised by DOMAN that SMITH had received a letter from a [redacted] and that [redacted] was apparently in some sort of trouble. [redacted]

b7

The writer also advised SMITH that one Judge JOHN M. CAUNNAUGHTON, located in the Metropolitan Bank Building in Washington, should be telephonically contacted by SMITH. Along these same lines SMITH advised Informant that he did not intend to do anything about the above matter inasmuch as he felt that [redacted] had plenty of friends who would help him. A letter relative to the above has been forwarded to the Miami Office.

b7

SMITH has been in telephonic contact with one [redacted] (phonetic), Chicago, Illinois, telephone number 7391, concerning a number of books which [redacted] is apparently distributing in the vicinity of Illinois. SMITH has ordered these books sent in the name of Reverend L. L. MARION, Detroit, Michigan.

Yours truly,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted] b7c

62-1126

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Saint Louis, Missouri
March 31, 1944

AIR MAIL
SPECIAL DELIVERY

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, alias
Gerald L. K. Smith,
AMERICA FIRST PARTY; SEDITION

Dear Sir:

GERALD L. K. SMITH paid a visit to Saint Louis from March 24 to March 27, 1944 and through the means of a surveillance certain pertinent information was obtained.

There is being forwarded to the Bureau and all offices receiving copies of this letter one copy of the log setting out the information developed while SMITH was in Saint Louis. This is being furnished by letter so that the information will be immediately available for the Bureau and the interested offices, however, this material will be incorporated into a report within the next few days.

It is being specifically pointed out to the Bureau the information concerning [redacted] (phonetic) and [redacted] (phonetic) one of whom made some very pointed comments about the F.B.I., and also the part these two individuals played in bringing SMITH a message that someone would accept the nomination for President on the AMERICA FIRST PARTY ticket and the fact that these men were encouraging SMITH to immediately hold his convention, nominate his candidates, and then serve an ultimatum on the Republican Party.

Philadelphia will perhaps be interested in those parts of the log which refer to Mrs. BROWN and the Blue Star Mothers and Mr. and [redacted].

The Saint Paul Field Division is being furnished a copy of this log because considerable information is being set out concerning SMITH's efforts to obtain the Municipal Auditorium in Minneapolis. There also appears to be some individual in Minneapolis who is trying to get a radio network which SMITH hopes to use for his own purposes. This log also mentions a City Councilman by the name of CHRISTIANSEN who is apparently SMITH's chief supporter on the City Council.

Buffalo may be interested in those parts of the log which show that SMITH is depending largely on the American Civil

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7 ENCL (5)

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

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62-43818-46

22 APR 11 1944

Liberties Union to fight for his right in obtaining an auditorium in Buffalo, New York, and that he held a long distance conversation with someone in Buffalo in order to plan a campaign to obtain the auditorium in Minneapolis.

Although Detroit will undoubtedly be interested in practically all of the log, special attention is called to the fact that either [redacted] (phonetic) or [redacted] phonetic) seem to be very well acquainted with certain personalities in the Detroit Field Division and apparently have been contacted by the agents of the Detroit Field Division. b7c

Particular attention of the Detroit Field Division is called to the remarks of Mrs. BEATRICE M. KNOWLES concerning her report to the Post Office Inspectors that her mail has been opened by the F.B.I.

The Detroit Field Division, through its confidential informants, will probably be able to develop the details of several conversations, the complete details of which were not available to the Saint Louis Field Division.

Very truly yours,

G. B. Norris

G. B. NORRIS,
Special Agent in Charge

b7c

[redacted]dck
100-6013
Enclosure

cc: Detroit (Encl.)
cc: Philadelphia (Encl.)
cc: Saint Paul (Encl.)
cc: Buffalo (Encl.)

Saint Louis, Missouri
March 31, 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mlc

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,
alias Gerald L. K. Smith,
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
SEDITION.

The following is a log covering GERALD L. K. SMITH'S visit to Saint Louis, Missouri from March 24 to 27, 1944. SMITH had made reservations at the Hotel Jefferson for himself and wife, his secretary, Miss LEGANT, CHARLES MADDEN, and Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN.

March 24, 1944

5:15 P.M...DONALD LOHBECK, Chairman of the Saint Louis branch of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY, enters the suite, Room 312, which has been assigned to SMITH. With LOHBECK is SMITH'S secretary, Miss LEGANT, who has arrived from Detroit, Michigan. There is general conversation and LOHBECK makes some mention of his trip to France and to the south, possibly Mexico.

5:50.....SMITH calls in and LOHBECK advises him that WILLIAM D. MONTGOMERY will come to the hotel at 7:00 P.M. with someone else. LOHBECK mentions that FRED EMIG of the V.F.W. spoke over the radio the night before, protesting the SMITH meeting, although he mentioned no names.

6:15.....SMITH and his wife enter, having come from Chicago, Illinois.

6:30.....SMITH goes down to the lobby.

6:35.....LOHBECK and Miss LEGANT are in the room. She is registered in Room 368.

6:36.....Miss LEGANT and LOHBECK leave.

6:40.....LOHBECK, Mrs. LOHBECK, and SMITH enter.

LOHBECK tells of having had some literature and tickets for SMITH'S Saturday night meeting at some bank in Saint Louis and that he was able to distribute to all of them; there was some indication that an official of the bank also assisted in this distribution.

SMITH relates that he has been in St. Paul, Minnesota in the last few days and of an attempt in that city to keep him from speaking in the Municipal Auditorium. He also related that he spoke before the student body of some theological school there.

LOHBECK advises they will have at their Saturday meeting about 100 legionnaires wearing their caps. These men will be chiefly from South Saint Louis and the county. LOHBECK has sent letters to the commanders of all of the legion posts and he is also using the telephone technique in calling up many people in order to propagandize the meeting.

Mrs. LOHBECK comments that some newspaper reporter (HEPNER of the Post-Dispatch) and others, have been trying to bring out that LOHBECK visited in Germany and she denies that he ever was in Germany and states that his passport shows that he has not been there.

LOHBECK says that some of the city politicians are coming to the meeting, including the City Comptroller.

6:55.....SMITH and LOHBECK leave.

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ENCLOSURE

7:05.....WILLIAM D. MONTGOMERY and JOSEPH B. SHANK, both Republicans, employed at the City Hall.

Mrs. LOHBECK says that about thirty of the old AMERICA FIRST workers are active in the AMERICA FIRST PARTY.

MONTGOMERY who is inclined to brag, tells how he published a labor paper in Minneapolis some years ago and how he has known of Communist tactics for a long time. He mentions the name of [redacted] possibly [redacted] Apparently MONTGOMERY accepted money from some radical clubs to publish some of their material in his paper. This conversation was rather soft and the details of it are not certain. He claims that he made $1,000.00 a month for about a year in publishing this paper. b7c

7:15.....SMITH and LOHBECK enter.

During general conversation SMITH claims to know the newspaper commentator, GEORGE SOKOLSKY, quite well and although he is a Jew, SMITH likes him because he has taken more or less of a favorable attitude toward him. SOKOLSKY visited SMITH in Detroit in order to get background for a story and SMITH says he wrote a good article.

They discussed the Union Now movement and are very much against it.

MONTGOMERY tells SMITH of the American Legion Commanders' meeting at which time the SMITH meeting was discussed. MONTGOMERY either got this information from an informant who was there or was actually there himself. Indications are that MONTGOMERY was there himself. He related how at this Post Commanders' meeting mention was made of the fact that LOHBECK was a conscientious objector and some of the legionnaires advocated that they go to the SMITH meeting and entirely disrupt it and tear things apart. MONTGOMERY says that he got up and gave a very enthusiastic speech in favor of SMITH and showed them how it was the Communists who were to disrupt the SMITH meeting and of the dangers of becoming bedfellows with the Communists. This apparently impressed the Commanders. Post Commander CONRAD HOGAN who had been attending a committee meeting of the Americanization Division of the Legion, came into the meeting and not knowing that there had been considerable and heated discussion already about SMITH, announced that they had decided not to disturb the meeting and that they did not want to become bedfellows of the Communists. MONTGOMERY advised that PETER MIRAVELLE who is head of the Americanization Committee did not have much to say. MONTGOMERY advised that FRED EMIG of the V.F.W. had been invited to attend this American Legion Commanders' meeting and that he had been very vociferous in his denunciation of SMITH.

SMITH and the rest of the group in the room felt as though the protests which the Communists had made had actually done their cause some good.

SMITH related some facts about his experiences in Minneapolis in the past few days. He advised that the head of the theological school there is an admirer of his and that SMITH was asked to dedicate a part of their library to SMITH'S father who had been a well-known Baptist preacher in that area. SMITH also told of a hearing before the City Council in Minneapolis regarding his petition to use the Municipal Auditorium. He told how the various individuals had attacked him for

being against a number of things and that he then got up and knocked out all of the arguments against him concerning anti-negro, anti-catholic, and anti-jewish protests. SMITH mentioned that he had a letter from a catholic bishop in Fort Wayne, Indiana which apparently shows that this bishop holds some sympathy for him. At the hearing SMITH told the councilmen that he would show that it was only a political clique that was trying to keep him from speaking and he asked all of those of his accusers who were against a fourth term for ROOSEVELT to stand up and not one of his accusers did so. SMITH used this as proof of showing that it was only "left wingers" who are protesting against him.

7:43.....MONTGOMERY and SHANK leave.

7:45.....All of them leave to go to a reception which LOHBECK has planned for the SMITHS at the DeSoto Hotel. This was supposed to be a reception of about twenty people. It was verified that such a reception was held.

10:45.....Mr. and Mrs. SMITH and Miss LEGANT enter.
They set to work opening envelopes which contain money which is probably from the collection which SMITH took the night before in St. Paul. SMITH mentions that CLARE HOFFMANN is exposing WALTER WINCHELL'S relationship with his employer ANDREW JERGENS, pointing out that one employee of JERGENS is serving a term for treason and that another employee has been placed in an internment camp. HOFFMANN is bringing out that WINCHELL did not emphasize these things. JOSEPH KOESTERS and his wife were at the reception, as were also DONALD LOHBECK'S parents.
SMITH comments that LOHBECK made Saint Louis for the AMERICA FIRST PARTY by "snitching those AMERICA FIRST names".
SMITH spoke in Minneapolis for an hour at the seminary and the hearing lasted from 2:00 until 4:30 P.M. SMITH is pleased with the DIES' investigation of WINCHELL.

11:30.....SMITH decides to call someone in Minneapolis or St. Paul in order to find out the latest developments on the situation in that city. He tries to get in touch with [redacted] who resides at [redacted]. Her mother's name is [redacted], and the telephone number is [redacted] (Minneapolis Directory shows [redacted] and [redacted] residing at the above address) There is no answer to that telephone and he then places a call to [redacted] (Minneapolis Directory shows [redacted] Telephone Directory shows their telephone number as [redacted]. He speaks with [redacted] and apparently is advised that Mrs. LUNDEEN is on her way to St. Louis. He asks about the developments regarding the auditorium, what publicity has been given, what newspapers have given the best stories, and if the pictures were good. After the telephone conversation he tells Mrs. SMITH and Miss LEGANT that they got liberal publicity in Minneapolis and that all the pictures were good.

11:40.....SMITH goes down to the lobby to get a glass of warm milk.

11:50.....SMITH has returned with some letters he has received and he says that he has gotten a letter from [redacted]

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[redacted] Later information indicated that he was an assistant secretary of something or other. The details of SMITH'S conversation were not available but he said something, that [redacted] believed that a good presidential ticket would be Senator_____for President, and SMITH for Vice-President.

12:15 A.M..The women are still working on the collections. b7c

March 25, 1944

7:45 A.M...SMITHS up and down to the lobby for breakfast.

8:15.....Miss LEGANT in and out.

9:00.....Mr. and Mrs. SMITH and Miss LEGANT enter. It is possible that shortly thereafter a reporter named CHARLIE_____ of the Chicago Sun was in the room and left.

9:15.....Mrs. LUNDEEN in, and SMITH talks of photostating some letter received from a man in the town where Mrs. LUNDEEN was yesterday, this is probably Minneapolis.

9:25.....LOHBECK enters.

9:40.....A newspaper man enters. Some mention is made of LOU who is registered at the hotel in room number 1007. In the interrogation by the newspaper man SMITH advised that he is again in St. Louis to show up WILLKIE and the New Deal and to measure the temperament of the people in this area. He is encouraged by the trend in the Republican Party and he feels that his people have whipped WILLKIE. SMITH says that he is a Nationalist and not an Isolationist. He feels that there will always be wars and that in order for a government or state to uphold itself it will have to be a strong sovreign state. He claims that as far back as 1937 he advocated a stronger national defense and one year of military service for young men so that they would be better fitted to defend the country if necessary. (an incoming telephone call indicates that a Mr. OTT of the Madison Journal will come to the room at 2:15 P.M.)

From about 10:15 to 10:45 information of what transpired in SMITH'S room was not available and by 10:45 the newspaper man had left.

11:05.....SMITH and LOHBECK leave to go to the Municipal Auditorium to look over the hall which will be used.

11:15.....Mrs. SMITH and Mrs. LUNDEEN are in the room talking.

11:16.....JOSEPH KOESTERS enters.

Mrs. LUNDEEN relates an experience of hers on the train coming to St. Louis where she met the wife of some soldier and a number of soldiers. This soldier's wife told her how her husband was not getting enough food to eat at Camp Robinson and that the food was bad and if it had not been for her sending him food he would have starved. This wife also thought that it was awful that American boys had to be sent across the seas. Mrs. LUNDEEN of course sympathized with her and was in agreement with her.

KOESTERS mentions how there is so much sentiment against the British and in this conversation, the full details of which were not available, KOESTERS mentions an individual by the name of WENDELL WEBSTER who is either a reporter on the Star-Times or is a friend of KOESTERS.

KOESTERS tells how he, LOHBECK, and a Mr. HOFFMEISTER had a run-in

with some "kike", a Mr. LANSDOW, who is the head of the Convention Bureau in St. Louis. KOESTERS mentioned that they had to stay friendly with LANSDOW because they may possibly later have need for his services. LANSDOW is against SMITH because he thinks that SMITH tears down everything but is not constructive. They, however, gave LANSDOW the true background of SMITH, showing what a fine man he was.

11:40.....SMITH and LOHBECK enter.

KOESTERS says that he has all of the workers organized for the meeting tonight and they will be there between 6:30 and 7:00. They are already to make the collection.

The conversation touches upon the present feud between WINCHELL and Congressman DIES and Mrs. LUNDEEN is very bitter against WINCHELL because of his attacks against her dead husband. She accuses WINCHELL of misquoting her in saying that she denied that she had ever worked for the AMERICA FIRST Committee and is now going around giving talks for SMITH and the AMERICA FIRST PARTY. She denied that she was not for the A.F.C. and says that she did everything she possibly could behind the scenes for the AMERICA FIRST Committee.

KOESTERS and SMITH talk in the bedroom and their conversations are not available.

12:00 P.M..Miss LEGANT enters and SMITH dictates to her in the bedroom.

12:03.....Mrs. LUNDEEN leaves to go to her room. Sheis staying in Room 368.

LOHBECK had the photostatic copies of the letter which was previously mentioned made at 323 Chestnut Street. There were three letters and he got three copies of each. They cost $2.40.

KOESTERS and LOHBECK are alone in the livingroom and they talk about the various news events and KOESTERS is very pleased with the German air raids on London and speaks in admiring tones of the re-birth of the German Air Force. LOHBECK, although making no direct comment, indicated his agreement.

12:25.....KOESTERS leaves.

LOHBECK and SMITH have coffee together in the sitting room. During this time, [redacted], who is in Room [redacted] calls. b7c

SMITH tells LOHBECK that Mrs. LUNDEEN has personal reasons for wanting to get the auditorium in Minneapolis because she feels that it is a personal affront to her to keep her from talking there. SMITH indicates that Mrs. LUNDEEN is carrying on in this work because of her own personal reasons, rather than the ideals of their movement. SMITH becomes very philosophical, saying how, if he wanted to, he could go out into the commercial field, get a job and make more money than he is making in his present work but that there are no frontiers left in the physical realm but that in their line of work in the mental realm, it is the only frontier left. SMITH believes that it will be necessary to build a Congress out of the soil, meaning that the men who are presently established are not the ones from whom they can get support but that they will have to take individuals who are in the movement and build them to a place of position and build the government out of these men. Although he says nothing definite, he apparently is trying to impress LOHBECK that LOHBECK is such a man to be built up.

SMITH says that KOESTERS is one of the highest type persons of his kind that he has seen and both he and LOHBECK think that KOESTERS is very

valuable.
Mrs. BROWN of the Blue Star Mothers is at the Claridge. (Records at the Hotel Claridge show that Mrs. JOHN H. BROWN, Mrs. LILLIAN PARKS, [redacted] and [redacted] all of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, were registered in Room 335 and arrived on March 24, 1944. [redacted] Hotel, advised that [redacted] Ohio, was in touch with these other women during the entire time that they were there). b7c
Miss LEGANT is typing up the material which SMITH had just previously dictated to her.
There is an incoming telephone call from a Mr. CLYDE MORROW of Detroit, Michigan. (Records at the Claridge Hotel show that Mr. C. MORROW, 10444 Greensboro, Detroit, Michigan, was registered in Room 504 and arrived on March 24, 1944)
SMITH and LOHBECK figure that they will have an audience of about 3,000, not including the curiosity seekers. SMITH asked LOHBECK if anyone has said that they would not come because they were afraid of the F.B.I. LOHBECK says no, there was just one fellow who has a cousin with a similar name who is in the army and who has been investigated and questioned by the Military Intelligence. This is the only man who did not want to come because of some investigative organization.
SMITH advised the Mothers (probably Blue Star Mothers) of Cleveland not to come to St. Louis, inasmuch as they are being smeared in Cleveland.
SMITH intends to hold a defense meeting for them on the third.

1:00 P.M...CLYDE MORROW of Detroit enters.
MORROW'S son apparently had some run-in with a Jewish school teacher and quit school and was placed in some other school by his father. MORROW seems very proud of his boy for that. There is some indication that SMITH saw this boy yesterday or a few days ago. There is some indication that SMITH appeared at the school where this boy is a student and MORROW explained that the boy was very proud that the other boys know that he is acquainted with SMITH. MORROW advised that he could hardly keep his son from coming to St. Louis with him as he wanted to come to the SMITH meeting.

1:10.....MONTGOMERY and SHANK enter.

1:12.....Mrs. LUNDEEN and Mrs. SMITH enter.
The group discusses war profiteering.
There is a telephone call from LELAND who is in Room 374. This is apparently Reverend LELAND MARION of Pontiac, Michigan.
Two newspaper men are going to come up to the room shortly, FLEMING of the Baltimore Sun, and AKERS of the Chicago Sun.

1:40.....Unidentified man or more enter. This is probably the two newspaper men mentioned above.
SMITH tells them that the A.F.P. is 100% for the full prosecution of the war to a complete victory and that America Firsters are supporting bond purchases, blood banks, etc.

2:00.....An unidentified woman, possibly [redacted] (? phonetic), calls. b7c
She will come over at 3:00 P.M.
Some time in the past fifteen minutes Mr. CHARLES MADDEN has come

into the room. [redacted]

2:15.....Some of the men leave, leaving KOESTERS, MADDEN, and LOHBECK in the room.
MONTGOMERY indicates that he was active in the American Legion in Minneapolis and says that there will be quite a few legionnaires coming to the meeting tonight. Their conversation drifts to derogatory remarks about the jews and President ROOSEVELT.

2:35.....A telephone call for MADDEN and he advises that he will be in the lobby right away.
This group was talking about the newspaper headlines and KOESTERS refers to the "Reinforced Germans at Cassino". He comments that a month ago the Globe-Democrat reported that the Germans were surrendering at Cassino and in admiring tones says that the Germans must be magicians to get reinforcements there and that they must pull these reinforcements out of the hat.

2:45.....SMITH, LOHBECK, and KOESTERS leave for the Municipal Auditorium.
MADDEN has gone to the lobby to see MONTGOMERY.
The only one left in the room is Mrs. SMITH.

2:55.....A man enters who is registered in Room 374. This is probably Reverend LELAND MARION.

3:30.....SMITH, LOHBECK, and KOESTERS and MADDEN enter.

3:45.....[redacted] calls in and advises that he will be there tonight.

3:50.....[redacted] (possibly [redacted]) calls in.
Mention is also made of [redacted]

3:51.....Mrs. CATHERINE BROWN of the Blue Star Mothers enters, along with a [redacted] or [redacted] (This is undoubtedly [redacted] who was registered at the Claridge with Mrs. BROWN)
Four of these mothers came to St. Louis from Philadelphia in the day coach and they appeared to be very enthused about their movement and anxious to do whatever they could to help the cause.
Mrs. BROWN advised that the coach was all full of soldiers and the mothers used the opportunity to spread their propaganda. There was some indication that they even distributed pamphlets entitled, "The Truth About Pearl Harbor". She made some comment that a number of Jewish soldiers apparently did not like their activities. Mrs. BROWN also brought along their banners and signs, including the one, "Blue Star Mothers of America" and the "Blue Star Mothers of Pennsylvania".
SMITH told Mrs. BROWN that things were different than back in 1936 and that they had to be a bit more careful because of the "terrible Gestapo" which persecutes people if their names are mentioned in connection with his movement. He advised that also a number of people were coming from many states to attend the rally in St. Louis, he had to be very careful and not mention their names because they would be followed home and then persecuted there. He said that there were twelve to fifteen states represented.
SMITH commented that [redacted] (phonetic) from Washington was in St. Louis. Mrs. BROWN probably knows [redacted]
Mrs. BROWN is apparently in contact with Congressman CLARE HOFFMANN regarding a meeting at Town Hall (probably in Philadelphia). They

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have been refused the hall by the management who said that "we don't want the F.B.I. on us". They were advised the board would not give them this hall.

4:10.....Reverend LELAND MARION enters.

Mrs. BROWN has apparently been arranging for a SMITH meeting in Philadelphia. They may try to get the Turner's Hall which has the capacity of about 2,000.

SMITH inquired whether this had been a German meeting place and whether or not any subversive groups had met there. He is afraid that if subversive German groups had held meetings there it might reflect badly upon their party.

A large number of tickets had been left at the Municipal Auditorium in St. Louis so that people who wanted admittance could obtain these tickets by furnishing their names.

LOHBECK indicated that five or six people had signed for tickets at the Auditorium.

4:15.....KOESTERS and Reverend MARION leave.

4:16.....STEPHEN MC CULLOUGH, reporter, Post-Dispatch, calls and makes arrangements to come to the hotel later.

4:30.....SMITH goes to the bedroom for a nap.

4:50.....Mrs. BROWN and her companion leave.

6:00.....MC CULLOUGH enters.

MC CULLOUGH was introduced by SMITH to Miss LEGANT and then SMITH remarks that MC CULLOUGH had probably seen and met Miss LEGANT on his visit to Detroit in December of 1943. MC CULLOUGH acknowledged that he had previously met her, saying, "Yes, I saw you in Detroit, in fact, ~~she~~ you wore a sweater that day". SMITH added to Miss LEGANT's apparent embarrassment by saying that he could not give MC CULLOUGH too much credit for haveing a good memory in recalling their previous meeting.

LOHBECK tells of how HEPNER, another Post-Dispatch reported, had interviewed him concerning any trips which he had made to Germany.

MC CULLOUGH and SMITH converse in the bedroom which makes their conversation unintelligible.

6:35.....Miss LEGANT leaves for the Municipal Auditorium.

LOHBECK has left a short time previously with large boxes of literature which is to be distributed.

6:50.....Mrs. LOHBECK enters and then goes down to the coffee shop to join Mrs. LUNDEEN.

MC CULLOUGH who is still talking with SMITH asks SMITH if anyone has tried to attack him yet on the basis that he is staying at the Hotel Jefferson which has the reputation for being pro-Nazi, inasmuch as the F.B.I. had interned a number of waiters who worked there.

7:00.....LOHBECK calls from the Auditorium and reports to SMITH how the crowd is coming in.

MC CULLOUGH continues his conversation, indicating that he is definitely anti-ROOSEVELT and he places the blame of the original reverses in the Pacific onto the President, for the reasons that ROOSEVELT was wrong first of all in not reinforcing the garrisons in the Philippines and

other Pacific outposts because he should have, as Commander in Chief, known what the true military situation was and that war with Japan was imminent. Having failed to reinforce these garrisons he was at fault for not having the military forces on the alert, and, having failed at this, he was at fault for not withdrawing the forces from these outposts, or at least furnish them with enough food so that they would not have been in such desperate need when they were captured.

SMITH and MC CULLOUGH questioned whether the atrocity story which was written by the now deceased Lieutenant DYESS was entirely true. It is MC CULLOUGH'S idea that he may have had some of the experiences himself, but likely many of these personal experience stories he may have taken all of the good personal experience stories he had heard and put them into one narrative.

MC CULLOUGH gleefully comments of how he aggravates two Post-Dispatch reporters whom he knows are Communists, namely, [redacted]

SMITH tells about the letter which is being distributed in St. Louis, purportedly from the AMERICA FIRST PARTY which begins, "This war is a hoax". SMITH advised that some man called him up and asked him whether he had ever made these remarks or had authorized this letter and as soon as the man said the wording of it began as is quoted, he advised that it was definitely not he who had said those things because never in his life had he used those words.

MC CULLOUGH and SMITH comment about an article which HEPNER wrote about SMITH'S first meeting in St. Louis which was published in the New Republic.

7:20.....Two detectives enter who were assigned to take SMITH to the Municipal Auditorium.

SMITH starts telling these men how highly he regards police officers and how the Communists are the ones who are causing all the trouble and how Communists are against police officers of all kinds. SMITH advised that he himself had not asked for this detective detail but that LOHBECK had requested it. He explained that he had been with HUEY LONG at the time that he was shot and he saw at that time that if anyone wanted to physically harm one, no matter how many bodyguards he would have, it would not save him.

7:35.....KOESTERS calls from the Auditorium to report on how the crowd is coming in.

7:49.....SMITH's whole party leaves for the Auditorium.

11:40.....Mr. and Mrs. SMITH, MADDEN, REVEREND MARION, Mrs. LOHBECK, Miss LEGANT and the two detectives enter. These detectives are [redacted] and [redacted].

SMITH takes their names so that he can send them a gift.

The group speaks about what a good meeting it was and the excitement of it. Apparently the Communists and FRED EMIG, as representative of the V.F.W. were distributing literature in front of the Auditorium.

Mention is made that Mrs. KNOWLES was at the meeting.

Mrs. LUNDEEN mentions ROY WOODWARD.

Comment is made that some people may have been afraid to come because they feared that the place may have been bombed and Mrs. LUNDEEN

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comments that she imagines that a number were afraid to come because of their draft classifications, fearing that if they were seen at the meeting their Selective Service Boards would be advised and that they would have their classifications changed to 1-A.

12:00 A.M..Reverend MARION leaves.

They talk about going to church and some mention is made of a Reverend LEWIS at the St. Paul Methodist Church. This may be Reverend LEWIS who is an old friend of Mrs. SMITH'S family.

Miss LEGANT is a Lutheran and someone is to take her to church in the morning, apparently at Concordia Seminary, because SMITH kids her over the fact that there are 700 young preachers corralled at the Seminary.

The attendance at the meeting was 2,189.

A telegram has been received from a [redacted] (phonetic) of Brooklyn, saying, "keep up the good work".

12:15.....All of them but Mrs. LOHBECK go out to eat.

Mrs. LOHBECK feels ill.

1:15.....Mrs. SMITH and CHARLES MADDEN enter, but he in a short time leaves.

Mrs. SMITH and Mrs. LOHBECK, and Mrs. LOHBECK relates how they sent letters to all of the radio stations in St. Louis asking that the meeting be publicized but that they received not a single reply from any of the stations.

Mrs. LOHBECK thought that the audience would be larger than it was and Mrs. SMITH explains the fact that a number of people undoubtedly stayed away because of "intimidation" and the "Gestapo".

Mrs. LOHBECK explained that her father is against the AMERICA FIRST PARTY and Mrs. SMITH comments that "You will find that the majority are against you".

1:27.....SMITH and LOHBECK enter. They bring the morning papers and are very well pleased with the Post-Dispatch article.

1:35.....The LOHBECKS leave and LOHBECK arranges to call SMITH at 12:30 P.M.

The SMITHS mention that the [redacted] were at the meeting [redacted] and wife of [redacted] were registered in Room [redacted] at the Hotel Jefferson)

1:45.....SMITH calls Mrs. LUNDEEN who is in Room 368, sharing the room with Miss LEGANT, telling her about the publicity they got on tonight's meeting.

2:00.....To Bed.

March 26, 1944

7:45 A.M...A special delivery letter. This letter is probably from [redacted] of Minneapolis with whom SMITH spoke by telephone on the night of March 24, 1944 at 11:30 P.M. He requested that she sent to him, air mail, special delivery, all clippings in the newspaper relative to their attempt to get the Municipal Auditorium in that city for their meeting.

8:45.....SMITH is in the lobby of the hotel. He apparently spends the whole

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morning going to church.

12:10 P.M..Mrs. SMITH orders breakfast. She has stayed in the room all morning sleeping.

12:25.....SMITH calls in. He has been at a church which is about fifteen minutes away from the hotel.

12:27.....MADDEN calls.

12:30.....LOHBECK calls. They will not be able to have lunch with the SMITHS as they can find no one to take care of the baby.

12:43.....[redacted] who is in Room [redacted] calls in. He was at the meeting last night and liked it very much.

12:45.....Mrs. LUNDEEN in.

SMITH has also come in a few minutes prior to this and he refers her to the editorials appearing in the Minneapolis papers and he thinks that they are very good. SMITH went to a Baptist Church for services this morning and it was possibly the Third Baptist Church. SMITH apparently has had some contact with the preacher there and he said that the preacher was tickled that he was present. SMITH liked the sermon very much.

12:50.....MADDEN calls and is told to come to the room.

12:55.....CLYDE MORROW enters.

MORROW again tells SMITH that his boy wanted to come to St. Louis with him.

They talk about the WINCHELL DIES feud and the fact that Congressman HOFFMANN has brought out that ANDREW JERGENS had in his employ a person who had been convicted of misprison of treason and another who was interned. They also mention the sentences which have been meted out in the BUCHANAN-DINEEN case in Detroit and Mrs. LUNDEEN and Mrs. SMITH are shocked at the fact that the F.B.I. had a peep-hole into Miss DINEEN's room. They seemed to find no criticism with the sentences in that case, however, Mrs. SMITH comments about the "poor little guy in Detroit who aided the war prisoner". (This refers to MAX STEPHANS who was sentenced for treason for aiding PETER KLUG, the escaped German War Prisoner).

MORROW also made some comment indicating that he felt that STEPHANS had been harshly dealt with.

CLYDE MORROW explains how at the meeting last night he distributed admission cards outside of the meeting and encouraged many people to come in to hear SMITH. He also told how he got ahold of the bunch of literature which the Communists were distributing and disposed of it so that they could not distribute it. He made mention of [redacted] and several others who gathered around one of the SMITH protesters.

Mrs. ROSE (?) (this possibly may be Mrs. BEATRICE M. KNOWLES) is also in town and is going out to Concordia Seminary as she is a strong follower of Dr. WALTER MAIER. Miss LEGANT who is a Lutheran is also going out to the Seminary.

Mrs. SMITH who has come into the room comments that Miss LEGANT is a very fine girl and that they are well satisfied with her. She tells how they had to fire the other secretary because she was taking

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too many days off. She would have such a big time over the week-ends that she could never get to work on Mondays and for a period of three or four months before she was fired she took off an average of two days a week.

Mrs. SMITH mentions that she likes the Hotel Statler better than the Hotel Jefferson.

1:10.....Mrs. LUNDEEN enters and they talk abou the Chicago Sun Story.

Mrs. SMITH comments about the Chicago Sun story on page one which was written by AKERS based on the previous day's interview and Mrs. SMITH says that AKERS likes SMITH but that his paper probably re-wrote his article to make it appear derogatory of SMITH.

Mrs. SMITH says that somebody said that the Mayor of St. Louis was at the meeting the night before. (This is believed to be erroneous as the Mayor is believed to have attended a meeting of lawyers where Senator MC CARRON spoke). Comment is made that Senator MC CARRON is a very good friend of Mrs. LUNDEEN.

1:30.....MC CULLOUGH calls in and says that he will be at the meeting this afternoon.

The conversation touches upon the sedition trials which are to begin next month and MORROW says that "one of the boys showed me his papers". This paper apparently was a subpoena for this man to appear in Washington, D. C. The group agrees that the only ones who were indicted for sedition were those people who are against the Jews and the Administration and that the indictments are purely political. MORROW comments that Mrs. BROWN of the Blue Star Mothers is going to go to Detroit to hear Father COUGHLIN. MORROW begins talking about various Communists and Communist groups and he asks Mrs. LUNDEEN about the Trotskyites in Minneapolis, however, Mrs. LUNDEEN, although she is from that town, does not know anything about them nor was she acquainted with the convictions concerning their movement the last year. It is to be noted that Mrs. LUNDEEN, as based on her conversations, is merely mouthing the arguments which have been put out by SMITH and others and that she herself is not well founded in the background of the various political movements or their leaders.

MORROW advises that these Trotskyites in the C.I.O. who were convicted in Minneapolis were prosecuted because WILLIAM GREEN, head of the A.F. of L., went to ROOSEVELT and aksed to have them indicted. They again mentioned the DINEEN trial and imagined that she is very mad at the F.B.I., inasmuch as she cooperated and then was given a twelve-year sentence. They start talking about the F.B.I. looking into rooms and MORROW explains how the F.B.I. must have some device which makes this possible. He explained how during the trial when the Defense Attorney tried to bring it out that the F.B.I. had an observation point the lawyers went into the judge's chambers and when they came out it was announced, in consideration for the National Defense this would not be brought out in open court. MORROW advised that he does know, however, that the police department has mirrors which appear like any regular mirror but that it can be looked through from the opposite side.

Mrs. LUNDEEN commented, "They tap all of the telephones".

MORROW commented that one can assume that all telephone lines are tapped. He then tells of hearing devices that are used and also the methods of tapping telephone wires. It is to be noted in this respect that MORROW apparently does not have very much knowledge about this matter and practically no knowledge about the technical aspects of tapping telephones or of installing microphone installations. He apparently has, however, been listening to someone expound on these matters. MORROW starts talking about the Communist Party in Russia and says that STALIN is not a real Communist and does not like the Jews. He describes STALIN as being utterly ruthless, but being highly patriotic and thinking of Russia first, that then, indirectly, commented that they wished we had a president who thinks of America first.

1:57.....CHARLES MADDEN and possibly Reverend MARION come in.
MORROW continues speaking rather well of STALIN and they all agree that he is for Russia. MORROW was at the church services where Father COUGHLIN said that "we should love HITLER". MORROW says that COUGHLIN actually said that. MORROW has a daughter who will very soon marry a soldier who is going overseas.

2:07.....Someone comes in, possibly LOHBECK.

2:12.....[redacted] enter.
The [redacted] are apparently very sympathetic with SMITH and are one of the fold.

2:15.....Incoming telephone call which is taken in the bedroom.
[redacted] have come from Philadelphia to hear SMITH's speech. [redacted] advised that they came for three reasons: one, she had never been in St. Louis; two, for the SMITH's speech, and three, she had a friend in St. Louis, but she has now found out that this friend has moved to Chicago. They are going to Chicago from St. Louis before returning to Philadelphia.

2:20.....CLYDE MORROW and LOHBECK leave for the Municipal Auditorium.
[redacted] and SMITH talk abou the election of someone named SAMUELS. [redacted] also tells of a woman who is head of the Union Now movement. [redacted] is against the Internationalists. Mention is made of someone who used to be with the F.B.I. It is to be noted that this conversation was very difficult to follow, inasmuch as [redacted] was talking with Mrs. SMITH and Mrs. LUNDEEN, and SMITH and [redacted] were speaking in rather low voices.

2:35.....The entire party leaves for the Municipal Auditorium where a meeting had been planned for a select group of the America Firsters.

5:30.....Incoming telephone call, no one there.

6:50.....Mr. and Mrs. SMITH enter, along with LOHBECK.
SMITH comments that MC CULLOUGH, the newspaper reporter, had asked him whether LOHBECK was vulnerable.
LOHBECK asks, "In what way".
SMITH answered, MC CULLOUGH was just wondering whether there was anything in his background that would work against the best interests of the PARTY. This line of conversation was dropped. From the way it started it appeared as though he wanted to give LOHBECK an opportunity of expressing himself along this line. However, LOHBECK did not say

ALL b7C

anything.
Comment is also made about envelopes, (apparently the envelopes which had been collected at the meeting) It was said that 59 red envelopes had been received and 83 others. There were also some subscriptions. It is to be noted that SMITH had previously commented that he was going to emphasize subscriptions to the Cross and Flag.
SMITH is apparently well satisfied with Miss LEGANT and he comments that he is glad she had the opportunity to go out with a young preacher and commented about the man shortage.

7:00.....Mrs. LUNDEEN enters.
SMITH and the others are very anxious to get a radio so they can listen to the WINCHELL DIES broadcast at 8:00 P.M. They have so far been unsuccessful in getting a radio through the hotel.
LOHBECK called the studios of KXOK and had tentatively arranged that they would be able to get into the newsroom and there listen to the broadcast. LOHBECK in his telephone conversation says that he knows ROBERTS and others there.

7:10.....Miss LEGANT and Mrs. KNOWLES,
Miss LEGANT mentions that they got to see Dr. WALTER MAIER and that he sent his greetings to Mr. SMITH. Miss LEGANT also had lunch with Dr. MAIER and met his entire family, including his old mother. She comments that his mother, Mrs. MAIER, has such a thick German accent that one would think she had only been in this country about ten years.
SMITH asks how any of the young preachers liked his speech and he was advised that the young preachers were very enthused about the meeting and that about twenty-five of them were there last night. Miss LEGANT told SMITH that Dr. MAIER immediately asked about the meeting as soon as he saw her.
She and Mrs. KNOWLES also advised that they were at the broadcasting station when MAIER broadcast but that they could not see him broadcast.

7:15.....SMITH takes a long distance telephone call in the bedroom.
Mrs. LOHBECK who has been trying to get a radio is finally successful in getting one through the hotel and comment is made that Mrs. LOHBECK is a good friend of the manager. This comment may have been made in jest.
Mrs. KNOWLES is registered at the Mayfair. Mrs. KNOWLES thought that she saw an F.B.I. agent at the meeting. She is going from St. Louis to see CHALLAUX, head of the Americanization Committee of the American Legion, to inquire of him why the Legion advises the drafting of women, etc.
SMITH comments that he feels he got a good story out of MC CULLOUGH because he treated him to a steak dinner before the meeting.
There is another woman with Mrs. KNOWLES in the room and both of them seem to be fanatics in their enthusiasm. These two women comment that an F.B.I. man sat next to them and that he did not laugh at first at some of the things that SMITH said but finally he could not contain himself any more and burst out in laughter at some of SMITH's comments. Mrs. KNOWLES' companion also made frequent derogatory remarks about the "Asiatic Indians", undoubtedly, using this phrase in reference to Jews.

Mrs. KNOWLES and Miss LEGANT were taken to Concordia Seminary by Mr. RILEY who is Dr. KAISER's assistant.
Mrs. KNOWLES said that at the church where RILEY took them he is a vicar. Mrs. KNOWLES was very enthused about the sermon and said that the sermon was anti-Semitic. The preacher pointed out how selfish, self-centered, and arrogant the Jews are and they interpret the word of God to be different from what it actually is.
The group then engages in general talk against Jews.
SMITH mentions ROGER BALDWIN, head of the American Civil Liberty Union. He explains that BALDWIN is very well acquainted with Senator WHEELER and relates the story that WHEELER was twice indicted during World War I and that the A.C.L.U. came to his rescue. Fairly recently, ROGER BALDWIN saw WHEELER, apparently in Washington, D.C., and WHEELER told BALDWIN to have the Jews in the A.C.L.U. come to the rescue of the 30 people who have been indicted for sedition because in this way they would be able to fight in the rising wave of anti-Semitism by showing that all Jews were not in favor of these sedition indictments.

7:47.....CLYDE MORROW comes in. He is registered at the Claridge Hotel and came over to SMITH's room because he has been unable to get a radio and he wants to listen to the WINCHELL DIES broadcast.

7:50.....Someone else comes into the room.
It was rather difficult at this point to follow the conversation, inasmuch as at times more than one conversation was going on. However, somebody brought up the topic and name and SMITH said that DOROTHY WEARING (phonetic), possibly WEHRING, is an agent provacateur and that she had some connection with BEHRENS in Detroit (This may be in reference to the BEHRENS who was involved in the espionage trials) Mrs. KNOWLES refers to some anonymous letter which she received from Post Office Box 55, Ben Franklin Station, Washington, D. C. She advised that she had referred this letter to a friend of hers who is on the DIES Committee.
SMITH commented that he reports all such things directly to the F.B.I.
In this conversation SMITH brings out that Mrs. KNOWLES has done considerable research on subversive textbooks which are being used in schools in this country. She apparently goes to a lot of school boards and from comments apparently she has had a number of run-ins with various school authorities, and apparently she takes the opportunity of arguing and fighting with Jews whenever she has the chance because she mentioned a number of instances where the party with whom she had the argument was a Jew.

8:00.....They all listen to the WINCHELL DIES program.
The first fifteen minutes were taken by WINCHELL and the second fifteen by DIES. WINCHELL has been attacking various individuals in Congress and has also attacked the DIES Committee for not investigating and bringing to light a number of American ~~Fireters~~ FASCISTS who are operating in this country and DIES took the opportunity in this radio broadcast to accuse WINCHELL of being a tool of some high authority who has kept him on the air so that he can attack anyone who is against that clique. DIES' principal object was apparently to defend the

representatives in Congress and also to defend himself and his Committee.

8:30.....After the broadcast the entire group was very well pleased with DIES' talk and they were quite vigorous in their attack against WINCHELL.

Mrs. KNOWLES and her companion become greatly enthused over the idea of boycotting Jergens Lotion and one of them comments that a friend of hers went to a drugstore and ordered about $13.00worth of goods and asked him if he handled Jergens products and when he said he did she refused the articles, saying that she would not buy from any drugstore which handled Jergens products. These women immediately start planning that as soon as they get back to their homes they will go to all the drugstores and make large orders and then when they find out that the druggist handles Jergens products will refuse to take their orders. They feel that in this way they will be able to do considerable good. They also start planning a meeting of all the mothers and of all of the women they know doing the same thing. One of the women comments, "Our greatest asset is our nuisance value".

Mrs. KNOWLES starts talking about Mrs. DILLING and says that she knows that she has these tantrums and spells but that one cannot help but like her. She has apparently had considerable contact with Mrs. DILLING and says that there has also been a feud between WALTER WINCHELL and Mrs. DILLING.

At this point CLYDE MORROW comments that [redacted] told him that WINCHELL raided the ONI files there and used the information in his broadcast. He also indicated that [redacted] has has considerable contact with Mrs. DILLING. MORROW spoke as though he had had considerable contact with [redacted]

Mrs. KNOWLES told the story that she was in Washington, D. C. at the time that the mothers and other women were protesting against the Lend-Lease Bill and was present when Mrs. DILLING had some of her tantrums. Mrs. DILLING kept calling her husband by long distance telephone in Chicago and finally Mr. DILLING called Mr. KNOWLES who was in Detroit to find out what was wrong with his wife and Mr. KNOWLES called up Mrs. KNOWLES who was in Washington, D. C.

Mrs. KNOWLES advised that Mr. DILLING is as enthused and interested in Mrs. DILLING'S work as she is and that he feels the same way she does. They start talking about the relationship between Mr. and Mrs. DILLING, pointing out that at one time they are very loving and then they get at odds.

Mrs. SMITH says that the DILLINGS were in Detroit at one time just after they had made up and explained how very loving they were. Apparently SMITH has had contact with Mrs. DILLING.

Mrs. KNOWLES indicates that [redacted] has also had contact with DILLING.

SMITH feels that Mrs. DILLING has a very good chance of being convicted. Mrs. KNOWLES would hate to see Mrs. DILLING convicted and they all agree that the basis for the indictments are the fact that these people were the leaders of the anti-Semitic movement in the United States.

ALL b7c

8:50.....RILEY telephones in to Miss LEGANT and they hold a short conversation and after it is over Miss LEGANT advises SMITH that RILEY has already written a letter to DIES, complimenting on his broadcast.
The conversation got rather jumbled at this point but KNOWLES commented that she was going to the office of ISAAC FRANKS and let him know that she knows who he is. Apparently, there has been some disagreement between the two of them concerning the Jewish question.

9:00.....SMITH leaves to meet someone in the lobby. This may be [redacted] but this is not certain. Before leaving SMITH explained that the "world's most intelligent anti-Semite" was coming up to the room and that they should entertain him until he came back. He advised that this man's name was [redacted], and another fellow who is helping him whose name is [redacted] (phonetic). He also commented that this man or these men had written a book and were planning to write another one.
Some mention is made of the Red Network (Mrs. DILLING's book) and its flyleaf. This conversation had to do with Mrs. DILLING and her anti-Semitic remarks and Mrs. KNOWLES was very sure of herself because of the fact that she had never publicly said anything anti-Semitic or gone on record as being anti-Semitic. She advised that the F.B.I. men have tried to get that out of her as have many others.

9:05.....[redacted] (possibly [redacted] and [redacted] enter.
They comment that they have spent much time with SMITH in Detroit and came to St. Louis to hear him and also help in the organization work. One of these men is from Rochester, Minnesota, and the other one, possibly [redacted] gives his address as [redacted]

At this point it was determined that Mrs. KNOWLES' full name is BEATRICE M. KNOWLES of Detroit, and that CLYDE MONROW is from Detroit. One of the two men, either [redacted] or [redacted] monopolized the conversation from this point on. It is believed that it was [redacted] however, it may have been the other man. At least, it will be listed a[redacted]
They start talking about the F.B.I. and [redacted] said that he does not like BUGAS (former S.A.C. in the Detroit Field Division). He described BUGAS as being a man who would use an iron fist when a silk glove would have best served the purposes. He claimed that BUGAS always tried to get everything by force and cited an example where BUGAS was interviewing a German and threatened that he would not be able to get his naturalization papers unless he furnished the information which was desired. With this the German "clammed up" and would not furnish the information. He advised that it took the F.B.I. two years to get the information which could have been gotten from this German if he had been handled in a different way. [redacted] advised that they now have a new S.A.C. in Detroit named GUERIN who has a much smoother approach and will probably be better liked. He explained that BUGAS never gave the local police any credit for any of the work which they did and when any arrests were made it was always the F.B.I. [redacted] explained that he has had contact with quite a few special agents and from his talk he apparently has had the confidence of some of them.

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[redacted] said that about six months ago an agent by the name of [redacted] called him up and asked him to come down to the office as he wanted to interview him for some information. [redacted] told [redacted] that he was the one who was wanting the information and if he wanted it he should come out to see him. [redacted] did come out and he saw right away that he was a Jew. [redacted] explained how the light was in [redacted]'s eyes and he could not see [redacted] very well and he shifted his chair so that he could look into his eyes better. [redacted] wanted some information about a Bund camp. [redacted] explained that he and his wife and her mother or mother-in-law had gone to this camp a number of times and [redacted] wanted to know whether a certain individual went to this Bund camp and wanted him to identify someone. [redacted] told [redacted] that he would not give him that information because at that time he worked for BENNETT (of the Ford Motor Company) and that before he would give this information he would have to see BENNETT. [redacted] commented that he doubted whether such permission would be given or that whether he would furnish the information. This last comment was not made to [redacted] but was made to the group who were listening at the hotel. [redacted] said that he does not like the F.B.I. because of the way it is functioning and described it as a "Gestapo".

Someone in the group commented that the F.B.I. might be listening to their conversation. However, this did not seem to keep them from further conversation.

Mrs. KNOWLES claimed that she knows that the F.B.I. is opening her mail and that it has been obvious from the envelopes that this has been done. She advised that she called the Post Office and they sent out a Post Office Inspector. This inspector told her that the F.B.I. had no authority to open letters and that if they wanted to do that they would have to get a court order. She showed this Post Office Inspector the letter and he said, "Yes, this letter has been opened". This Post Office Inspector said that they are very jealous of their jurisdiction in these matters and that they would try to find out who is responsible for opening her mails and also commented that they would find out.

Mrs. KNOWLES said that in one day she received three letters which had been opened, and one of these letters was from one of the persons who has been indicted for sedition.

They then began talking about PAGNANELLI and his book "Under Cover". Mrs. KNOWLES said that he was at her home for about two hours and when he came to her home he told her that PARKER SAGE had recommended her to him. She advised that she was suspicious of him immediately because she does not know SAGE. She claims that he misquoted her in his book.

[redacted] commented that at that time PAGNANELLI knew that he didn't have much time left before he would be uncovered and that he therefore was going around promiscuously making contacts.

Mrs. KNOWLES stated that she had a friend of hers check on PAGNANELLI in New York and she found that PAGNANELLI was wearing out shoe leather between the B'nai B'rith headquarters and the P.M. newspaper. Mrs.

ALL b7C

KNOWLES also told some story of going to see some rabbi whose first name starts with an "S". It is to be noted that this rabbi's name was unintelligible. She advised that when she went to see this rabbi she took some stenographer along with her to take notes of the conversation.

Some mention was made of a man by the name of BAUER (?).

[redacted] said that his brother-in-law writes all of BAUER's speeches.

9:35.....There is an incoming telephone call from a woman who gives her name as GRACE SINGLETON who claims to be an evangelist and operates a tabernacle in New Orleans. She claimed that she had heard SMITH talk in New Orleans and in Mexico City and invited him to come over to see her. Her room number was possible 1528. It is believed that Mrs. KNOWLES took this telephone call.

The conversation continued concerning CARLSON and his book "Under Cover" and either [redacted] or Mrs. KNOWLES told of a fellow by the name of [redacted] who had been contacted by CARLSON and mention was made that he had some device for making bombs, etc. Whoever was relating this story advised that they had just found out that [redacted] had a lot of heavy boxes which he wanted to move around and he went to a friend of his and got some ball bearings which were described as implements to be used in the making of bombs.

Mrs. KNOWLES told of her interview with BUGAS and how he tried to get from her the names of people with whom she was having correspondence and also who were on her mailing list. She advised that she told BUGAS that surely he did not think that she thought that the F.B.I. was so inefficient that they would not already have these names and she told him that if she would ever lose her mailing list the first thing she would do in order to get a copy of it would be to see him. She said that he just laughed.

Mrs. KNOWLES asked the question of [redacted] of why the F.B.I. would have five men of the Detroit Police Department detailed just to investigate people who made anti-Semitic remarks. She was very much puzzled as to why the F.B.I. would have the Detroit Police Department do any of their work.

[redacted] explained that the F.B.I. was no longer having the Police Department do that work because about a week ago they called back from the Police Department all letters which they had sent to them requesting investigations and that they were going to do all of the work themselves now. He advised that it was not only five men from the Police Department that were making F.B.I. investigations but fifty men and that they were conducting all types of internal security investigations. He advised that it was necessary for the F.B.I. to call upon local authorities to help them out because there were not enough agents to handle all the work. From [redacted]'s conversation it appeared as though he has had considerable contact with F.B.I. agents and other police officers as he commented that these men often come to see him.

[redacted] told of a number of agents coming to see him who apparently are not sufficiently acquainted with the background of various political movements to intelligently evaluate information that is given to him.

Ad b2c

He advised that these young men come to him with all of their efficiency and with their notebooks and take voluminous notes and he knows very well that after they are finished they don't know what they have and when they get back to the office they wonder what they have actually obtained. He cited as an example of this, a young agent who came to him and asked him the extremely silly and ridiculous question as to whether the Trotskyites in Minneapolis were friendly with the present Soviet Union which is presently under STALIN who was the arch enemy of TROTSKY. [redacted] continued talking about COmmunists and he apparently spoke as an authority on this subject.

9:45.....SMITH enters.
Mrs. KNOWLES' woman companion's name is possibly [redacted] (phonetic). These women were leaving by bus at 11:45 P.M.
SMITH was told of the call from GRACE SINGLETON and he immediately said that this was someone who was trying to frame him because he knew that he had never spoken in Mexico City and that this woman was apparently a pawn of his enemies.
Mr. MORROW and Mrs. KNOWLES indicated that they would go over and see this woman and see who she was.

9:50.....All of the people leave except [redacted], and the SMITHS. [redacted] and [redacted] apparently are leaving for the "Northwest". These men have something to talk over with SMITH and say that they have "to work something out".
SMITH said he knew a very fine place to talk which was a cafe across the street from the hotel and so at....

9:57.....SMITH and these two men leave and Mrs. SMITH is alone.
The cafe to which they refer is the Bismarck Cafe and SMITH has apparently taken a liking to this place and it is practically impossible to cover any conversations in this cafe without preliminary arrangements and this could certainly not be covered without arousing some suspicion, so no effort was made to do so.

10:00.....Miss LEGANT enters.
She and Mrs. SMITH start work on the collections received from the meetings held in St. Louis.
Miss LEGANT tells Mrs. SMITH that Dr. MAIER just got back from New York conferring with network officials, inasmuch as he is having some trouble with his program. Dr. MAIER wanted MILEY to go to Detroit in order to get some ideas on how Mr. SMITH handles his large volume of correspondence.
Mrs. SMITH mentions that CHARLES MADDEN and Mrs. LUNDEEN made their main speeches at the meeting this afternoon. She also comments that MC CULLOUGH and his wife were at the meeting.
Mrs. BROWN and her fellow workers are leaving town at noon for Detroit.
CLYDE MORROW lives on Greensborough Street.

11:10.....CLYDE MORROW comes to the door of the room and Mrs. SMITH goes into the hall and they converse quietly, as it develops, MORROW apparently tells of his and Mrs. KNOWLES' experience in going over to see GRACE SINGLETON.

11:15.....Mrs. SMITH comes back in and quietly tells Miss LEGANT something.

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On going through the various envelopes containing collections the following information was developed. There are letters from Kimmswick, Missouri; several from Alton, Illinois; several from Chesterfield, Missouri; one from O'Fallon, Missouri, and several from Lemay, Missouri.
Miss LEGANT comments that GEORGE GEBHARDT is from Lemay.
The following names are mentioned: [redacted] of Lakewood, Ohio.
Miss LEGANT comments that she is the woman who wrote SMITH and made some mention that he might not want to write to her because she is a German.
They also mentioned the name [redacted] from Detroit. These are probably two of the women who came down, possibly with Mrs. KNOWLES.
Mention is also made of [redacted] (phonetic) of Greenville, Kentucky.
This would indicate that all of the above individuals were actually personally present at the SMITH meeting, in St. Louis, as it has been SMITH'S policy in taking these collections to distribute envelopes and have the people put their name and address on them.

12:15 A.M..SMITH enters [redacted]
He says that [redacted] and [redacted] are bound and determined that he should call a convention of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY, have his candidates nominated, and then serve an ultimatum on the Republican Party and if they are not accepted by the PARTY withdraw from association with it.
SMITH said that [redacted] had talked to _____, mention is also made that he saw [redacted]. Apparently, [redacted] had obtained some promise from somebody. SMITH continued, saying something, that [redacted] had pressed him to hold this convention and that their suggestion was to nominate candidates and then serve the ultimatum. SMITH seemed very receptive to this idea and repeated several times, "I hadn't thought of that". (It is to be noted that Miss LEGANT was present when SMITH related these facts).
SMITH looked at the collections which the women had opened up to that point and he commented that they probably would not have enough to pay for the meeting.
Mrs. SMITH told her husband about GRACE SINGLETON, the evangelist, whom Mrs. KNOWLES and MORROW had contacted at the Lennox Hotel.
The name of [redacted] was mentioned.
SMITH commented that somebody probably paid her $100.00 in order to frame him and that she undoubtedly was not an evangelist.
SMITH asked Miss LEGANT if Dr. MAIER had said anything about his new network.
SMITH asked his wife, "I suppose the MASONS were happy", and she answers, "Yes, very".
SMITH and Mrs. SMITH have kidded Miss LEGANT somewhat about her meeting with RILEY and it may be possible that she was somewhat impressed by him.

12:45.....SMITH goes to bed and the women keep counting the collections.
They comment that $20.00 was received from some people in Rochester, New York. Also, they comment on receiving a collection from [redacted] This is probably the same as [redacted]

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1:30.....The women are still working on the collections.

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9:00 A.M...SMITH awake.
9:10.....SMITH goes to breakfast.
9:28.....Incoming telephone call, no names mentioned.
9:40.....SMITH enters. He calls Room 368 and speaks to Mrs. LUNDEEN and tells her that he will pay for all of her bills in St. Louis and her transportation.
Miss LEGANT is at breakfast.
A call is made to HUdson 5959 which is LOHBECK's number and he is told to bring all of his receipts and memos for bills which he has paid and that he should also bring his hotel bill at Cleveland.
9:50.....SMITH leaves to go to the Hotel Statler to get out of town newspapers.
10:05.....SMITH in.
10:20.....KOESTERS calls in, will come down for lunch at 12:30.
SMITH will get out some press releases this morning.
10:22.....CLYDE MORROW calls in, he is downstairs and will come up.
When MORROW comes up he tells how he and Mrs. KNOWLES went to see GRACE SINGLETON at the Lennox Hotel and found her in some very flashy pajamas and she offered them some drinks. She was a woman about forty years of age, was all made up. She must have made mention of ALFRED DANZIGER and SMITH said that he is a Jew politician in New Orleans. Miss SINGLETON is apparently trying to get a passport to Venezuela. MORROW would engage SINGLETON in conversation and while doing so Mrs. KNOWLES would look through correspondence which she had on her desk.
10:42.....MORROW leaves.
SMITH dictates press releases, etc.
10:45 to
11:15.....It was impossible to obtain exactly what was going on during this period but at 11:15 it was noted that SMITH apparently had had some news men in and there was present in the room at that time a woman reporter, possibly with the U.P. or with the newspaper in whose building the U.P. has offices.
11:20.....A copy boy comes in for press releases and is giving an extra copy to the A.P.
11:27.....Woman reporter leaves.
11:45.....Incoming call, SMITH goes down to the lobby.
11:47.....SMITH comes in with Reverend MARION.
11:47.....Miss LEGANT enters.
A call from Detroit (?) which is taken in the bedroom.
Miss LEGANT and MARION engage in conversation and she tells of being at Dr. MAIER's, seeing the broadcast, and having dinner there.
11:55.....LOHBECK enters.
SMITH is going to Chicago from St. Louis and then to Milwaukee. His mother has broken her arm and he intends driving to his home town from Milwaukee.
LOHBECK comments about the newspapers and says that the Post said they

had 250 people at their meeting while the Star says 150.

12:02 P.M.. Reverend MARION leaves, as does LOHBECK to get some pictures from the newspapers.

SMITH dictates letters to Miss LEGANT.

12:20..... [redacted] calls from the lobby and SMITH tells him that he will be done in five minutes.

12:27.....SMITH and Mrs. SMITH go down to the lobby.

Miss LEGANT remains typing.

12:40.....KOESTERS, LOHBECK and SMITH come in.

1:10.....Miss LEGANT goes to her room.

Apparently KOESTERS is alone in the room while SMITH and LOHBECK confer in the bedroom.

1:25.....Mrs. LUNDEEN (?) comes in and talks with KOESTERS.

Miss LEGANT is also in the room.

1:32.....CLYDE MORROW enters.

LOHBECK is also in the room at this time.

1:35.....Miss LEGANT leaves.

1:37.....SMITH calls.

LOHBECK is getting photographs of the SMITH meeting from the Post-Dispatch through Mr. PHILLIPS.

1:38.....Telephone call which is taken in the bedroom.

1:40.....Apparently all the men leave and also Miss LEGANT, leaving Mrs. SMITH with Mrs. LUNDEEN.

1:45..... [redacted] comes in. He wants to get a dozen JONES books. Mrs. SMITH tells him that Mr. SMITH is down in the lobby and he does down there to see SMITH.

1:50..... [redacted] returns, saying that he cannot find SMITH (It is to be noted that LOHBECK and KOESTERS were with SMITH and he probably has gone over to the Bismarck Cafe) [redacted] had brought some pamphlet or booklet for SMITH. He told Mrs. SMITH that Mr. HOULIHAN, former mayor of Richmond Heights, wanted the JONES books and that he had had Mister HOULIGAN at the meeting Saturday night.

Mrs. SMITH was unable to find these books.

[redacted] also says goodbye to Mrs. LUNDEEN and tells her that he has just this morning visited with former Senator GARDNER in Clayton, Missouri. He is a man in his seventies and sent his greetings to Mrs. LUNDEEN.

1:57..... [redacted] leaves.

2:10.....Incoming telephone call, advising that the newspaper pictures are ready.

2:11.....CLYDE MORROW comes in with the pictures.

2:15.....Miss LEGANT enters.

In conversation with Miss LEGANT, MORROW mentions a Mrs. SCHAFFERMAN (phonetic) who was indicted. It is believed that he said something to the effect that he used to hire her.

2:20.....Incoming telephone call taken in the bedroom, possibly from SMITH.

2:25.....SMITH, LOHBECK, and KOESTERS enter.

KOESTERS mentions that [redacted] helped Saturday night.

2:30.....CLYDE MORROW leaves. He is to catch a train for Detroit at 6:00 P.M. From the conversation there is indication that SMITH has spoken to

All b7c

[redacted] and SMITH also mentions the name [redacted].

2:33.....Mrs. LUNDEEN calls in.
SMITH will call her back in half an hour.

2:45.....[redacted] calls in. He is told that SMITH will be back in one-half hour.

3:00.....[redacted] comes in to see SMITH, however, SMITH is possibly packing in the other room and [redacted] is told that SMITH cannot see him.
KOESTERS and Miss LEGANT are in the room alone and KOESTERS talks about the Jews.

3:03.....LOHBECK enters.

3:04.....Mrs. LUNDEEN enters.
SMITH'S hotel bill, including the rooms for MADDEN, LUNDEEN, etc., amounts to $80.16.

3:14.....KOESTERS leaves.
LOHBECK has also left to obtain SMITH'S transportation and take care of other details.
SMITH and Mrs. LUNDEEN confer about the Minneapolis situation. Mrs. LUNDEEN advises SMITH that a [redacted] (possibly [redacted] called her and asked her to give SMITH a message. [redacted] apparently wanted Mrs. LUNDEEN and [redacted] to go to Washington, D. C. "on the radio deal". [redacted] feels that Mrs. LUNDEEN could do better than he and two unknown men.
SMITH begins figuring on how Mrs. LUNDEEN's expenses to Washington, D. C. can be paid. He said that he received a letter from HOBB (he may have said HOFF, possibly meaning HOFFMANN) about the lend-lease. SMITH wanted Mrs. LUNDEEN to speak at the Baltimore meeting and he also would like to have her at the Philadelphia meeting. She advised that both [redacted] spoke to her about speaking at Philadelphia. SMITH tells her that on many of the speaking engagements it is very hard to get one's expenses paid and if groups too, do agree to pay one's expenses, they cannot understand why a person wants to have a few luxuries and live in good quarters, having something more than the bare necessities.
SMITH tells Mrs. LUNDEEN about his conversations with [redacted] and [redacted] last night, saying they told me last night that-----(The name mentioned was unintelligible) is ready to accept the nomination on the AMERICA FIRST ticket.
Mrs. LUNDEEN presses SMITH for an answer as to what she should tell [redacted] and he tells her to tell [redacted] that if he will pay her transportation to Washington, D.C., SMITH will pay her hotel bill.
Mrs. LUNDEEN is rather reluctant to live at the home of her friends in Washington, D. C., and, mentions that one of the friends at whose home she has stayed is so far from town.
SMITH tells her to stay at the Hotel Statler. SMITH says that if [redacted] will pay her transportation down to Washington, D. C. and back to Minneapolis, then SMITH can afford to use Mrs. LUNDEEN for the meetings at Baltimore and Philadelphia, rather than Congressman HOFFMANN. SMITH says that the Lend-Lease meeting is coming up on the seventeenth. He comments that HOFFMANN is getting weaker rather

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than stronger (this is believed to refer to HOFFMANN's state of health rather than his influence, however, from the conversation it was impossible to tell which was meant).
Mrs. LUNDEEN said that Mrs. BROWN also wanted her to come to Philadelphia.
SMITH again mentions the fact that these people do not realize the expenses which are necessary incidental to these meetings and that they probably assume that they are getting a lot of money, say from HENRY FORD.
Mrs. LUNDEEN comments that it would be very fine if she were getting money from FORD but she is not.
SMITH also indicated that he was not getting money from FORD.
SMITH makes mention that someone "has been offered a whole radio network". In talking about the radio network, SMITH says that "maybe both of us can use it". From the conversation it seemed as though this network may possibly be centered around Minneapolis.
They begin speaking again about the Minneapolis situation and mentioned a man by the name of CHRISTIANSEN who is apparently one of the councilmen on the City Council which is to decide whether the Municipal Auditorium will be afforded SMITH or not.
Mrs. LUNDEEN says that CHRISTIANSEN does not want to be put on the spot. She reports CHRISTIANSEN as saying, "We are for you but we get the kickbacks and don't think it is fair". CHRISTIANSEN suggested that Mrs. LUNDEEN and SMITH withdraw their application for the Municipal Auditorium and then submit it again at a later date. CHRISTIANSEN indicated that he would not do a thing until Mrs. LUNDEEN got back and Mrs. LUNDEEN felt sure that CHRISTIANSEN would call her as soon as she returned to Minneapolis and she wanted to know what to tell him. She wondered whether it would be well for her to see WALLACE or some of the aldermen but commented that it would probably do no good.
SMITH shows Mrs. LUNDEEN a newspaper release which he has given out concerning the Minneapolis situation.
Mrs. LUNDEEN said that CHRISTIANSEN is afraid that they may have to vote the other way. He can line up twelve or thirteen votes but he is afraid that he will not be able to swing it.
SMITH was deep in thought, trying to figure out what to do in this situation and he decided to place a long distance telephone call to Buffalo, New York and get an exact statement as to the situation in that town concerning their attempt to get an auditorium there. He comments that he thinks that they will be able to get KLEIN'S Music Hall.
While waiting for this long distance call to go through SMITH tells Mrs. LUNDEEN to tell CHRISTIANSEN that ROGER BALDWIN of the A.C.L.U. is backing them in Buffalo. SMITH has also received a letter from BALDWIN in which he told SMITH that it was necessary to get an outside lawyer to handle the matter. SMITH also suggests that Mrs. LUNDEEN tell CHRISTIANSEN that they have struck a compromise in Buffalo and to tell him that this principle of whether an auditorium is afforded SMITH is a very big thing.
The conversation then became too soft to hear.
3:45.....LOHBECK enters and shortly thereafter leaves.

SMITH takes the Buffalo call in the bedroom and when SMITH comes back into the room he tells Mrs. LUNDEEN that the man to whom he spoke in Buffalo will send her a copy of ROGER BALDWIN's letter. SMITH then tells Mrs. LUNDEEN exactly what to tell CHRISTIANSEN, one, that the American Civil Liberties Union is going to support SMITH to the limit; two, that under the Constitution everyone is afforded certain Civil liberties, one of which is the freedom of speech, and that CHRISTIANSEN cannot become known as one of the individuals who are conspiring to deny a man (SMITH) his freedom of speech; three, that there is no use kidding but that they (The AMERICA FIRST PARTY) are powerful enemies of the New Deal. SMITH says that the point is to put over to CHRISTIANSEN that they are going to go through with the deal in trying to get the Auditorium and that the A.C.L.U. is behind them.

SMITH told her then that if the City Council denies their application for the Auditorium that she should again apply for it the very next day and then the Council will have to go through the same procedure and every time they deny it she should re-apply.

SMITH instructed Mrs. LUNDEEN to tell [redacted], possibly [redacted] or [redacted] that he should line up five of his best mothers who have sons in the Service. He will then have Mrs. BROWN as head of the National Blue Star Mothers of America come to Minneapolis and install these five mothers as the National Blue Star Mothers of Minnesota. Then, as Mrs. LUNDEEN makes another application for the Auditorium in the name of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY the Blue Star Mothers should also apply for the Auditorium under the name of the National Blue Star Mothers of Minnesota and give as their speakers some obscure individuals to whom there can be no objection. After the Blue Star Mothers' application is approved and the management of the Auditorium has accepted their money and the contract has been fully completed, the Blue Star Mothers will then announce GERALD L. K. SMITH as their main speaker.

SMITH said that he would go through all of his petitions (he means the petitions to Congress which he has circulated for the benefit of large mustering out pay and disability payments to veterans) and pick out the names of the veterans who have been mustered out of service and also get them behind their movement. (Again, it is to be noted that in these petitions all veterans who had been mustered out were to designate this on the petition after they had signed their name to it)

Mrs. LUNDEEN, referring back to the "radio deal", asks SMITH whether he thinks that she could do any good in Washington, D. C. on it and he advises her that he thinks that she could do more in a few hours through her contacts there than [redacted] could do in six days. SMITH approves that she handle the matter through her contacts in Washington.

4:10.....Everybody leaves the room.

Mr. and Mrs. SMITH to go to the railroad station to catch the 4:50 P.M. train for Chicago.

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JPHa:BB

RECORDED

62-4-810-462

SAC, Detroit

April 8, 1944

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, WAS
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
SEDITION

Reference is made to the letter in the above-captioned matter, dated March 31, 1944, addressed to the Bureau by the St. Louis Field Division, transmitting a copy of the log showing the results of the surveillance of Smith's activities at St. Louis from March 24, through March 27, 1944. Copies of this letter as well as its enclosure were, of course, designated for the Detroit Field Division.

Your attention is invited especially to the portions of the log setting forth information concerning individuals designated as [redacted] (phonetic) and [redacted] (phonetic). It is noted that the person referred to as [redacted] was reportedly once contacted by Special Agent [redacted] as well as other Special Agents, purportedly at Detroit. [redacted] indicated that he once worked for the Ford Motor Company and also evidenced some little knowledge of the Detroit Police Department, particularly in respect to that Department's handling of national defense investigations for the Bureau. [redacted] also claimed (see page seventeen of the log) that former SAC Bugas interviewed "a German and threatened that he would not be able to get his naturalization papers unless he furnished the information which was desired." In this regard [redacted] was probably making reference to [redacted]

It appears to the Bureau that the man mentioned in the log as [redacted] is perhaps [redacted] who some time ago called at the Ford Motor Company and in talking with former SAC Bugas outlined a plan relative to the securing of certain important cablegrams in the so-called Tyler-Kent case, which [redacted] reportedly believed could be used to the embarrassment of President Roosevelt and certain other individuals associated with the government. You will recall that you furnished a copy of Mr. Bugas' memorandum in this regard (made available by him to the Detroit Office) with your letter of February 17, 1944, in the above-captioned case.

Inasmuch as the log furnished by the St. Louis Office tends to suggest that the Detroit Office may have additional information concerning [redacted] it is desired that your files be reviewed for any data of pertinence concerning this man. Additionally, Special [redacted] should furnish any available information relative to his contacts with [redacted], and if it appears appropriate to you, discreet inquiry should be made of the Police Department and of other appropriate sources at Detroit to ascertain this man's general reputation, occupation, method of operation, et cetera. It is pointed out that the Bureau does not desire any specific investigation of [redacted] at this time but is mainly interested in being furnished with any information of pertinence now available or which can be secured through discreet i[illegible]ation.

cc St. Louis

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY [illegible]

FBI - Washington
APR 10 1944

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Record of Telephone Call or Visitor

April 8, 1944

Time 11:40AM

Name [redacted] tele from NYC thru Operator (Operator stated [redacted] was calling)

Referred to

Details: (Call announced)

When advised Mr. Hoover was out of the office, [redacted] consented to speak to Mr. Nichols. After checking, the call was transferred.

Mr. Nichols advised that [redacted] desired to know whether Gerald L. K. Smith and Sylvester Verick had been convicted of sedition. Mr. Nichols told him that Smith had not been convicted and that Verick had been convicted for failure to register as a foreign agent and that he was under indictment for sedition. [redacted] then stated that he understood that [redacted] had talked to the Director and Mr. Hoover had stated that Verick had been convicted for sedition. Mr. Nichols then told [redacted] that what he thought Mr. Hoover had in mind was that Verick was under indictment for sedition.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-113411-1463

APR 11 1944

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APR 24 1944

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. E. A. Tamm

DATE: April 13, 1944
4:30pm
FLW:AJ

FROM : F. L. Welch

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH, SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/2/82 BY SA 8GTJ/mc

Mr. Gus Vanech of the Department called during your absence stating that a man named [redacted], who is connected with the Anti-Defamation League at Philadelphia, is presently at Baltimore and wants to contact a representative of the Bureau's Baltimore office in connection with the activities of Gerald L. K. Smith. Mr. Vanech stated Mr. McGranery suggested he call the Bureau to see if arrangements could be made so that [redacted] could call at the Baltimore office. Mr. Vanech was unable to furnish any information concerning [redacted] other than to say that he was a private investigator for the Anti-Defamation League. He stated it would be appreciated if the Agent in Charge at Baltimore would be advised of [redacted] plans to contact that office this afternoon.

I immediately contacted ASAC Kimball of the Baltimore office and he advised [redacted] had already been there, in connection with a speech which Smith is to give on the evening of April 13, 1944, at the Alcazar Hall. [redacted] requested of Kimball any information which the Baltimore office possessed concerning this meeting, the identities of those who would be in attendance and any other information which might be available on the meeting. According to Mr. Kimball, he advised [redacted] that he had no data whatsoever other than the fact he understood Smith was to appear before a group at Baltimore. [redacted] then inquired as to whether the Baltimore office would furnish any information it receives on the meeting either before or after it is held in the event instructions are received from "Washington". In this connection Mr. Kimball pointed out to him that no such information could be made available except upon the authorization of the Attorney General.

Mr. Kimball stated that [redacted] appears to be most anxious to develop all possible information concerning the meeting. Kimball stated that the Baltimore office is aware of the fact that the meeting on the night of April 13th at Baltimore, before which Smith will speak, is a regional meeting of the America First Party. It will be presided over by a Mrs. Catherine Brown, President of the National Blue Star Mothers of America.

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EX-10

RECORDED & INDEXED
104

62-43818-465
F B I
14 APR 17 1944

62 APR 9 1944

Memorandum for Mr. E. A. Tamm

The Baltimore office contemplates having Agent coverage at this meeting in such a manner that no embarrassment will in any way arise and the results of this coverage will be immediately made available to the Bureau.

b7c

Mr. Vanech did not indicate that the Department wished to have our Baltimore office furnish any information to [redacted] and for this reason I advised Kimball that if this individual again contacts him he should be advised that no data can be made available to him without Departmental authorization.

465

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

34650

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Case Originated at DETROIT, MICHIGAN — Detroit File No. 62-1126

Report Made At	Date Made	Period	Report Made By
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	3/27/44	12/18,31/43; 1/8-15,22,29; 2/12,19,25; 3/3,4,11,18, 21,22/44	[redacted]

Title	Character
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; The America First Party	INTERNAL SECURITY (G) SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

Synopsis: [redacted] Strictly Confidential [redacted] advises SMITH has supplied GERALD WINROD with great many copies of book by EDWARD JONES entitled, "And So They Indicted Me". SMITH has been contacted quite frequently by one [redacted], apparently the same man who was formerly connected with the American Patriot group; [redacted] recently discharged from Canadian Army. SMITH apparently still interested in securing larger discharge pay for veterans but no indication he has actually formed a new organization called "Veterans Committee". [redacted] advises SMITH has engaged in an extensive speaking tour since December and no indication he will lessen his activities in this respect. Informants of Detroit Office advise SMITH has continued to harangue New Deal Administration policies especially in connection with alleged pro-Communist leanings of Administration. SMITH still proclaims at all meetings that although he is not anti-Semitic he is persecuted by the Jews.

- P -

REFERENCES: 62-43818. Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated December 13, 1943, at Detroit, Michigan.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 6, 1944, at St. Louis, Missouri.

Approved and Forwarded	SAC	Do Not Write In These Spaces
		2 - 43818-467

Copies:
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2 - St. Louis (100-6013)
2 - St. Paul (100-4156)
2 - Philadelphia
4 - Detroit

30 MAR 31 1944

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(De 62-1126)

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan:

Since the submission of the last report continuous contac
has been maintained with [redacted]

b7D

With regard to the allegation that SMITH was attempting to organize a new committee entitled, "Veterans Committee" [redacted] su
mitted the following information:

"Subject: Veterans Committee of World War II.

"This Committee, as previously reported, is no committee at all. In his circular letter of February, Smith advises that the petitions and signatures contained therein, will repose in the government archives at Washington, D. C. They may go to Washington, but they do not repose there; they go instead into Mr. Smith's personal archives to swell his mailing list.

"There are rooms full of such petitions in Smith's offices, to keep America out of war, to abolish Communism and Fascism, etc., dating back to 1939. There's the Committee of One Million, the Committee to Keep America Out of War, etc.

"These committees are Smith. Since announcing that he would welcome dis-
charged servicemen to the platform, he has not had a single one there. T
only servicemen to attend his meetings were Mrs. Knowles' sergeant son,
[redacted] and some Lackadaisical sailors who
dropped in and out of Cass Tech, from across the street at the Salva
Army Hotel, and there were few of them.

b7C

[redacted] The Mothers' groups of Mrs. Stanley in Cleve-
land, and the Blue Star Mothers of Philadelphia are Mr. Smith's hand-
maidens; they undoubtedly will circulate the petitions, but there will be
no definite organization, and as soon as the law of diminishing returns
sets in and the nickle trickle dies down, Mr. Smith will have a new commi

b7D

"If there were to be any real rival organization for other veterans' grou
Smith would have to break with Madden of Pittsburgh and Southard of Chica

62-43818-467

(De 62-1126)

American Legionnaire and VFW respectively. "Mr. Allen" would have been a "natural" to head such a group, if he came from the right army. There has been absolutely nothing in Smith's office to suggest any definite organization."

* * *

There is being set forth below other information received from [redacted]

b7D

"Subject: A Further Report of the Protest Rally at the Christian Temple, Pontiac, Michigan, November 30, 1943.

"At the Protest Rally at the Christian Temple, Pontiac, Michigan, November 30, 1943, Dr. Leland L. Marion stated that "he wasn't the only Christian minister" having difficulty with the OPA in obtaining gas. He said that "hundreds of letters have come to my desk during the past week, and our 'phone has been ringing at all hours with calls from people who are with us in this fight."

"He said one of the letters was from a Reverend Crow in Sextonville, Wisconsin, He did not have time to read all the letter, but the part he did read stated that the local OPA administrator had denied sufficient gas to Rev. Crow and that the administrator had expressed the same view as that allegedly held by Mr. Diebel of the Pontiac board, that "the sooner the churches were closed up, the better it would be."

"It will be recalled that in a previous report when the writer first learned of Marion's connection with Gerald L. K. Smith, he reviewed a radio sermon of Marion's, made in the spring of 1943, long before his investigations began; at that time Marion had questioned the efficacy of the victory garden program "because these rains are a sign of the last days, and they will continue so that the farmers will not be able to plant their crops, and there will be no harvest."

"It will also be recalled that this writer, reporting on the dedication of Marion's temple in Birmingham, Michigan, October 10, 1943, wrote that he referred to rationing coupons and OPA as the "mark of the beast", the sig of the Anti-Christ spoken of in the Book of Revelations of St. John the Divine.

"The following day in his radio sermon, he advised this somewhat to say that it was not the "mark of the beast" but the foreshadow of the mark.

(De 64-1126)

"On the night of November 30, Harvey Springer said that in the early 1930's, government men came to his father-in-law's ranch.

"'They singled out the fattest steer in the herd and said, "We'll kill that one". "Can't we have just one little old hind-quarter?" They said, "No, and you'll have to kill that one, that one, that one, and that one,"' and Springer pointed about the platform to the imaginary steers.

"'And,' he said, 'it's the same brain power running the rationing program that killed my father-in-law's cattle. He just had to drag them away from the house so they wouldn't smell up the place; couldn't even have one hind quarter.'

"Of the gas situation, he said that 'the oil wells in Louisiana, Kansas and Colorado are running like this,' and he made a drive shaft of his thumb, circling it very slowly back and forth, up and down, 'when they should be running like this,' and he speeded up his double-jointed thumb. 'There are wells with the capacity to produce twenty thousand barrels a day that are producing only twenty barrels. And oil operators are forced to close down some of their wells because they can't afford to operate them. And it's the same brain power, 'said Springer, flashing a toothy smile, 'that says those wells can produce only twenty barrels a day that's rationing your gas.

"Here in Detroit you can have all the gas you want if you have the money. You just have to slip a man a five dollar bill, and He'll give you all the coupons you want. I asked one where they got them, and he said from the OPA office. But that's what I'm against. I believe that everyone ought to have all the gas he needs without handing out five dollar bills to some bureaucrat.'

"He said that you could get new tires in Detroit by the same expedient, 'just slip a man a five dollar bill.'

"He said that not long ago 'your Henry Wallaces were going to give every Hottentot a bottle of milk; now you can't get enough milk for your children. Oh yes, it's a smart bunch we have down in Washington."

* * *

"Subject: Meeting of the America First Party in the Maccabees Building, Detroit, Michigan, December 16, 1943. Speakers: Dr. L. L. Marion, and Gerald L. K. Smith.

(De 62-1126)

[redacted] The auditorium was little more than half-filled; there were not more than 250 in attendance. [redacted]

"On the platform were Mr. and Mrs. Smith and Dr. Marion. [redacted]

"Dr. Marion was already speaking. This reversed the usual procedure, as Smith usually speaks for an hour or more and then introduces the guest speaker.

"Dr. Marion was reciting his experiences with the Pontiac OPA rationing board.

"He said that on most boards various groups were represented; there would be a professional man, a business man, a representative of labor, etc. On the Pontiac board, however, the panel consisted entirely of CIO communists. As usual with these "true friends of labor", Dr. Marion insisted that he was not anti-union; in fact, most of his congregation were working men, and some had requested his opinion in regard to joining unions, and he had advised them to do so.

"However, he was against racketeering and Communism in the Unions and every one knew that the CIO members of the Pontiac rationing board were communists.

He said that Mr. Fitzgerald of the district board in Detroit was a very fine Christian businessman.

"When he related to the Detroit office how he had come by the loose gas coupons (he had prayed for them, and had found them under his desk blotter and elsewhere on the premises, and 'I said, thank you, Jesus!'), Mr. Fitzgerald said, 'It looks as if we ought to arrest God,' Someone asked, 'Where can we find HIm?' Dr. Marion replied, 'Not in an OPA office.'

"Marion said that the local board had asked him if he was "ordained". He said that he was. They then asked him if he belonged to any church group. He said that this was a part of a conspiracy on the part of the

Communistic, modernistic Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America to force all ministers to join their group. He said all ministers and all churches would soon be in the position of either joining or else not receiving gas coupons or rations of any kind.

"Regarding forced membership in the Council, Dr. Marion gave this question by the OPA as to his membership in any church organization a deliberately false twist.

"Reference should be made to Marion's background. He once was a Christian minister; that is the Christian denomination which is an offshoot of the New Testament (popularly known as the Baptist because of their belief in baptism by immersion) Church. Dr. Edgar DeWitt Jones is Detroit's best known Christian pastor.

"However, Marion's church in Pontiac was split some years ago. Marion alleges this was due to his active preaching of and belief in the power of God to care for the physical well-being of man, the doctrine known as faith healing. He then withdrew with his adherents from the Christian denomination and his present work is undenominational. This split was the subject of headlines at the time. As a matter of fact, I believe there was some dispute over the handling of church funds and over the running of church affairs.

"In regard to the alleged conspiracy of the Federal Council of Churches, it may be noted that Dr. H. H. Savage of the First Baptist Church in Pontiac withdrew from that organization many years ago because of its modernistic tendencies. He is cited in Harvey Springer's 'Termites" as one of a growing number of Baptist ministers to withdraw from the Council. Savage does not deal in politics, but he was one of the group of Pontiac pastors who submitted a statement that they had no difficulties with the local OPA office and had no complaint to make with respect to it.

"In his address, Marion mentioned this statement. He said that he was the only Pontiac pastor who dared mention the New Deal deprecatingly. The others all 'hid under the bed.' This is a favorite phrase of his master.

"Marion went on to say that all this was part of a conspiracy to close the churches, one of the first steps in a communistic program. He said we were closer to the 'last days' than most people thought. He quoted from the Book of Revelations of St. John to the effect that 'they shall neither buy nor sell' without the Mark of the Beast. This he tied in with the rationing program.

"He said that after the first of the year, according to 'reliable information' they were going to do away with A gas books. In other words, people could not drive unless such driving was directly in connection with their work. This, too, was part of the general conspiracy to close the churches, as one could not use his B and C coupons to go to church or for other personal reasons.

"Marion said that he was the first victim of this conspiracy, the guinea pig of an atheistic experiment. Some preacher had to be made an example of so they said, 'Let's make an example of Marion.'

"All this rationing was not necessary. Marion used the old Springer rant in this connection, even to the same general wording, 'It's the same brains running the rationing program that killed off the pigs and cows some years ago and plowed under the crops.'

"He had recently been on an extended southern trip to Georgia, during which he talked to the 'author of this book' holding up a copy of 'So They Indicted Me' by J. Edward Jones. Jones told him of an experience he had in opening a new well in Louisiana capable of bringing in 20,000 barrels of oil a day which the government forced him to cap until it brought in only 200.

"On this same trip he visited oil refineries in Georgia where they had hundreds of large tanks buried underground. They told Marion that never before had they had so much oil on hand. They were forced to haul away a truck a day and 'dump it'. This 'dumped' gasoline the stations sold without coupons. Most of the audience understood Marion to mean that this gasoline was actually thrown away. [redacted] b7

"However, said Marion, this conspiracy was not going to succeed. They might be able to take his gas away, the food out of his mouth, etc., but he would see them in hell first.

"He said that he was going to test the local board and see if it was just a mistake that his application for gas had been 'buried', forcing him to use the detached coupons of his parishioners. He was going to make application for a bicycle. He said he began his ministry about twenty-five years ago on a bicycle and he could do it again. The press reports that he has his bicycle.

"After Marion's dissertation, Smith made his contribution. He said that Marion had left out some of the more tragic details. The order prohibiting

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Marion from driving said that if he were riding with his wife, and she became suddenly ill, he could not under any circumstances take over the driving. If he should be asked to call on a dying person to administe the last rites, he could not go. Not long ago a soldier who had lost a leg and was feeling low wanted him to call and pray for him, and he was forced to refuse. What these unfortunate people do when the Reverend Doctor is making political speeches in Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Buffalo, Chicago and Georgia, Smith did not say.

"Smith said that he hoped because of the small size of the crowd, they would not think he had forgotten the offering. The premiums offered were "And So They Indicted Me" for five dollars and "The Cross And The Flag", complete bound edition for ten dollars, and anyone giving more than that could keep the pencil. He hoped that those present would make up for those who were absent by giving twice the usual amount. [redacted]

"Smith then discussed the things 'we are going to talk about' in the future. Among these was the proposed 25% limitation on all income taxes. Also to be discussed was the problem of the returning soldier and his mustering out pay.

"He said, 'I picked up a young man in uniform the other day, and I asked him where he was stationed. He said that he had just been discharged. I asked if the uniform was all the clothes he had, and he said yes; he had given his civilian clothes to the Red Cross on entering the army. They did not even give him a suit of clothes on being discharged and asked him to send the uniform back as soon as possible. He had to pay his own fare home.'

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* * * *

"Subject: Activities of the America First Party

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* * *

"26 January 1944

"Subject: America First Party Activities. Meeting in English Room, Hotel Book-Cadillac, January 18, 1944

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[redacted] We had 350 seats, all filled. There were no men in uniform present.

"Mr. SMITH was the only speaker. He did not have his bodyguard with him, and only Mrs. SMITH sat on the platform. He had anticipated, he said, having Mrs. RICHARD, advertised as the speaker for the next meeting,

February 1, on hand to deliver a few remarks, but a duplication of dates made this impossible.

"He said there were sinister forces at work in America. They were conspiring to steal the soldiers' vote and to set up a totalitarian state in America. The leaders of these forces were FRANKFURTER, HOPKINS, and Judge ROSENMANN. Mr. SMITH said he regards FRANKFURTER as 'one of the most diabolical figures in American history'. Once Mr. SMITH was invited to speak at Harvard University before a group of Christian young men presided over by a MICHAEL GRACE. During the meeting a wild group of students barged into the meeting and began to hiss and boo, whereupon the 'Christian group of young men' threw them out bodily, possibly utilizing some tricks 'they learned before they were saved.' Afterward Mr. SMITH asked them who the interlopers were. He was told they were members of a group organized by the head of the Law Department, one FELIX FRANKFURTER; they were Communists, and FRANKFURTER was always proselyting for the cause of Communism.

"Later when FRANKFURTER went to Washington, he took many of these young men with him, until at the present time they number over 300 in various key positions. They are known as FRANKFURTER's little hot dogs. They are the ones who are in charge of rationing and the regimentation of our economic life under the guise of wartime emergency.

"Next on the 'index expurgatorius' was Mr. HOPKINS, the president's chief adviser. It was Roosevelt's purpose, SMITH said, to appoint HOPKINS as the chief strategist over the combined chiefs of staff of ourselves and our allies. This would place him over General Arnold, MacArthur, etal. He would control the flow of military supplies to the 64 fronts on which American troops are now fighting.

"HOPKINS, SMITH said, would be remembered as the man in control of billions of dollars in expenditures through WPA. Roosevelt met him as a social worker while he was governor of New York. Through WPA, SMITH stated, HOPKINS 'ground the stomachs of the poor through the ballot box.'

"SMITH was gentle with SAMUEL ROSENMANN; he did not even refer to the President's reference to him as "SAMMY the Rose'. However, he resumed on FRANKFURTER as an Austrian immigrant. Just because he referred to Frankfurter as a Jew, SMITH said he supposed some people would think him anti-Semitic. He didn't criticize FRANKFURTER because he was a Jew; 'the Jewish people themselves ought to do that.'

"SMITH quoted from Senator HUGH A. BUTLER of Nebraska, who had just returned from South America with outspoken criticism of what he called international boondoggling. We are spending 6 billion dollars in South America,

meddling in South American politics. This was enough, SMITH said, the provide $1000.00 for every one of the first 7 million men mustered out of the army. These men are being mustered out at the rate of 70 thousand a month, ragged, disabled and needing adjustment to civilian life with no provisions whatever made for their care or hospitalization.

"The other day SMITH was driving around town and saw a young man in uniform (incident reported previously). Said SMITH, 'Name the spot and I'll set you down.' During conversation the soldier told him that he had just been discharged; he was now on his way to get a letter from his new employer to prove that he had a job so that he could buy a suit of clothes on credit in order to send his uniform back, which the Army wanted as soon as possible.

"SMITH also told of a Senate incident in which an apologist said, 'I'm for America first, last and all the time, but not for America First with capital letters.'

"Whereupon Senator CHAVEZ of New Mexico rose and said angrily, 'What's wrong with America first?' Such incidents as this encourage Mr. SMITH, especially since the New Mexico senator is a Democrat and not particularly noted for opposition to the New Deal.

"Some people wondered what he meant by America First. SMITH said the soldiers would decide that. That week he had been interviewed by a Mr. DANIELS of the New York Times. Mr. and Mrs. DANIELS had just returned from England where they had been during the London blitz. After the interview, SMITH said, 'Now I'll interview you. You see, I'm a reporter too. I represent the best paper in the United States, "The Cross and the Flag".' He asked Mr. DANIELS what the soldiers were thinking, and DANIELS replied, 'Well, Mr. Smith, I don't think you'll have any trouble making America Firsters out of the returning soldiers.' Of course, Mr. Daniels was only stating his personal opinion after some years of observation abroad. He could not publish this observation in the New York Times, because that organ is owned by the international interests.

"Mr. SMITH said that he did not often read from the Bible at his meetings because they were not religious but political meetings. But tonight was an exception. He wanted his audience to remember Bill No. 666 now before the Congress, and he was reading from Revelations in order to give them a text to remember the Bill by. He was not a student of prophecy and made no claims regarding this particular part of the Scriptures; merely using it to impress the matter on the minds of his hearers so that they would not forget to write to Congress and urge that the Bill be defeated. He then read

from the 13th Chapter of Revelations, the 16th verse to the end of the chapter. 'And He causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bod, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads; And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark (this was not a ration stamp, said Mr. SMITH) or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.' 'Six, six, six!' said Mr. SMITH triumphantly.

"Not only is America First concerning itself with the National Mobilization Act now under consideration, but they are vitally concerned with soldiers' mustering out pay. SMITH advised us not to be misled by the current action of Congress and the New Deal in providing a mere pittance for the boys, but we should demand a real mustering out bonus, and we were going to circulate petitions for such a measure. It was our group, Mr. SMITH recalled, that raised the servicemen's pay from 21 to 50 dollars per month. ROOSEVELT, said SMITH, did not care about the returning veterans. He vetoed the last bonus measure, and Congress had to pass it over his veto. At this point and old man in the audience stood up and said, 'Don't forget to tell them, Mr. Smith: he said it would bankrupt the country.'

"DePalma was taking pictures of SMITH in action; consequently the gestures seemed a bit studied. SMITH explained the photographer's presence and told the audience not to be alarmed. Mr. DePalma did not have any political opinions: he was an independent photographer who did pictures for Collier's, the Saturday Evening Post and Click. He had been to Moscow, the Teheran conference, and followed Eleanor on her Pacific trip. He did tell SMITH, however, that ELEANOR had worn him out.

"He offered more editions of 'And So--They Indicted Me.' This book is destined to become, he averred, one of the principal campaign documents of the 1944 presidential campaign. Some people had asked him how they would know when victory was achieved. This would be when the ROOSEVELTS were retired to Hyde Park, WILLKIE was in Moscow and WALLACE had a milk route in China. This, of course, assumed that Moscow would have Willkie. This wasn't likely. Just last week SMITH had wired WILLKIE, 'You deserted the Socialist Party; you renounced the Democrats; Roosevelt slights you; Stalin slapped your face; the Republicans won't have you; the Prohibitionists have already nominated their candidate--don't come messing around America First.

"After the collection, SMITH invited all of those who were mothers of sons in service to come up front and have their pictures taken. He first invited

Mrs. KNOWLES as president of Mothers of America to come up and get the first petition being circulated by America First to give the soldiers a 'decent' mustering out bonus. Mrs. KNOWLES is the mother of two sons in service. One was recently discharged because of 'broken health'. The other is still serving. There were not more than forty mothers in all in Mr. DePalma's shot. Smith told the audience if they knew any soldier who had been mustered out to invite him to their meetings, to sit on the platform and perhaps say a word or two.

"The meeting had opened with the first and last verses of America and the Lord's Prayer; it now closed with the salute to the Flag. Smith cautioned us to keep our palms upward when extending the hand to the flag, because the photograph might otherwise be interpreted as a Nazi salute. DePalma also took a picture of Mrs. Smith, Jr., who had not heard from her soldier husband since October when he had sailed from New Orleans. He is in the engineers, whose duty it is to march ahead and remove land mines, booby traps, etc., according to his father.

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[redacted] J. EDWARD JONES' book, 'My Country 'Tis of Thee', and 'The Green Light to Dictatorship' by ELTON RAYMOND SHAW, published by the Shaw Publishing Company, Washington, D. C. Mr. SHAW speaks highly of America First. Like SMITH, SHAW alleges the thirty indictments recently handed down against alleged seditionists were part of a campaign of political persecution against opponents of the New Deal. Of course, some of them are undoubtedly 'crackpot seditionists' but others are merely patriotic Americans trying to save the country from totalitarianism.

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"The meeting began at eight with the singing of the Star Spangled Banner and the Lord's Prayer. Mr. SMITH's remarks for the evening were built around the seven 'dynamic' issues of the America First Party. 1. America must be put first in war and peace. 2. There must be no compromise with our national sovereignty. 3. Repeal bureaucratic fascism. 4. Fight New Deal Communism. 5. Less money for foreign countries and more for discharged soldiers. 6. No labor draft. 7. Restoration of the system of private enterprise.

"Some people asked, said Smith, what we mean by America First. How would we know we had achieved victory. When Smith strikes a theme he likes, he repeats it for about three meetings straight or until he finds a new one. When all the Roosevelts were retired to Hyde Park, and Willkie was in Moscow, and Henry Wallace on a Chinese milk route, America First principles would have won the victory. He again told his audience of the telegram he had sent to Willkie, 'You deserted the Socialists as a young lawyer; you deserted the Democratic Party; the British have given you a chill; Stalin slaps your face; Roosevelt doesn't like you; the prohibitionists have already nominated their candidate; don't come smelling around the America First Party.'

"Smith said that it was popular among New Dealers to call all true patriots such as McCormick of the Chicago Tribune, Nye, Wheeler, Reynolds, Hoffman and himself fascists. Anyone who believed in constitutional republican government, said Smith, was a fascist, according to the New Dealers. But

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in their campaign of Smear, they themselves imitated the technique of Hitler. But the strength of the America First movement was making itself felt. Here SMITH again referred to RAY TUCKER's column, stating that the fall election results were largely attributable to Gerald L. K. Smith. He said he did not take this as a personal compliment but as a tribute to his loyal followers. But it was true, nevertheless. America First had dictated the Mackinac conference. Even the New Dealers admitted that. Only a week or so ago they had won another victory. They had insisted that the Republican convention be held in Chicago. New York had offered $150,000.00 to get the convention in New York, but everyone knew what would have happened there. New York was the center of internationalists and the galleries again would be packed with Willkie's stooges, yelling, 'We want Willkie.' Chicago merely offered to pay expenses, no further guarantee was made. Willkie, of course, pretended it didn't make any difference to him, but Smith wanted the meeting in Chicago, especially so since every delegate would read the Tribune every morning before breakfast. This too was a sign of coming victory for America First principles.

"We did not, Smith said, want to enter any sort of super-dooper world state, although this was Roosevelt's aim. He was campaigning for a fourth term so that he could resign to accept the Presidence of the World. This was the purpose of Eleanor's many trips, campaigning for her husband.

"Behind all these Michiavellian schemes were the sinister hands of Frankfurter, Rosenmann and Hopkins. He repeated the accusation that HOPKINS had 'ground the empty stomachs of the poor through the ballot box' in the middle thirties. He also referred to FRANKFURTER's packing his 'little hot dogs' in various key positions. These men would do anything to win an election. Of course, Roosevelt, Hopkins, Ickes, Frankfurter, et al, want a fourth term; that is the only way they can keep out of the penitentiary, to stay in power. They even planned to steal the soldiers' votes. BOB TAFT wasn't against the soldiers' voting; everyone wants the soldier to have a vote, but the New Dealers want a ballot with only places to vote for national officers. There would be no names on the ballot, only a place to write in the name of the men the soldiers favored for office. Smith implied that such a ballot would not be a secret one, but would make the soldier subject to reprisals from higher up if he did not vote 'right'.

"He again referred to Senator Hugh A. Butler's report of expenditures in South America. Enough, said SMITH, to give every soldier being mustered out $1000.00. Roosevelt doesn't care about the wounded veterans; he vetoed the last bonus bill, and is niggardly with Civil War and Spanish War veterans. If, however, Roosevelt would practice economy when it came to

expenditures on foreigners, Smith would consider economy in pensions. But as long as they were spending six billions, he insisted that it be spent on Americans.

"Yes, the New Dealers would do anything to win an election. That is why the President wanted Bill No. 666 passed. Smith again quoted from Revelations with respect to the mark of the beast. He said we did not want the mark of the beast of bureaucratic fascism. But under this bill, Smith said, the New Dealers could take 'your eighteen year old daughter and send her any place.' But the real purpose was to take up and coming young politicians opposed to the New Deal and put them to work where they could not speak up against the fourth term. He himself expected to be put counting stock in Cheyenne, Wyoming, if the bill passed. The New Dealers could also move in enough Democrats from the South to the doubtful areas and enough negroes to swing the election their way, and that was the primary purpose of the bill.

"But it was not going to pass. One of our campaign slogans would be, 'Win back the Republic.' We were going to restore private enterprise. We were going to guarantee that a young farm boy could be president of the country or of a corporation without being 'kicked in the face' by the bureaucrats. That is why we favor a limitation of 25% on income taxes, and we were going to support a constitutional amendment to that effect.

"For $10.00 a donor would receive 12 of the books, 'And So--They Indicted Me'. For every dollar in donations below that sum, a person would receive one book for each dollar.

"After the collection, Smith introduced Mrs. JOSEPH RICHARD, the daughter of a Protestant minister, the wife of a chemical engineer who had spent many years in Soviet Russia,

"Acknowledging the introduction, Mrs. RICHARD said she was something like ELEANOR; she had done a great deal of travelling and liked to talk. She had been in every country in Europe. It was fortunate for her family, she said, that her husband was the quiet type because to have two chatterboxes like herself in the same family would be too much. Although she had done a great deal of travelling, she admitted she had never rubbed noses with a Maori Indian.

"She said that she should be home with her family, but she had 'received a call', and she felt that she must give her message to the American people. Others, who brought back information from Russia were either propagandists or else saw only what Official Moscow permitted them to see. She herself

saw a great many things others were not permitted to see and she was going to tell the unvarnished truth because she did not want America to end in Communism, which is the way we are presently headed.

"Russia, she said, has universal conscription, although they don't call it that. Every person in Russia must have a food card; if he does not have one, he is not permitted to work. Everyone in Russia must work. The intellectual counter revolutionists are not permitted food cards, and must get along as best they can. Some of them are not real counter revolutionists, but merely people who do not believe in the principles of Stalinism, but who would be glad to work if given the opportunity.

"Most of the people in Russia are opposed to Stalin, but they dare not oppose him because the militia constantly patrols the streets even in peace time. They have an insidious racket in Moscow on the government owned street railway system. If anyone gets on or off the street car while it is in motion, they are fined, and there is no other way to get on or off since the motorwoman cannot see if all the people are on or off and she merely counts ten quickly at each stop and then starts up again.

"There is no private enterprise in Russia; all business and industry are run by the government. The Russians, she said, are not good mechanics, but they are good engineers. She stated that she could not help sympathising with the Russian people. They were crowded into small shacks four or five families in each, had to use communal kitchens, ate the worst food in the land because Stalin exported the best and kept the worst of Russian produce for the Russian people. Since their own currency was no good, they had to do this in order to import munitions and machinery.

"She told of the wandering boys who run the streets and pile themselves together to keep warm. She said her audience had doubtless heard about them, and she wished she could say that it was not true, but she had seen them herself in Kharkov.

"She told of the difficulties one had in travelling in Russia. They had to wait sometimes for days for reservations, which was not necessary, since the trains were seldom filled, but they ran empty coaches just in case Soviet officials might wish to travel. Then again if one had made arrangements for travel with one official and came the next day for his reservation, that official might have died of 'pneumonia' in the meantime. So many people took sick and died overnight from 'pneumonia' that it ceased to be funny. The truth was, she said, that one official would be envious of another and would do away with him in order to get his job, and the rubbing out process was known as 'pneumonia'.

"She said that the Russian government sometimes threw a sop to the people

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"Subject: Special meeting sponsored by the Veterans' Committee, Gerald L. K. Smith and the America First Party, auditorium of Detroit Art Institute, February 26, 8:00 P. M. Guest speaker: Dean E. Smith

"Present at the meeting were the president of Dr. Marion's Birmingham Bible Class, Mr. and Mrs. KNOWLES, Miss HEAL, Mr. and Mrs. DOMAN,

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The cartoon pictured the President at the wheel of the ship of state wishing that he had a compass. Behind was a large-mouthed Fr. Charles E. Coughlin with a volume of the late Pope Pius XI's encyclicals, telling him he didn't need a compass that he had the directions. The cartoon was obviously Klan-inspired propaganda of the early 30's which preached that if an Episcopelian (next thing to Roman Catholic) were elected president, we would be governed by the Pope.

"The general reaction to Walter Davenport's article on 'The Mysterious Gerald L. K. Smith' was that while it was not entirely favorable, it would at least arouse curiosity and get the public in to learn the 'truth'.

"On stage were Mr. and Mrs. SMITH, DEAN SMITH, WALLACE GAMBER and an unidentified man who advised me later that he had four sons in the service.

"SMITH began the evening with the assertion that he had a selfish interest in the guest speaker's topic since his son, GERALD, JR. was now stationed in India about which the speaker knew so much. GERALD, JR., he said was with the pack troops, the mules and jackasses, which was about as far as a son of that terrible man, GERALD, SR., could expect to get, even though he had six years' military training and all his friends and classmates were officers.

"The purpose of tonight's meeting was to aid the returning soldiers. He repeated the story of Sergeant Maloney, who had lost a hand and ~~who was~~ discharged without instruction on how to use the artificial one. It was our group, Mr. SMITH advised us, that succeeded in having the soldiers' pay raised from 21 to 50 dollars per month even though he was advised by his senate friends that such a program might be construed as seditious and harmful to army morale. What we want, said Mr. SMITH, is $1000 for each returning veteran. We are now spending in South America on non-military boondoggling enough money to provide this sum. The object of the boondoggling is to buy enough votes to get FDR elected president of the world.

"The President has no interest in the veterans of any war. He economizes only on the veterans. According to a VFW report, after FDR became president, he cut the Veterans Administration program so drastically that thousands of disabled veterans had to be released from hospitals, and hundreds, thousands 'maybe not thousands, but hundreds' of these veterans committed suicide. One of the veterans so treated was Captain EARL SOUTHARD, head of the Citizens of USA Committee of Chicago.

"The veterans, said SMITH, are suing the Government for the benefits denied them, and to date have not lost a case; they have not yet got down to SOUTHARD's case as they are now only as far as the R's.

"The New Dealers attempted to make criticism of the President, of HOPKINS, FRANKFURTER and ROSENMANN sedition so they could put FORD, LINDBERGH, COUGHLIN and GERALD SMITH in jail. This scheme, however, blew up in their faces last week. Congress is finally getting independent. RANKIN denounced WINCHELL on the floor of the house as the President's press agent and revealed WINCHELL's real name (and incidentally using such cultured terms as 'kike'). SMITH doffed his figurative hat to CONNOLLY, who after BARKLEY's denunciation of the President's veto message, walked out with 'Make way for liberty.'

"SMITH said he had no particular admiration for BARKLEY, attributing 'dear Alben's' outburst less to statesmanship than to the fact that the Republicans won the fall election in Kentucky; but he was glad to hear that BARKLEY at last had his bellyful.

"SMITH then discussed the Buffalo 'bureaucrats' who refused him the use of the municipal auditorium. He knew they were bureaucrats because they had let EARL BROWDER use the same auditorium. The matter was going to be taken to the state supreme court of New York and if necessary to the Federal Supreme Court. We were going to find out if we still had the four freedoms here in America. The proceeds of the sale of the literature at the literature table was to go to press the suit.

"SMITH referred to the Davenport article and said that although they tried to belittle the movement, they had to admit that America First held the balance of power.

"After the collection (at which premiums of Jones' 'And So They Indicted Me' were again offered) SMITH introduced the other SMITH, DEAN E.

"DEAN SMITH stated that he had spent much of his time with Standard Oil in Asia but that he had been in Europe several times and had seen HITLER twice. When he first saw Hitler, the Nazis had only 70 seats in the

Reichstag. Good Germans told Smith that they did not like the man, and Smith contended that if Germany had been left to herself she would have got rid of Hitler in short order. Instead, the British imperialists backed Hitler as a buffer against Russia, and in 1933, when he again saw der Fuehrer, the Nazis had 450 seats and shortly after Hitler installed himself as dictator.

"D. SMITH asked what was the purpose of this war. He then said that it was a war of imperialism. Britain had an empire to preserve; Japan wanted an empire; Hitler wanted an empire; and Mussolini wanted an empire. All America's wars in the past had been wars of principle, and the outbreak of this war found us in an enviable position, but weak leadership wrecked the situation. If we had gone to Russia (and the Russians are an understanding people, much like us and their government is a people's government, according to this Mr. SMITH), and said, 'All our wars have been wars of principle and have resulted in great moral victories; will you guarantee the independence of the little nations created after the last war?', Russia, with her back to the wall, would have gladly said yes. The same applied to Britain and a guarantee of independence for India and other British colonial possessions. Nowhere in the British Empire had Smith ever found a semblance of democracy except in the dominions of Canada, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. England, said Smith, does not hate Japan, because Japan is an empire. British officers are not permitted to say anything against the Japanese; they told Smith that if they did, they would be put in prison. SMITH then built a fine syllogism proving that England is our natural enemy.

1. Republics mean liberty.
2. Liberty means the death of empires,
3. Empires want to live.
4. Therefore empires loathe republics.

"If we are ever to have a world state, said DEAN SMITH, it must be composed of republics.

"SMITH said that America's present 'weak leadership' was playing into Britain's hands; that England wanted us back in the Empire. He said that our present production was made in spite of the New Deal, not because of it; that he had talked to many industrialists, and they had verified this conclusion. SMITH closed with an appeal for the election of strong leadership in the fall election.

"Afterward there was a question and answer period. DEAN SMITH was asked the names of the four or five Englishmen who controlled the empire. He said he did not know their names. He was asked that since after the last

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war, England had a labor government, she would have a liberal government after this war. He said that the 'labor' government of Ramsey MacDONALD was a sham; that he was the worst industrialist of the lot; that England would use any masquerade to obtain her ends. Mr. SHER M. QURAISHI then arose and said that he had 'two sentences' to say. He thanked G. L. K. Smith for the special invitation to be present at the meeting. His second sentence was to say that he had never before heard such ideals and noble sentiments before, and prayed that Mr. SMITH would continue his good work on behalf of the poor people of his native land. DEAN SMITH was then asked about the famine in India. He said that it was caused not by lack of food, but as the British themselves admitted, by sheer stupidity.

[redacted] He said that he sometimes spoke before school groups, but he didn't like to, because when he mentioned America favorably, the students would stand up and cheer, and afterwards get in an argument with the teachers, who taught them different ideals than American." b7D

* * * * *

[redacted]

b7c
b7D

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b7D

The following information was obtained from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau. All of the information set forth hereinafter will be considered as having originated with this Informant until otherwise stated.

Informant advised that all during the month of December, 1943, SMITH had been quite active in furnishing information to Reverend LELAND MARION, of Pontiac, Michigan, relative to the trouble MARION was having at that time with the Local OPA Offices in Pontiac, Michigan. SMITH instructed MARION

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in practically every move MARION made in connection with that particular matter. Informant advised further that in December, 1943, SMITH had received a form letter from the office of the Attorney General of the United States requesting SMITH to submit copies of his magazine, "The Cross and the Flag", for examination by the Department of Justice. SMITH communicated this information to HARVEY SPRINGER at Denver, Colorado, and at that time Reverend SPRINGER stated that he also had been requested by the Attorney General to submit a list of his publications. SMITH at that time advised SPRINGER to submit all of his publications as supplementary publications.

In the latter part of December, SMITH began contacting various Congressmen and other prominent public officials with the idea in mind of securing a larger "mustering out pay" for soldiers discharged from active duty. SMITH at that time stated that he intended to circulate his America First Committee, and also intended to circulate petitions throughout the entire country; that in this way he could secure new names for his America First Committee without arousing suspicion.

Along these same lines, Informant advised that Senator SMITH had contacted Senator NYE in Washington, D. C. with the idea in mind of either SMITH or some member of his America First Committee appearing before a subcommittee in Washington to set forth the viewpoints of the America First Committee with regard to the intended "legislation for mustering out pay".

On January 3, 1944, Informant stated that SMITH had been contacted by an unknown female at which time it was requested that 100 copies of the book by EDWARD JONES entitled, "And So They Indicted Me" be forwarded to GERALD WINROD at Wichita, Kansas.

In January, 1944, it was ascertained that WINROD had been requested by SMITH to take a thousand copies of the new book. Although Informant was unable to advise as to the exact number of books WINROD had ordered, it was ascertained that under date of January 18 SMITH forwarded 250 copies of the JONES book to WINROD.

In January, 1944, it was ascertained from Informant that SMITH had contacted [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company, and at that time SMITH attempted to secure a position for his friend, [redacted] through [redacted] This same Informant advised that the [redacted] who had been contacting SMITH was apparently identical with the [redacted], founder of the American Patriots group formerly existent in Greenwich, Connecticut.

On January 23 it was ascertained through Informant that WINROD had ordered an additional 200 books and SMITH at that time advised WINROD

that he had approximately 800 books set aside in reserve for WINROD. SMITH suggested to WINROD that WINROD carry on an open debate with one of his outstanding opponents; however, WINROD was not in entire accord with this idea.

Informant advised that under date of February 1, JOE KAMP, believed to be identical with the KAMP connected with the Constitutional Educational League in New York City, had been in Detroit, Michigan, for several days and during the time of his visit in Detroit, he allegedly conducted an interview with SMITH, although the gist of the interview is not known.

On February 7, 1944, an individual by the name of JOE, with the address 3 East 54th Street, New York City, contacted SMITH and at that time advised SMITH that he was desirous of securing a standard book of about 400 pages and that he wanted 10,000 to begin with. SMITH at this time advised Informant that he was going to have a conference with an individual referred to as "POWERS". It is quite possible that SMITH and "JOE" might have referred to the JONES book during the course of their conversation.

Informant advised during this entire period of time that SMITH was conducting various meetings throughout the country and that it was his information that SMITH intended to continue his speaking engagements throughout the entire country. Informant was of the opinion that SMITH was sponsoring a great many meetings with the idea in mind of eventually putting forth the candidate of the America First Party for Presidency.

It was ascertained that SMITH had ordered 12,000 copies of his monthly magazine, "The Cross and the Flag", printed for the month of February. This same Informant advised that recently there appeared an article in the Colliers Magazine entitled, "The Mysterious Gerald Smith", said article having been written by WALTER DAVENPORT. The Informant advised that WALTER DAVENPORT, of the Editorial staff of the Colliers Weekly, had been in the vicinity of Detroit, Michigan, for some period of time, conducting interviews with the various people mentioned in his article and was taking photographs. Informant stated that SMITH was quite pleased with the wording of the article and stated on numerous occasions that he intended to purchase a great many copies of this particular article and use it for publicity purposes.

There is being set forth hereafter the list of articles ordered by Subject SMITH for meetings in Cleveland and Pittsburgh. These data are being set forth to show the anticipated attendance by SMITH at these particular meetings.

1,200 Cross and Flag envelopes
1,500 America First envelopes
500 petitions

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100 February magazines
50 January magazines (Cross and Flag)
50 JONES books

For the meeting in Philadelphia on March 2, SMITH ordered the following:

1,000 America First envelopes
600 Cross and Flag envelopes
500 petitions
100 February magazines (Cross and Flag)
50 January magazines
50 JONES books.

Informant stated that SMITH contemplated making a speaking tour at which time he intended to go to Pittsburgh, Minneapolis, Cleveland, Chicago, Philadelphia, and ending the trip in Washington, D. C., where he intended to conduct interviews with his various contacts in Washington, D. C. Informant stated further that SMITH intended to return to Detroit on or about March 6, at which time he actually did return to Detroit.

In connection with this particular speaking campaign, SMITH sent a telegram to [redacted] at which time he advised [redacted] that he intended to see [redacted] at the Bellevue Stratford Hotel in Philadelphia on March 2.

On one occasion when an unknown individual contacted the office of SMITH, the unknown party was advised by MARY JANE HEALY, niece of SMITH, that the Veterans Committee did not intend to have any social functions, but that it was purely a crusade organization trying to help the demobilized soldiers get a start in civilian life, receive a thousand dollars at the time of their discharge, and cut down on all the red tape that it now takes to get any help from the Government by a soldier.

On March 6 it was ascertained through this same Informant that GERALD SMITH had received a telegram from REMBERT DILLMAN SMITH, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, in which telegram the Oklahoma SMITH suggested to GERALD SMITH that a suit be instituted by GERALD SMITH against the NBC Radio hookup for alleged libelous statements made by a radio commentator by the name of ST. JOHN. SMITH has advised this same Informant that the meeting scheduled for March 25, 1944, in St. Louis, Missouri was to be designated by SMITH as a "rally" and that SMITH intended that this rally would lay the groundwork for a future election policy to be followed by the America First Party.

Informant advised during the week of March 15, 1944, there had been several articles running in the Cleveland, Ohio, papers speak

in rather derogatory terms about the activities of SMITH, the America First Party, and the "Mothers" groups which have been very cooperative with the America First Party in the sponsoring of meetings, etc.

On March 14, 1944, SMITH in a discussion with a Reverend WALTER HAUSHALTER, of Baltimore, Maryland, advised HAUSHALTER that he, SMITH, wanted to arrange a meeting with one WALTER RIDDLE, of Maryland; that RIDDLE was desirous of running for the Senate and wanted to seek the advice of SMITH.

Recently SMITH attended a meeting at the Central Methodist Church, which meeting was addressed by MAX LERNER, whom the newspapers referred to as a "Liberal" and that after the speech given by LERNER, SMITH had gone up to the stage and challenged LERNER to a debate, at which time there was a great deal of booing and hissing by the crowd, who apparently favored LERNER.

On March 16, SMITH was engaged in a conversation with one [redacted] of Detroit, at which time [redacted] stated that he was a disabled World War I veteran residing at [redacted], Detroit. During the course of this conversation SMITH mentioned to SHREVE that he was trying to organize a Veterans Committee in the America First Party and that SMITH was desirous of securing the aid of a veteran from this war who had been mustered out and who would be sympathetic to the SMITH cause to serve on a committee. SMITH at that time received a promise from [redacted] to the effect that [redacted] would attempt to locate such an individual. [redacted] later advised SMITH that he had contacted a [redacted] at the Veterans Hospital in Detroit and that [redacted] had promised to get in touch with the Commander of Post 45 in an attempt to locate an individual who would help SMITH. b7c

[redacted] b7c

[redacted]

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The various Informants contacted during the course of investigation turned over to the Detroit Office miscellaneous literature published by SMITH relative to meetings, etc. This correspondence is being transmitted to the Bureau with its copies of this report.

In connection with the leads set forth in reference report of Special Agent [redacted] it is being noted at this time that the Detroit Office does not have a list of the subscribers to SMITH's magazine, "The Cross and the Flag". The details of this report, however, set forth the names of a few individuals in the St. Louis area who are alleged to be cooperative with SMITH. The Detroit Office files contain no information relative to [redacted] who allegedly cooperated with McCULLOUGH, of the "Post Dispatch" newspaper in St. Louis. b7

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised under date of March 17, 1944, to the effect that he had recently contacted [redacted], Detroit, Michigan, [redacted] which organization is operated by [redacted] and that he was advised by [redacted] that Subject SMITH was a frequent visitor in the [redacted] office. [redacted] has indicated that SMITH is contemplating publishing a new book in answer to JOHN ROY CARLSON's book entitled "Undercover". Informant also advised that according to [redacted] was frequently visited by [redacted] who is presently connected with [redacted] in a business capacity and who was formerly connected with the Social Justice Publishing Company. b7

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted] at Port Huron, Michigan: b7c

Special Agent [redacted] contacted [redacted] b7 b7

[redacted]

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[redacted]

ENCLOSURES:

TO THE BUREAU:

Miscellaneous literature. Copies of these enclosures include copies of the magazine entitled "The Cross and the Flag".

ALL b7c, b7D

-- PENDING --

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

Letters have been previously sent to the below-named offices requesting them to conduct appropriate investigation at the time of the SMITH meetings held in their respective territories.

THE BALTIMORE FIELD DIVISION:

At BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, will conduct appropriate investigation at the time the SMITH meeting is held at Baltimore on April 13 and advise the Bureau and Office of Origin in appropriate report form.

THE BUFFALO FIELD DIVISION:

At BUFFALO, NEW YORK, will conduct appropriate investigation at the time of the SMITH meeting in that city on March 31, 1944.

THE ST. LOUIS FIELD DIVISION:

At ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, will conduct similar investigation at the time of the SMITH meeting in St. Louis on March 25.

b7c

* Will ascertain whether [redacted] was contacted by SMITH, or whether it was Mrs. DONALD ROHBECK who made the call.

Will keep in touch with the developments of this movement in St. Louis and the individuals connected with it.

Will conduct an investigation regarding all of the individuals mentioned in the St. Louis reports in this file and correlate the information in the individual files of the various Subjects.

Will determine from ONI just what investigation they are conducting in this case, especially as to any contact they may have had with the "Post Dispatch" reporter, McCULLOUGH, and whether they are using him as an Informant.

THE ST. PAUL FIELD DIVISION:

At MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, will conduct appropriate investigation at the time of the SMITH meeting in Minneapolis on March 22.

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THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION:

At DETROIT, MICHIGAN, will maintain contact with various Informants mentioned in the body of this report and keep the Bureau currently advised as to developments in this case.

-- PENDING --

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ADMINISTRATIVE DETAIL

For the information of those offices who have not previously been advised, it is being pointed out at this time that the Bureau has specifically advised that no copies of instant report are to be sent to any other Governmental Agency, including the Office of Naval Intelligence and the Military Intelligence Division.

-- PENDING --

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TITLE: GERALD L. K. SMITH

INTERNAL SECURITY (G)
SECURITY MATTER-SEDITION

S. A: [redacted]

DATE: 3/27/44

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30,
WILLIAMS, J. L. 9,
9,
[redacted] 26,
30,
WINROD, GERALD 1,
[redacted] 9,

[redacted] 11,
11,
1,

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JPHa:ly
4-27-44

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

34643

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

RECORDED
62-43818-467

For your additional information in your consideration of this case there is attached a copy of a further report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on March 27, 1944.

b7c

Also attached are photostatic copies of the following enclosures referred to in the report:

1. The December, 1943 and February, 1944, issues of Smith's publication, "The Cross and the Flag."

2. A four-page leaflet headed, "Personal Message for March, 1944," signed by subject Smith.

3. A two-page mimeographed letter dated March, 1944, headed, "Dear Fellow American," signed by subject Smith.

4. A four-page mimeographed letter dated November, 1943, headed, "Dear Patriotic Friend," signed by subject Smith.

Enclosure

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/24/57

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DATE 7/8/82 BY SP4 BJG/DMS
204,433

FBI
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAIL ROOM
APR 29 1944 P.M.

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUL 5 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 27

PAGES REVIEWED: 64

PAGES RELEASED: 43

NOTES: _____

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
April 22, 1944

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
[redacted]
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-1875/MC

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth below information obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, which information was accumulated during the period from April 5, through April 20, 1944: b7D

Informant advised that SMITH had been in contact with GEORGE SOKOLSKY, a New York commentator, and that SMITH had been discussing with SOKOLSKY the possibilities of the Dewey candidacy for president and various other political matters.

Informant advised that SMITH apparently is continuing with his feud with the newspapers in Cleveland and that apparently there was some activity on the part of the farmers in Western Ohio rebelling against the OPA. SMITH expressed great sympathy with these farmers.

Informant advised that SMITH contemplated taking a trip to Washington, D. C., on or about April 12, and that he intended to be gone until after the 25th of April. SMITH has advised Informant on several occasions that he regards the AMERICA FIRST PARTY as the cause of WILLKIE's downfall in Wisconsin.

SMITH telephonically contacted Miss VIVIAN KELLUMS at Westport, Connecticut, and at that time SMITH invited KELLUMS to come to Detroit to address one of his meetings. SMITH more or

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36 APR 24 1944

Op. 28

Letter to the Director: April 22, 1944

less sympathized with the difficulty KELLUMS had encountered relative to a letter she had written to an alleged German sympathizer being read on the floor of the Senate. SMITH stated that he could understand her feelings in the matter and SMITH stated he knew of other instances where mail had been opened by governmental agencies. At the time of this contact, which was on April 8, KELLUMS stated that she had a "few aces up her sleeve and when I am able to testify, I may produce some things that will astonish those little boys." KELLUMS at this time stated that she would not participate in any SMITH meetings.

[redacted] b7D

SMITH advised [redacted] of Baltimore, Maryland, that in all probability he would see [redacted] when he was in Washington, D. C. b7c

Informant advised that SMITH recently had printed numerous petitions, and that he had started to circulate these petitions with the thought in mind of having the AMERICA FIRST PARTY placed on the official ballot for the next presidential election. SMITH has stated that he wanted to follow this procedure so that in the event he received a double cross from the Republicans he would have his own party to sponsor a candidate for the presidency.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]jt b7c
62-1126

EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

May 2, 1944

62-43818

11213

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E.A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Memorandum - Laboratory Report

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith, with aliases
The America First Party;
Sedition

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

[redacted]

Reference is made to the evidence listed below which was transmitted to the Bureau by the St. Louis Field Division with a letter dated April 4, 1944. This letter was transmitted to the Laboratory by the Security Division with a routing slip dated April 11, 1944 for appropriate examination: b7c

Q3 An anonymous letter which was reportedly sent out by the AMERICA FIRST PARTY beginning "Dear Fellow American: You must.....".

It has been concluded that the typewriter used to prepare specimen Q3 was not used to prepare specimens Q1 and Q2 previously submitted in this case by the San Antonio Office with a letter dated June 26, 1943. Specimens Q1 and Q2 consists of a two page letter written on the stationery of the Kingshighway Christian Church, Sherveport, Louisiana. Gerald L. K. Smith is shown as the minister in the letterhead.

[redacted] b1

Specimen Q3 is being retained in the files of the laboratory.

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DATE OF REVIEW 10/7/82

RECORDED

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[redacted] b7c

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-8577 rsp

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	4-25-44	4-11,13-44	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; The America First Party	INTERNAL SECURITY (G) SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: SMITH held meeting at Alcazar Auditorium, Baltimore, on April 13, 1944. Approximately 500 persons attended and Mrs. C. O. PARKS and Mrs. CATHERINE V. BROWN, both of National Blue Star Mothers, spoke on program before SMITH. ERIC ARLT arranged for auditorium for SMITH. SMITH indicated desire to hold huge mass meeting in local park in near future with Representative CLARE HOFFMAN of Michigan as speaker. Also indicated Father COUGHLIN will speak in Baltimore at public meeting. Considerable "Peace Now" literature distributed at meeting. No incidents occurred.

- R U C -

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY DOPING SLIP(S) OF Class
DATE 2-24-83 R
CLASS BY SP-6013/Ashe
DATE OF REVIEW 10/7/82
DEFERRED

REFERENCE: Bureau File 62-43818.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 27, 1944 at Detroit, Michigan. b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

DETAILS: - II -

This is a joint report of Special Agent [redacted] and the writer. b7c

It is recalled that the Baltimore newspapers in about

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	J. W. Vincent	62-43818	47	91

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3 - Detroit
3 - Baltimore
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January of 1944 carried information that GERALD L. K. SMITH appeared in Baltimore to arrange a general meeting at which he would be the principal speaker.

A meeting was held on April 13, 1944 at the Alcazar Auditorium in Baltimore, Maryland which was advertised with GERALD L. K. SMITH as the principal speaker. The tickets which were distributed for admission to this meeting contained information that SMITH would speak on the following subjects:

(1) "No Election" Conspiracy

(2) Bureaucratic Tyrants

(3) New Deal Communists

(4) Willkie Internationalists

(5) Treason in Washington

(6) World Government

(7) The Fourth-Term Plot

(8) Fat Bureaucrats and Hungry Veterans.

Admission was gained to the meeting by presentation of these tickets which had been distributed prior to the meeting. At the meeting Mrs. C. O. PARKS, Secretary of the National Blue Star Mothers, and Mrs. CATHERINE V. BROWN, President of the National Blue Star Mothers, appeared on the platform with Mr. SMITH and made brief remarks before the meeting. These were the only two persons on the platform besides Mr. and Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH. The meeting was scheduled for 8:00 p.m. but SMITH did not arrive until approximately 8:15 and the meeting lasted until 10:45 p.m.

With regard to the point of New Deal Communists, SMITH pointed out that Vice-President HENRY A. WALLACE was acting in the capacity as an ambassador of JOSEPH STALIN, basing his opinion on the fact that when WALLACE appeared as guest speaker at the Russian War Relief Rally in New York City in November of 1943 he stated that if Soviet Russia continued to make as much progress in the next twenty years as it has in the past it will surpass the United States industrially and politically.

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100-8577
Baltimore

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SMITH also referred to the release of EARL BROWDER from the Federal Penitentiary, which he terms was timely, in view of the fourth-term campaign for President ROOSEVELT. SMITH then attacked the Communist Party in the United States and flayed them for their tactics in the present political campaign.

In regard to New Deal Bureaucratic Tyrants, SMITH recalled the banquet given in honor of HARRY HOPKINS shortly after his marriage to a socially-prominent Boston woman by BERNARD BARUCH at the Hotel Carleton in Washington, which cost in excess of $4,000.00 and which amounted to more than $100.00 per plate. He indicated that the champagne bill for this party was more than $2,500.00 and souvenir bottles of perfume were given to each woman guest costing $40.00 each. At the time of this party HOPKINS had an article appearing in the current issue of the American Magazine in which he explained to the American people that because of the war they would necessarily have to "tighten their belts" and live more conservatively.

In addition SMITH mentioned that after rationing was instituted by Secretary of Agriculture CLAUDE R. WICKARD, a newspaper man from Chicago visited WICKARD's father at his farm and discovered that he had over 900 pounds of lard, 500 pounds of butter, and an enormous amount of fresh meat in a refrigerator. Upon being questioned by the reporter Mr. WICKARD, Senior admitted that his son, CLAUDE, had tipped him off regarding the institution of the rationing program. Thereupon SMITH flayed WICKARD for the use of government knowledge and facts to satisfy his own desires.

SMITH claimed personal credit for the defeat of WILLKIE in the recent Wisconsin primary and stated that WILLKIE had admitted that defeat for WILLKIE was a victory for SMITH. He indicated that the difference between WILLKIE and ROOSEVELT was the difference between "tweedle-dee and tweedle-dum".

He severely criticized WINSTON CHURCHILL's suggesting that ROOSEVELT be re-elected for a fourth term. In connection with Lend Lease, he quoted a portion of a speech delivered at the National Press Club in Washington, D. C. in which a representative of the British government in the United States to negotiate for lend lease shipments had suggested a permanent alliance between the United States and Great Britain whereby Congress would be held one year in London, the next year in South Africa and the succeeding year in Washington, D. C. In this connection he showed

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the proposed flag of the united nations of the world, which flag he distinguished from the world flag of the allied nations in the present world conflict. He remarked that this was the flag which he had thrown on the platform and which had brought severe criticism from WALTER WINCHELL.

In mentioning WINCHELL he criticized him severely for receiving $5,000.00 per week for his broadcasts while he was serving on active status as a lieutenant commander in the United States Navy.

In connection with the Treason cases about to be processed in Washington, he stated that various factions had tried to align him with WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY, presently serving sentence for violation of the Sedition statutes. He stated that no process had ever been instituted against him and the Federal Bureau of Investigation could investigate him in Detroit, as well as for his actions in Baltimore and that no action had ever been taken against him. He further stated that he considered it an insult to the intelligence of the FBI to conduct an investigation on himself.

At no time during the course of the speech did he criticize money spent on the armed forces or for the supplying of the armed forces of the United States. However, he did criticize the spending of $6,000,000,000 in South America, stating that if such moneys were spent for a $1,000.00 bonus for each soldier it would give this sum to six million men upon their return to civilian life.

He emphasized throughout his speech that America should come first with Americans. He said that England came first with CHURCHILL and Russia came first with STALIN.

In touching on the coming presidential election, SMITH reiterated that no man was indispensable as president of the United States and that "if this country of 130,000,000 people has only one man, 62 years old, who can save it, then it is all shot to hell anyhow and we might as well find it out in November."

SMITH then suggested that the Christians of the world unite and if the Republican Party would not nominate an eligible candidate the America First Party would select a nominee for president such as CHARLES A. LINDBERGH or BURTON K. WHEELER.

In concluding SMITH made it clear that although he had been "crucified by bigots" and the "Communist vermin" he was neither anti-Catholic, anti-Negro, nor anti-Semitic, stating that merely because some of the people he has attacked have been a member of one of the aforementioned groups was not indicative that he was opposed to the group as a whole.

He suggested that if the people desired a large mass meeting such a meeting would be held in one of the large auditoriums or the public parks in Baltimore with Representative CLARE HOFFMAN of Michigan and himself as speakers. He indicated that this meeting was just an organizational meeting. At one point in the speech he also indicated that Father COUGHLIN would appear at a public meeting in Baltimore in the near future.

During the course of the meeting he passed out envelopes for contributions to the America First Party. He also offered for sale copies of the book by JONES "And So They Indicted Me". Subscriptions to "The Cross and the Flag" were solicited and a copy of a resolution to Congress was distributed under the "National Blue Star Mothers of America" heading. Also at this meeting was distributed literature of the "Peace Now" Movement to the effect that the Movement desired that the President of the United States make all possible efforts once more to find some way to avoid the supreme tragedy of continuing this war to the bitter end. Also was distributed a leaflet by the "Peace Now" Movement urging Baltimore citizens to write to their Senators and Congressmen to help win the war by negotiation rather than by the killing of American boys. Special Agent [redacted] ascertained that the "Peace Now" Movement literature was distributed by Mr. C. WHARTON, Canton, Ohio, Vice-President of the Modern Minutemen of America and executive of the National Farm Council. When the official ushers observed Mr. WHARTON distributing such literature Special Agent [redacted] advised that they requested him to leave and he left the auditorium with the balance of his literature. b7c

Also distributed at the meeting to a few individuals was a copy of a speech in the Congressional Record delivered by LOUIS T. McFADDEN of Pennsylvania which had been delivered on May 2, 1934. This speech was re-printed and distributed by the Crusading Mothers of Pennsylvania and had the address of Mrs. JOHN BROWN, 106 Main Street, Colwyn, Pennsylvania at the bottom thereof.

Copies of all of the above literature are being enclosed and sent to the Bureau.

There were no incidents at the meeting although one individual at the rear of the auditorium apparently did not agree with SMITH on some of the issues.

[redacted] advised that arrangements for the hall were made in the name of the Citizens' Good Government Committee by ERIC ARLT of Dundalk. [redacted] b7D

Informant continued that he had conducted a survey of individuals connected with the America First Committee who, he alleges, are as follows:

[redacted]

b7c

ERIC ARLT

[redacted]

Informant made available a copy of a resolution passed by the House of Delegates in the State of Maryland which is set forth as follows:

CONFIDENTIAL

100-8577
Baltimore

"HOUSE RESOLUTION

By Mr. White.

A House Resolution expressing the hope that Gerald L. K. Smith, national director of the so-called "America First" Party, will imbibe some of the spirit or tolerance as practiced in Maryland, during his visit to the State.

Whereas, newspaper articles contain reports that Gerald L. K. Smith, national director of the so-called "America First" party, will establish a branch of this party, with nine key officers, in Maryland and will call a meeting in Baltimore on or about April 15th; and

Whereas, the said Gerald L. K. Smith represents, by his own admissions, the Fascist, re-actionary, anti-war and anti-United Nations element in our country; and

Whereas, the said Gerald L. K. Smith and his cohorts preach anti-Semitism and all kinds of undemocratic doctrines; and

Whereas, the spirit of tolerance, as taught and practiced in Maryland is well-known throughout the entire country; and

Whereas, the people of Maryland are almost unanimous in their opposition to the teachings and practices of the so-called "America First" party and have whole-heartedly supported all demands made on them in connection with war drives for the Red Cross, buying war bonds and production of supplies of war material; and

Whereas, from the time of the Calverts, Maryland has stood for religious liberty and the tolerance of views of all shades of opinion; and

Whereas, it may be possible that after the said Gerald L. K. Smith and his associates spend sufficient time in Maryland, they may feel impelled to recant their present

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views and undemocratic conduct; therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates of Maryland, That we hereby express the hope that when Gerald L. K. Smith, national director of the so-called "America First" party, visits the State of Maryland that he will be so impressed with the tolerance practiced here that he will recant his professions of faith in Fascism and cease to be opposed to democracy, as practiced in these United States.

Read and adopted.

.....
Speaker of the House of Delegates.

.....
Chief Clerk of the House of Delegates."

In reply to the above resolutions, the Baltimore Morning Sun of April 7, 1944 indicated that SMITH had written to the Maryland House of Delegates that he believed they were the victims of Communist propaganda when they passed a resolution relative to his appearance in Baltimore. In this regard he invited each delegate to his meeting and added that if they could point out that he had done or said anything to inspire bigotry or intolerance he would make this appearance in Baltimore his last visit to Maryland. As an alternate he suggested that a rabbi, a Catholic priest, and a Protestant minister be invited to sit on the platform and if they found anything in the meeting to be un-American or bigoted he would let their findings be considered as final.

In connection with SMITH's proposed trip to Baltimore the Baltimore Sun carried several open forum letters written by Miss CHARLOTTE V. CLARK [redacted], Miss MILDRED MATCHAR [redacted], and SYLVIA F. GOODMAN and GEORGE M. LEVINE [redacted], all of which letters criticized SMITH's proposed appearance in Baltimore. b7c

In the Baltimore Sun of April 13, 1944 a group of Baltimoreans

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addressed an open petition to the residents of the city asking them "to insist that the promoters of the meeting announce themselves". The Sun indicated that this petition was signed by the following individuals:

(1) REV. HAROLD ARROWSMITH (Sponsor- Russian War Relief)

(2) FRANK CLARK ELLIS (Sponsor - Russian War Relief)

(3) I. DUKE AVNET (Communist Party attorney)

(4) SIDNEY HOLLANDER (Sponsor - Russian War Relief)

(5) L. W. BARROLL (Advisory Chairman - Russian War Relief)

(6) PROF. H. S. LANCASTER (Chairman - Baltimore Council American Soviet Friendship)

(7) DR. J. T. B. CAMPER (Total War Employment Committee)

(8) F. L. TEMPLETON (Baltimore Afro-American)

(9) JAMES DRURY (Known Communist, N.M.U. Port Agent)

(10) EMMET WHITE (Sponsor - Russian War Relief).

[redacted]

b1

It was also reported by [redacted]

b7D

CONFIDENTIAL

100-8577
Baltimore

48071

[redacted]

b7c
b7D

ENCLOSURES: TO THE BUREAU

(1) Two envelopes for contributions to the America First Party,

(2) Two envelopes of subscription to "The Cross and the Flag",

(3) Two copies of leaflet "Peace Now! How to Get It",

(4) One copy of leaflet "The Peace Now Movement",

(5) One copy of Resolution to Congress by the "National Blue Star Mothers of America",

(6) Radio Address by LOUIS T. McFADDEN.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

100-8577
Baltimore

CONFIDENTIAL

48022

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

[redacted]

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62-43818 — 471

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Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information in your consideration of this case there is attached a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Baltimore, Maryland, on April 25, 1944.

Also attached are photostatic copies of the several enclosures described in Special Agent [redacted] report.

b7c

Enclosure

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SAC, Baltimore

May 8, 1944

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, was; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C; SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION.

Reference is made to the report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Baltimore, Maryland, on April 25, 1944.

b7c

Attached are copies of revised pages numbers two and three which should be inserted in the copies of Special Agent [redacted] report maintained by the Baltimore and Detroit Field Divisions.

b7c

cc - Detroit

Enclosure

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MAY 8 [illegible]

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MAY 8 1944 P.M.
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-7463

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CLEVELAND, OHIO	4-25-44	4-3,22-44	[redacted] b7c ds

TITLE: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was
Gerald L. K. Schmidt
The Committee of 1,000,000

CHARACTER OF CASE: INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

On 4-3-44 at the Franklin Auditorium, Cleveland, Ohio, GERALD L. K. SMITH addressed approximately 1,000 persons. The major portion of SMITH'S remarks were directed against alleged "smear attacks" against United Mothers of America, Cleveland, Ohio. SMITH announced a mid-west ralley of the America First Party at Cleveland, Ohio in the month of May. SMITH'S remarks followed usual anti-Semitic, anti-New Deal, anti-British vein.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Bureau file 62-43818. DEFERRED

Letter from Detroit dated March 24, 1944.

DETAILS: At 8:00 p.m. on April 3, 1944, GERALD L.K. SMITH, National Director of the America First Party addressed an audience of approximately one thousand persons at the Franklin Auditorium, Franklin Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio. To gain admission to the Hall it was necessary to present a card of admission. On the platform in addition to SMITH was Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, president of the United Mothers of America, Cleveland, Ohio and Mrs. PHILIP MONREAL, vice president of this organization. The meeting was held under the auspices of the United Mothers of America, Cleveland, Ohio

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: H B Fletcher SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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CV. F.O.
100-7463

about whom an expose consisting of a series of articles has recently appeared in the Cleveland Press. The United Mothers of America are strong supporters of SMITH and his principles.

SMITH opened the meeting by launching his attack upon the Cleveland Press for publishing the above-mentioned articles, charging the editorial staff as being "character assassins". SMITH stated that the attack on the United Mothers of America was actually a part of a "smear campaign" levelled against the candidacy of MARTIN L. SWEENEY for governor of Ohio, inasmuch as SWEENEY is the America First candidate. SMITH limited the larger portion of his talk to the local situation defending the United Mothers of America and aiming a tirade against the Cleveland Press and Communistic groups in Cleveland who are "persecuting" this group.

Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, President of the United Mothers read the following letter which is being forwarded to Congress and otherwise distributed in answer to the attack that appeared in the Cleveland Press:

"ONE COUNTRY ONE GOD ONE FLAG

UNITED MOTHERS OF AMERICA
Room 348, The Arcade
Cleveland, Ohio
Main 3952

TO ALL AMERICANS:

The United Mothers of America is a group of Cleveland Christian women who came together about June, 1939 to disucss the alarming situation which began to develop in this country, in the direction of our involvement in another World War.

The complete futility of the first World War to prevent all future wars, made us see the inefficiency of wars to produce permanent peace.

When the administration stood for the prevention of our involvement in the war we upheld it, but at the same time we were conscious of forces that were pushing us into the war.

We organized as a group with the object (Article II of our Constitution) "to preserve our National Constitution and American form of government and to defend it when-ever and where-ever exposed to attack from within our borders." Since the time of our organizing, that which we have tried to prevent has been precipitated upon us, and our sons are

fighting in foreign lands.

The enemy within has grown strong and powerful and we at our position have been the object of attack because those ideals for which we stand, our Constitution and the American form of government, are not in keeping with the new fashions of the Internationalists.

The Cleveland Press has permitted itself to be used by the enemy and has accused us of using "Nazi-inspired propaganda to divide and conquer us on the home front".

The truth is just the opposite. We have always believed in and stood for our Constitution and our form of government. This form of government upholds the two party system, giving expression to different ways in action, but both parties adhering to the principals of the Constitution, thereby removing all danger of a totalitarian form of government.

The enemy on the contrary is out for political unity on the home front, which is totalitarianism, and World Federal Government, which is not mentioned in our Constitution, and seems to us to be treasonable.

If the people of the country are smeared with the names of our war enemies, because they believe in America First and uphold the Constitution, is it not time that something be done about the "smearers" who are creating hatred by the use of vile names and who are trying to undermine our form of government while our boys are away fighting for our America?

The Cleveland Press calls us Fascist-minded. We note that many of our best Congressmen are called Fascist-minded; also we have seen the President of the United States so named.

Would you please tell us what Fascism is?

We see the danger of this Anti-American propaganda of many of the newspapers, columnists and radio broadcasters of our country. We do not doubt that the good solid citizens of the United States are loyal to the Constitution and the American form of government.

Must these tricks of the enemy run to the point of Civil War before they are stopped?

We ask the Congress to find the way and adopt the means for prevention of another Spain here.

MRS. PHILIP MONREAL
Vice President

MRS. DAVID STANLEY
President "

CV. F.O.
100-7463

SMITH levelled his typical attack upon WALTER WINCHELL and supported Congressman MARTIN DIES in his controversies with WINCHELL.

SMITH announced that the adherence of the America First Party of Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Western New York, and Western Pennsylvania would conduct a rally at Public Music Hall, Cleveland, Ohio on an available date in May.

SMITH charged RABBI BARNETT R. BRICKNER with making statements that would be termed seditious if he, SMITH, had made them. SMITH described the book "Undercover" as a "masterpiece of deceit, chicanery, and character assassination" and attacked everything but the Communist Party.

SMITH predicted to the assemblage that WENDELL WILKIE would be defeated in Wisconsin and stated that the reasons for the defeat were (1) the work of GERALD L. K. SMITH and his followers in Wisconsin, and (2) the fact that WILKIE had publicly repudiated the America First movement. The usual collections were taken up at this meeting and SMITH brought the meeting to a close with the pledging of allegiance to the national flag.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JPHa:VMJ
62-43818
5-4-44

RECORDED
62-43818-472

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

EX-1

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information in your consideration of this case, there is attached a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Cleveland, Ohio, on April 25, 1944.

Enclosure

b7c

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8 BTS/MC

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ MAY 10 1944 ★
P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Coleman
Mr. L. B. Nichols
Mr. Clyde Tolson
Mr. Edward A. Tamm
Mr. Carter
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lease
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

46

4-750 (2-7-79)

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LPHa/pk
4-20-44

62-43818-474

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL TOM C. CLARK

J. EDGAR HOOVER - DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

For your further information in your consideration of the above capt matter there is attached a photostatic copy of a form letter dated at Detroit Michigan, and headed "Special Message for April - 1944". You will note that letter purports to have been written by subject Smith and is inclusive of a description of his recent activities.

Enclosure

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/92 BY SP-8BO/MLC

MAY 2 2 02 PM '44

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lad
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Quinn Tolson

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 6
MAY 2 1944
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Detroit

SL FILE NO. 100-6013

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Saint Louis	5-1-44	4-17,18,19-44	[redacted] b7c RS

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with alias, THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: The America First Party held meeting in Saint Louis, Mo., under leadership of DON LOHBECK. Attendance approximately 125. The main speakers were: GROVER C. BUTLER, Saint Louis, Mo., former anti-Semitic speaker for German-American Bund, and WILLIAM D. MONTGOMERY. Will hold meeting May 9, 1944, having DEEMS SMITH as speaker and toward end of May they plan to have GERALD L. K. SMITH and Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS at big meeting in Municipal Auditorium. LOHBECK has filed in Republican candidacy primaries for Congressman.

- RUC ~~[illegible] RECORDING~~

REFERENCE: Bureau File No. 62-43818.

DETAILS: I. AMERICA FIRST PARTY MEETING IN SAINT LOUIS APRIL 18, 1944.

In the week prior to April 18, 1944, handbills of the America First Party were distributed advertising a meeting at the Third Order Hall, 3200 Meramec Street, Saint Louis, Missouri, on April 18, 1944. The subject was advertised as "Communism — The Party of Destruction".

[redacted] b7D

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: B. B. Jones SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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36 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/20/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

SL File No. 100-6013.

Very little newspaper publicity was given to this meeting and, in fact, the only newspaper article appeared in the morning newspaper, the Globe-Democrat. This newspaper article explains that the principal speaker vehemently refused to answer questions from the audience and would not identify himself to newsmen. GROVER C. BUTLER accused radio advertisers of sponsoring programs designed only to confuse the public on matters of public interest, but sought protection from DON LOHBECK, Chairman of the Saint Louis organization, when members of the audience sought elaboration of the speaker's statement. LOHBECK excused the speaker's reluctance to submit to questioning with the explanation that the hall had been leased "only on the promise there would be no questioning and no smoking." LOHBECK described the meeting as the first of three gatherings called to "show how the Communists, British Imperialists and New Dealers are guiding the United States into postwar internationalism."

It is to be noted that GROVER C. BUTLER is known to this office as having spoken before the Friends of New Germany, and the German-American Bund in Saint Louis on many occasions. His theme at this time was also anti-Semiticism, and he became so outspoken in these remarks that even the Bund members did not care to listen to him any more. He is presently employed by the Amertorp Corporation in Saint Louis as a Civil Service Accountant, and he is very well known at his place of employment as being extremely anti-Semitic. The following items were distributed at the meeting:

1. An envelope for subscribing to the "Cross and Flag".
2. A handbill setting out America First principles.
3. The Cross and Flag magazine.
4. A questionnaire asking preference of a Presidential candidate within the two old parties, and the preference "if both old parties betray us and choose an internationalist, and if it becomes necessary for us to call an independent convention and nominate a candidate for President".

This material is being retained in the Saint Louis file on this case.

II. MISCELLANEOUS.

The list of those filing for State and National offices in the Primary Elections were set out in the daily papers and it is shown that DON LOHBECK of Saint Louis is running for nomination as representative in Congress from the Twelfth District. He is opposed by OTIS C. PROVOST, Maplewood, and WALTER C. PLOESER, Saint Louis (incumbent).

SL File No. 100-6013.

[redacted]

b7c
b7D

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JPHa:WMJ
62-43818
5-12-44

62-43818-478

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Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

EX-35

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information in your consideration of the above-en
case, there is transmitted a copy of a further report prepared by Special Ag
[redacted] at Saint Louis, Missouri, on May 1, 1944.

Enclosure

b7c

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DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mlc

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
MAY 13 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FD-72

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-6013

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Saint Louis, Missouri	4/14/44	3/24-29;4/4/44	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with alias, THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: GERALD L. K. SMITH spent March 24 to 27, 1944 in St. Louis, Missouri. Held America First Rally on March 25, 1944; attendance, 2,189; and a smaller meeting on March 26, 1944; attendance, about 175. Indications are that attendance was disappointing. Other speakers, Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, CHARLES MADDEN, American Legion, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Reverend LELAND L. MARION, Pontiac, Michigan. SMITH spoke on his usual theme as did the others; anti-ROOSEVELT, anti-British, and anti-Communist. He was given authority at rally to call convention of AMERICA FIRST PARTY to nominate proper man, such as CHARLES A. LINDBERGH, for president, should Republican Party nominate WILLKIE or someone like him. Two men, BERMAN(?) and PICKETT (?) bring SMITH word that some unidentified individual will accept A.F.P.'s nomination for president and encourage SMITH to call immediate convention, nominate candidates and serve ultimatum on Republican Party. SMITH is receptive to idea. Others attending rally are BEATRICE M. HOLMES and CLYDE HOLMES of Detroit, Michigan; Mrs. CATHERINE BROWN and other Blue Star Mothers of Pennsylvania, and Mr. and Mrs. C. SHEPLEY, Wayne, Pennsylvania. LOHBECK and KOESTERS are still SMITH's chief workers in St. Louis. Information received that Pinkerton Detective Agency has been hired by some national organization to gather information on SMITH so that he may be discredited.

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- RUC - ~~DEFERRED RECORD~~

REFERENCE: Bureau File #62-43818.
Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 6, 1944 at St. Louis, Missouri.

b7c

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: G. B. Burns SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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2 St. Paul
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23 APR 17 1944

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SL #100-6013

DETAILS: AT SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI

As soon as it was publicly known in St. Louis that GERALD L. K. SMITH was going to hold a rally of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY at the Municipal Auditorium in St. Louis on March 25, 1944 there were protests from various groups. The Americanization Committee of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion protested in the newspapers and also were given the opportunity of bringing their case before the Board of Directors of the Municipal Auditorium in order to show why SMITH should not speak. The Communist Party was strongly represented at this meeting at which the Board decided that SMITH could use the municipal facilities. FRED NIG of the V.F.W. continued to actively protest against the meeting, however the American Legion decided to stand by and see what SMITH had to say and were not too enthusiastic over the Communist Party's very active protests in the form of handbills, etc., against the SMITH meeting. The American Legion also decided not to participate in picketing the meeting as was done by FRED NIG of the V.F.W. and the Communist Party.

b7D

[redacted] advised that Box Number 996 at the main Post Office was obtained on March 3, 1944 in the name of THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY and DON LOHBECK. The use for the box was shown as "political information". References were GERALD L. K. SMITH, 1753 Seybune, Detroit, Michigan, and J. KOESTERS, 4713 Virginia, St. Louis, Missouri.

[redacted] St. Louis Convention and Publicity Bureau, 911 Locust Street, advised that on March 20, 1944 [redacted] to the possibilities of holding a convention in St. Louis in June or July. They were told that no dates were available until December. In addition to desiring to set a date for their convention they also wanted to have 100 rooms blocked out at the Jefferson Hotel for their AMERICA FIRST PARTY Rally on March 25, 1944. They were told that it was impossible to block out that number of rooms and they could only be obtained should they want to register people for the individual rooms.

b2c
b7D

[redacted] engaged in a discussion with these men about SMITH and he told them that he could not see what they as sensible people would want to get themselves involved with SMITH because he is continually tearing down and his against everything and in no way is presenting any constructive program. LOHBECK claimed that they had been treated unfairly by the American Legion and the V.F.W. and proceeded to try to impress him as to what a great man SMITH is.

b7D

[redacted] advised that SMITH and LOHBECK expected to have an audience of about 3,000 of their followers, not including curiosity seekers.

about 500 tickets had been left at the Municipal Auditorium so that people who wanted admittance could obtain them by furnishing their names, however, only about five or six people signed for these tickets. It was expected that there would be about 100 Legionnaires there wearing their caps who would come chiefly from South St. Louis and the County, however, this did not materialize.

[redacted] advised that LOHBECK had sent letters to commanders of all the legion posts and he was also using the telephone technique in calling up many people in order to propagandize the meeting. Letters were also sent by LOHBECK to all of the radio stations in St. Louis asking that the meeting be publicized but they received not a single reply from any of the stations. About thirty of the old America First workers are reported to be active in THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY. [redacted] advised that WILLIAM D. MONTGOMERY had appeared at a post commanders meeting a few days prior to the SMITH meeting and had defended SMITH and shown the Legionnaires how really the most active protester was the Communist Party with whom the Legion should not become involved.

b2b

[redacted] advised that DON LOHBECK held a reception for Mr. and Mrs. SMITH at the DeSoto Hotel on the evening of February 24, 1944 and among others present were Mr. and Mrs. JOSEPH KOESTERS and DON LOHBECK's parents.

b2c

Special Agent [redacted] advised that he attended the SMITH meeting on March 25, 1944 at the Municipal Auditorium and outside pamphlets were being distributed by FRED EMIG and several members of the V.F.W. and the Communist Party was very active in distributing material. These pamphlets described SMITH as a fascist and a menace to the war effort and EMIG's pamphlet showed a picture of HITLER with the heading, "HITLER Salutes His American Mouthpiece, GERALD L. K. SMITH, and his followers--Saboteurs of American Morale". There were thirty police officers guarding the meeting, however, there were no instances of physical violence. SMITH was escorted from the hotel to the meeting hall by a police escort which had been requested by DON LOHBECK.

On the stage were GERALD L. K. SMITH, his wife, Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, CHARLES MADDEN, DON LOHBECK, MRS. CATHERINE BROWN of the Blue Star Mothers of Pennsylvania, and GEORGE GEBHARDT. LOHBECK came out, made a short talk, complimenting the audience on their appearance and describing the meeting as one of "real importance". SMITH then referred to each person who was sitting on the platform and had them stand up. He began his usual tirade against New Dealism and referred to the wire-whiskered dirty-necked Communist and misguided V.F.W., one FRED EMIG, for attempting to deprive the thinking and substantial people from assembling in the Municipal Auditorium. There was an invocation by Reverend LELAND L. MARION who referred to SMITH as "that great crusader".

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CHARLES MADDEN, former post commander of the American Legion, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, spoke of the evil forces at our gates, namely, New Dealism and Communism and also recited from memory the Declaration of Independence.

Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN was introduced by SMITH as a gracious handsome dignified type of womanhood who could conduct herself splendidly in the White House as a First Lady. She told of having a son, a lieutenant in the United States Army, and a daughter attending the University of Minnesota. She spoke of the vilification of the character of public figures and the scandalous lies which she attributed to a dirty press and WALTER WINCHELL. She praised LINDBERGH highly, saying he is the logical candidate for president and gave a background of his father, CHARLES LINDBERGH, SR., describing him as a congressman of the fearless type from Minnesota. She claimed that all the sound principles of government were imbued in his son. She claimed that WINCHELL'S remarks against her husband, characterizing him as disloyal, are without foundation and she would be pleased to meet DREW PEARSON and WINCHELL on any rostrum for the purpose of having them take back their lies.

SMITH then gave his main speech and Agent [redacted] advised that the whole speech was built on the same material which is set out in the February issue of The Cross and The Flag, except that it was spiced up with sarcastic words and illustrations. SMITH contended that New Dealism is connected with Communism. He criticized post war planning on the basis that nothing was being done for disabled war veterans. He was continually criticizing and making remarks against the President and in the same vein constantly referred to WENDELL WILLKIE. b7c

SMITH called on the audience to give him authority to call a convention so that the proper type of person could be nominated for president, should WENDELL WILLKIE or someone of his type be nominated by the Republican Party. He obtained this authority by saying "If you like that, give that a hand" and the audience did give their approval.

SMITH made sarcastic remarks of Mrs. ROOSEVELT'S physical appearance, referred to BERNARD BARUCH as a representative of the "palace guard". He attacked the president on the basis that his sons were not conscripted such as were the sons of the audience but were ferreted out and given commissions. SMITH then obtained contribution from the audience by distributing envelopes, and also cards for subscriptions to his magazine. The audience was reminded that there would be a meeting the next day in Assembly Hall #2 at the Municipal Auditorium which would be intensely interesting and that admission cards could be obtained on leaving the meeting. The meeting ended by singing "My Country 'Tis Of Thee", a pledge to the flag, and the Lord's Prayer. Agent [redacted] described the audience as an enthused group of good middle class people but that there was no wild demonstration. b7c

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From various sources it was ascertained that various Communist groups were sitting throughout the hall and mildly heckled SMITH throughout the meeting, however, there were no disturbances. It was also reported that a good number of the audience were of German background. The official attendance was 2,189.

It is to be noted that although EARL SOUTHARD, past commander of the V.F.W., Chicago, Illinois, did not speak at this meeting, although he was scheduled to speak.

[redacted] advised that Mrs. LOHBECK thought that the audience would be larger than it was but Mrs. SMITH told her that a number of people undoubtedly stayed away because of "intimidation" and the "Gestapo". Mrs. LUNDEEN thought that some people may have been afraid to come because they feared the place may be bombed and she imagined that a number were afraid to come because of their draft classifications, fearing that if they were seen at the meeting their Selective Service Boards would be advised and they would have their classifications changed to 1-A. [redacted] advised that the collections made at the meeting were probably not enough to pay for it, however, SMITH himself claimed to be very well satisfied with the audience and the meeting in general. b7D

It was determined at the Saturday night meeting that considerable effort was made by SMITH's workers to distribute admission tickets for the Sunday meeting and a very large number of these tickets were given out. However, the audience at the Sunday afternoon meeting was estimated at between 150 to 250. The figure probably being most correct, about 175. SMITH at this Sunday afternoon meeting spoke along the same lines as he always has and claimed that the America First movement is gaining strength all the time and that certain Republican forces have been trying to get the leading Republican candidates for president to repudiate SMITH and his Party. SMITH also told his audience that their convention, if necessary, would probably be held in St. Louis. At this meeting Mrs. LUNDEEN asserted that "foreign-minded" persons are advocating an internationalism that will ruin the United States after the war. She said, "After victory is achieved, let us bring back our boys and not leave them to police a Europe that has had 541 wars since the United States was founded".

Election of a president from "west of the Mississippi River and not a stooge for eastern international bankers" was urged by CHARLES ALLADDEN of Pittsburgh, head of the "Defenders of GEORGE WASHINGTON". He said, "This war is being fought for a world government and for no other reason".

SMITH at the Sunday meeting said that if an AMERICA FIRST Convention should be held, it probably would be held in St. Louis and it

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would do well to nominate "someone like CHARLES A. LINDBERGH" for president.

[redacted] advised that persons were at the Saturday night meeting from Kimmswick, Missouri; Alton, Illinois; Chesterfield, Missouri; O'Fallon, Missouri; Lemay, Missouri, and Rochester, New York. There was also present someone by the name of [redacted] of Lakewood, Ohio, who at one time wrote to SMITH and made some mention that he might not want to write to her because she is German. Also, there were some people by the name of [redacted] from Detroit, also [redacted] (phonetic) of Greenville, Kentucky. Also in attendance was RALPH BIERMAN of Washington, D. C., who may be RALPH BIERMAN which is mentioned in the report of Special Agent [redacted] Detroit, dated March 27, 1944. This may also be identical with an individual who will be subsequently designated as [redacted] It is also possible that there was someone at the meeting by the name of MASON, probably not of St. Louis. [redacted] of St. Louis were at the meeting and helped KOLSTERS in the collection.

b2, b7D

[redacted] advised that SMITH claimed to be in St. Louis to show up WILLKIE and the New Deal and to measure the temperament of the people in this area. He was encouraged by the trend in the Republican Party and felt that his people had whipped WILLKIE. SMITH claims that he is a nationalist and not an isolationist. He feels that there will always be wars and in order for a government or state to uphold itself it will have to be a strong sovereign state. He claimed that as far back as 1937 he advocated a stronger national defense and one year of military service for young men so that they would be better fitted to defend the country if necessary. SMITH, according to [redacted] feels that if he wanted to he could make more money in the commercial field than he is making in his present work but that there are no frontiers left in the physical realm and that there work is frontier work in the mental realm. He felt that it will be necessary to build a Congress out of the soil, meaning that the men who are presently established are not the ones from whom their movement can get support but that they will have to take individuals who are in the movement itself and build them up to a place of position and build the government from these men. SMITH contended that the AMERICA FIRST PARTY is 100% for the full prosecution of the war to a complete victory and that the America Firsters are supporting bond purchases, blood banks, etc.

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[redacted] advised that Mrs. SMITH was present during a conversation when mention is made of MAX STEPHENS who was sentenced for treason for his part in assisting an escaped war prisoner in Detroit. Mrs. SMITH referred to him as "The poor little guy in Detroit who aided the war prisoner".

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[redacted] who has in the past been extremely reliable advised that

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Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN related an experience of hers on the train coming to St. Louis where she met the wife of some soldier and a number of soldiers. This soldier's wife told her how her husband was not getting enough food to eat at Camp Robinson, that the food was bad and if it had not been for her sending him food he would have starved. This wife also thought that it was awful that American boys had to be sent across the seas. Mrs. LUNDEEN sympathized with her and was in agreement with her. Mrs. LUNDEEN accused WALTER WINCHELL of misquoting her in saying that she denied that she had ever worked for the America First Committee and is now going around giving talks for SMITH and THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY. She denied that she was not for the A.F.C. and said that she did everything she possibly could behind the scenes for the A.F.C. Mrs. LUNDEEN made some mention of [redacted] whose identity was not known by [redacted] believes that Mrs. LUNDEEN is not particularly politically astute nor is she aware of various political movements in Minneapolis and her home state of Minnesota. She was not aware of various convictions of Trotskyites in Minneapolis. Mrs. LUNDEEN told [redacted] that her expenses to St. Louis were being paid by GERALD L. K. SMITH. Mrs. LUNDEEN said that she was acquainted with former Senator GARDNER, a man of about seventy years of age, who resides in Clayton, Missouri. b7c b7D

[redacted] advised that SMITH is apparently trying to impress DONALD LOHBECK that he is the type of individual upon which the government must build and has tried to impress LOHBECK with his own (LOHBECK's) importance. [redacted] learned that STEPHEN MC CULLOUGH, the Post Dispatch reporter, had asked SMITH whether LOHBECK was vulnerable, meaning, he wondered if there was anything in his background that would work against the best interests of the Party; although LOHBECK was given an opportunity of expressing himself along this line, LOHBECK did not say anything further about it. b7D

[redacted] advised that SMITH thinks that JOSEPH W. KOESTERS is one of the highest type persons of his kind that he has seen and both he and LOHBECK think that KOESTERS is very valuable to the AMERICA FIRST PARTY. [redacted] advised that KOESTERS is still very anti-British and apparently still thinks highly of Germany as he seemed to be very pleased with the German air raids on London and spoke in admiring tones of the re-birth of the German Air Force in being able to retaliate. KOESTERS also referred to a newspaper headline, "Reenforced Germans at Cassino" and he commented that a month ago the newspapers reported that the Germans were surrounded at Cassino and in an admiring way said that the Germans must be magicians to get reenforcements and that they must pull these reenforcements out of the hat. b7D

[redacted] advised that he had learned that WILLIAM D. DETGOMERY and JOSEPH B. SHANK, both of whom are employed at the City Hall, had again contacted SMITH during his stay in St. Louis and had attended b7D

SMITH's meetings. MONTGOMERY indicated that he had published some labor paper in Minneapolis some years ago and also made some mention of a man named [redacted] possibly [redacted] There was some indication that MONTGOMERY had been active in the American Legion meeting in Minneapolis. MONTGOMERY claimed that at a post commanders meeting in the week preceding SMITH's meeting on March 25, 1944 had spoken to the group and told them that they were wrong in their attitude towards SMITH. b7c

[redacted] also learned that [redacted] had attended the SMITH meetings and had arranged to obtain some of the JONES books from SMITH. He claims that a Mr. HOULIHAN, former mayor of Richmond Heights, wanted these JONES books and that he had had Mr. HOULIHAN at the meeting Saturday night. [redacted] is also acquainted with the former Senator GARDNER in Clayton, Missouri. b7D b7c

[redacted] advised that STEPHEN MC CULLOUGH of the St. Louis Post Dispatch still appeared to be very friendly with GERALD L. K. SMITH and contacted him several times during his stay in St. Louis. MC CULLOUGH called to SMITH's attention the fact that the Hotel Jefferson where he was staying had a reputation for being pro-Nazi, inasmuch as the F.B.I. had interned a number of waiters who had worked there. MC CULLOUGH indicated to [redacted] that he is definitely anti-ROOSEVELT and places the blame for the original reverses in the Pacific onto the President. SMITH was very well pleased with MC CULLOUGH's articles in the Post Dispatch and it is to be noted that on the Sunday morning Post Dispatch there was a picture of SMITH and the article was prominently displayed on the top of the front page. MC CULLOUGH with his wife also attended the Sunday meeting. [redacted] advised that while SMITH was in St. Louis he was also interviewed by FLEMING of the Baltimore Sun and PETE MEARS of the Chicago Sun. He advised that Mrs. SMITH thinks that MEARS really likes SMITH but that his paper probably re-writes his articles so as to make it appear derogatory of her husband. [redacted] also advised that SMITH was interviewed by a Mr. OTT of the Madison Journal. b7D

[redacted] stated that she had learned that two men came to St. Louis specifically to contact SMITH and to help him in the organization work of THE AMERICAN FIRST PARTY. She was unable to ascertain the full names of these individuals but one of them was named [redacted] possibly [redacted], and his address was [redacted] The other man's name was [redacted] possibly [redacted] one of these men may have been from Rochester, Minnesota. She advised that SMITH described one of them men as "The world's most intelligent anti-Semite". One of these men had apparently had considerable contact with various police agencies in Detroit and was formerly employed by Mr. BARNETT of the Ford Motor Company. He claimed that he, his wife, and her mother or mother-in-law had gone to some Bund camp in the neighborhood of Detroit and developed some information about it. He made b7c b7D

some mention of a man by the name of [redacted]?) and said that his brother-in-law writes all of [redacted] speeches. [redacted] according to [redacted] spoke as an authority on the subject of Communism. These two men tried to encourage SMITH to call a convention of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY, have his candidates nominated, and then serve an ultimatum on the Republican Party and if the candidates were not accepted by the Republicans to withdraw from association with them. [redacted] had mentioned that he had seen [redacted] and he had also obtained some promise from someone. There was indication that [redacted] told SMITH that someone is ready to accept the nomination for president on the AMERICA FIRST PARTY ticket and that [redacted] acted as the courier to give this information to SMITH. The informant advised that SMITH appeared to be very receptive to this idea and gave it much consideration.

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[redacted] also advised that Mrs. BEATRICE H. KNOWLES came to St. Louis to attend the AMERICA FIRST PARTY Rally. She stayed at the Mayfair Hotel. Mrs. KNOWLES, along with Miss LEGANT, SMITH's secretary, went out to Concordia Seminary and had dinner with Dr. WALTER A. MAIER, director of the Lutheran Hour. She planned to go to Indianapolis, Indiana to see CHALLAUX, head of the Americanization Committee of the American Legion to inquire of him why the Legion advises the drafting of women, etc. Mrs. KNOWLES was very interested in the WINCHELL - DIES feud and advocated a boycott of all drugstores who sell Jergens products. She commented that "Our greatest asset is our nuisance value". Mrs. KNOWLES also appeared to be very well acquainted with Mrs. ELIZABETH DILLING and was with her in Washington, D. C. when the mothers and other women's organizations protested against the Lend Lease Bill. Mrs. KNOWLES also made a statement to the effect that she was going to the office of [redacted] and let him know that she knows who he is. [redacted] advised that she was not acquainted with any of these people outside of St. Louis but apparently there had been some disagreement between Mrs. KNOWLES and Mr. [redacted] concerning the Jewish question. Mrs. KNOWLES also told of PAGNAMELLI, the author of "Under Cover" who had been at her home for about two hours and she claims that he misquoted her in his book. Mrs. KNOWLES also told of the interview by F.B.I. agents.

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[redacted] advised that Mr. CLYDE MORROW stayed in Room 504 of the Claridge Hotel in St. Louis and that he lives at 10444 Greensboro, Detroit, Michigan. He came to St. Louis on March 24, 1944 and had frequent contact with GERALD L. K. SMITH and his Party during the following days. MORROW's son apparently had some run-in with a Jewish school teacher and quit school. MORROW seemed to be very proud of his boy for that. [redacted] advised that there was some indication that SMITH had seen this boy in the past few days. MORROW said that he could hardly keep his son from coming to St. Louis with him as he wanted to attend the SMITH meeting. MORROW attended SMITH's Saturday night meeting and distributed

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admission cards outside the building and encouraged a number of people to come in to hear SMITH. He also got ahold of a bunch of literature which the Communists were distributing and disposed of it so that they could not use it. [redacted] advised that MORROW seems to be quite well acquainted with someone who was subpoenaed to appear at the sedition trials in Washington, D. C. MORROW told [redacted] that he is an admirer of Father COUGHLIN and was at the church services where Father COUGHLIN said that "We should love HITLER". MORROW told him that COUGHLIN actually said that. MORROW has a daughter who will very soon marry a soldier who is going overseas. MORROW also seemed to be acquainted with [redacted] of the ONI offices in Chicago, Illinois. In conversation with some third party, MORROW made mention of a [redacted] (phonetic) who was indicted, and said something to the effect that he used to hire her.

b7D b7E

[redacted] advised that GERALD L. K. SMITH had been in St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minnesota just prior to his visit to St. Louis and while there had spoken before the student body of some theological school and also had had some difficulty in getting the Municipal Auditorium for his speech. The head of this theological school is said to be an admirer of GERALD L. K. SMITH and SMITH was asked to dedicate a part of their library to SMITH's father who had been a well known Baptist preacher in that area. SMITH appeared before the City Council in Minneapolis regarding his petition to use the Municipal Auditorium. Various individuals had attacked him for being against a number of things and he got up and knocked out all of the arguments against him concerning anti-Negro, anti-Catholic, and anti-Jewish protests. SMITH told them that he had a letter from a Catholic Bishop in Fort Wayne, Indiana which he claimed showed that the bishop had some sympathy for him. At the hearing SMITH told the councilmen that he would show that it was only a political clique that was trying to keep him from speaking and he asked all of his accusers who were against a fourth term for ROOSEVELT to stand up, and not one of his accusers did so. SMITH used this as proof of showing that it was only "left wingers" who are protesting against him.

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[redacted] advised that SMITH tried to call Mrs. [redacted], Minnesota but when he could not get her, called [redacted] the wife of [redacted] Minneapolis, [redacted] SMITH was interested in finding out from her the developments regarding the auditorium, the publicity that it had been given, what newspapers had given the best stories and if the pictures were any good.

b7C b7D

[redacted] advised that SMITH has told certain people that Mrs. LUNDEEN has carried on in this work because of her own personal reasons rather than the ideals of their movement. She, too, is chiefly aroused

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over the fact that the Municipal Auditorium will not rent their facilities to them because she considers it a personal affront to herself. Mrs. LUNDEEN while in St. Louis received a telephone call from a [redacted] possibly [redacted] probably in Minneapolis, who asked her to give SMITH a message. [redacted] wanted Mrs. LUNDEEN and [redacted] to go to Washington, D. C. "on the radio deal". [redacted] felt that Mrs. LUNDEEN could do better than he and two unknown men. SMITH agreed with Mrs. LUNDEEN and believes that she could do more in a few hours through her contacts in Washington than [redacted] could do in six days.

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[redacted] advised that SMITH wanted Mrs. LUNDEEN to speak at the Baltimore meeting and would also like to have her at the Philadelphia meeting. Both [redacted] of Wayne, Pennsylvania had spoken to her in St. Louis about speaking at Philadelphia. Mrs. LUNDEEN was anxious to know what she should tell [redacted] and SMITH advised her to tell him that if he will pay her transportation to Washington, D. C. that he (SMITH) would pay her hotel bill and suggested that she stay at the Hotel Statler. Mrs. LUNDEEN impressed [redacted] as being rather reluctant to live at the home of her friends in Washington, D. C. and mentioned that one of the friends at whose home she has stayed is so far from town. SMITH felt that if [redacted] would pay Mrs. LUNDEEN's transportation to Washington, D. C. and back to Minneapolis then he, SMITH, could afford to use her for the meeting at Baltimore and Philadelphia rather than Congressman HOFFMANN. SMITH said that the Lend Lease meeting is coming up on the seventeenth. He also commented that HOFFMANN is getting weaker rather than stronger and [redacted] was of the belief that he referred to HOFFMANN's state of health rather than his influence. Both SMITH and Mrs. LUNDEEN indicated that they were not receiving any money from HENRY FORD. SMITH made mention that someone had been offered a whole radio network and hoped that he might also make use of it. This network was apparently centered around Minneapolis, however, [redacted] could not ask any questions in order to develop any further details in this particular matter or any of the other matters which came up between SMITH and Mrs. LUNDEEN. He was afraid that should he show too much interest in their discussions that their suspicions would be unduly aroused.

b7c & b7D

SMITH and Mrs. LUNDEEN went into some detail about the situation in Minneapolis and Mrs. LUNDEEN has been contacted by one of the councilmen named CHRISTIANSEN. CHRISTIANSEN told Mrs. LUNDEEN that he does not want to be on the spot and she reported him as saying "We are for you but we get the kick-backs and don't think it is fair". CHRISTIANSEN suggested to Mrs. LUNDEEN that they withdraw their application for the Municipal Auditorium and then submit it again at a later date. CHRISTIANSEN indicated that he would not do anything until Mrs. LUNDEEN get back and she felt that he would surely call her as soon as she returned to Minneapolis and she desired SMITH's suggestions. She thought that she might go see

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WALLACE or some of the other aldermen but doubted that it would do any good. Apparently, CHRISTIANSEN was afraid that they might have to vote the other way as he could only line up twelve or thirteen votes and he felt that this would not be enough to swing it. According to [redacted] b7D SMITH was deep in thought in trying to figure out what he believes would be best and suggest to Mrs. LUNDEEN and decided to place a long distance telephone call to Buffalo, New York and get an exact statement as to the situation in that town concerning their attempt to get an auditorium there. He thought that they might be able to get Klein's Music Hall. While waiting for this long distance call to go through, SMITH told Mrs. LUNDEEN to tell CHRISTIANSEN that ROGER BALDWIN of the American Civil Liberties Union is backing them in Buffalo. SMITH had received a letter from BALDWIN in which he told SMITH that it was necessary to get an outside lawyer to handle the matter. SMITH also suggested that Mrs. LUNDEEN tell CHRISTIANSEN that they have struck a compromise in Buffalo and that the question as to whether the auditorium whould be afforded SMITH or not is a very bad thing.

[redacted] was engaged in conversation with Mrs. LUNDEEN while b7D SMITH completed the Buffalo telephone call, so he could not get the details concerning that, however, after SMITH completed the call he told Mrs. LUNDEEN that the man to whom he spoke in Buffalo would send her a copy of ROGER BALDWIN's letter. SMITH then told Mrs. LUNDEEN exactly what to tell CHRISTIANSEN: 1) that the A.C.L.U. is going to support SMITH to the limit; 2) that under the Constitution everyone is afforded certain civil liberties, one of which is the freedom of speech and that CHRISTIANSEN cannot become known as one of the individuals who are conspiring to deny a man (SMITH) his freedom of speech; 3) that there is no use kidding but that they (THE AMERICAN FIRST PARTY) are powerful enemies of the New Deal. SMITH told her that the point to put over to CHRISTIANSEN is that they are going to go through with the deal in trying to get the auditorium, that the A.C.L.U. is behind them. SMITH told her that if the City Council denies their application for the auditorium that she should again apply for it the very next day and then the council would have to go through the same procedure and every time they deny it she should reapply. He instructed Mrs. LUNDEEN to tell [redacted] that b7C he should line up five of his best mothers who have sons in the service. He would then have Mrs. CATHERINE BROWN as head of the National Blue Star Mothers of America, come to Minneapolis and install these five mothers as the National Blue Star Mothers of Minnesota. Then, as Mrs. LUNDEEN made another application for the auditorium in the name of THE AMERICAN FIRST PARTY, the Blue Star Mothers should also apply for the auditorium under the name of the National Blue Star Mothers of Minnesota and give as their speakers some obscure individuals to whom there could be no objection. After the Blue Star Mothers' application is approved and the management of the auditorium has accepted their money and the contract fully completed, the Blue Star Mothers then were to announce GERALD L. K.

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SMITH as their main speaker. SMITH told her that he would go through all of his petitions, meaning the petitions to Congress, which he has circulated for the benefit of a large mustering out pay and disability payments to veterans and pick out the name of veterans who have been mustered out of service and also get them behind their movement. [redacted] advised that four of the Blue Star Mothers of Pennsylvania came from Philadelphia to St. Louis to attend the rally of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY. They arrived on March 24, 1944 and stayed at the Claridge Hotel. These women were Mrs. JOHN H. BROWN, Mrs. LILLIAN PARKS, Mrs. JAMES MC CANLY, and Mrs. H. MATHIESON. Mrs. GERTRUDE BERRY, 406 Howard Street, Dayton, Ohio, was in touch with these other women during the entire time that they were in St. Louis. [redacted] advised that these women appear to be very enthusiastic about SMITH and anxious to do anything which would help the cause. They traveled by railroad coach and their coach was full of soldiers and these mothers used the opportunity to spread their propaganda. They distributed one of their pamphlets entitled, "The Truth About Pearl Harbor". [redacted] does not know the nature of this pamphlet nor was she able to obtain a copy. Mrs. BROWN told her that a number of Jewish soldiers in the coach did not like their activities. Mrs. BROWN brought along the banners of the Blue Star Mothers of America and also the Blue Star Mothers of Pennsylvania. GERALD L. K. SMITH is supposed to have told Mrs. BROWN that things were different than back in 1935 and that they had to be a bit more careful because of the "terrible Gestapo" which persecutes people if their names are mentioned in connection with his movement. He was very careful not to mention any of the names of the people from other states who were coming to St. Louis because he felt that they would be followed home and then persecuted there. Mrs. BROWN understood that there were from twelve to fifteen states represented. Mrs. BROWN was also acquainted with [redacted] of Washington, D. C.

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[redacted] advised that Mrs. BROWN has been in contact with Congressman CLARE HOFFMANN regarding a meeting at Town Hall in Philadelphia. They have been refused the hall by the management who said that "we don't want the F.B.I. on us". Mrs. BROWN is also arranging for a SMITH meeting in Philadelphia. She feels that they may try to get the Turner's Hall which has the capacity of 2,000, however, SMITH is apprehensive of the place if it is known as a German meeting place and if subversive German groups have previously met there. Mrs. BROWN and the Blue Star Mothers were going from St. Louis to Detroit to hear Father COUGHLIN before returning to Philadelphia.

b7D

It was determined that [redacted] of Bayne, Pennsylvania were registered at the Hotel Jefferson and attended the SMITH meetings and had personal contact with Mr. and Mrs. SMITH.

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[redacted] advised that the [redacted] liked the meeting very

b7C
b7D

much and are very sympathetic to SMITH's ideas. [redacted] made some reference to the election of a party by the name of SAMUELS. He is also against the internationalists. [redacted] was unable to tell very much of the [redacted] because he had just met them and did not have the opportunity of getting well acquainted with them.

[redacted] advised that SMITH had told the Blue Star Mothers of Cleveland not to come to St. Louis to attend the rally, inasmuch as they were at the present time being smeared in Cleveland and he felt that it might work against them.

While GERALD L. K. SMITH was in St. Louis it was determined through [redacted] that he had personal contact with [redacted] of Springfield, Missouri, from whom he had previously received correspondence. [redacted] advised that [redacted] is one of the richest men in Springfield and [redacted]. [redacted] said that [redacted] believes a good presidential ticket would be made of one of the isolationist senators for president and SMITH for vice-president.

[redacted] advised that SMITH mentioned that ROGER BALDWIN, head of the American Civil Liberties Union, is very well acquainted with Senator BURTON WHEELER and related the story that WHEELER was twice indicted during World War I and that the A.C.L.U. came to his rescue. SMITH said that fairly recently ROGER BALDWIN had seen WHEELER, apparently in Washington, D. C., and WHEELER told BALDWIN to have the Jews in the A.C.L.U. come to the rescue of the thirty people who have been indicted for sedition because in this case they would be able to fight the rising tide of anti-Semitism by showing that all Jews were not in favor of these sedition indictments.

[redacted] advised that Miss LEGANT, SMITH's secretary, and Mrs. BEATRICE KNOWLES spent quite a bit of time with Dr. WALTER A. MAIER at Concordia Seminary having lunch with him. One of Dr. MAIER's assistants, LAWRENCE P. REILLY, took care of them taking them to church and driving them around. REILLY took them to a church where he is Vicar and Mrs. KNOWLES was very enthusiastic about the sermon and said that the sermon was anti-Semitic. The preacher pointed out how selfish, self-centered and arrogant the Jews are and how they interpret the word of God to be different from what it actually is. [redacted] advised that MAIER had recently come back from New York where he had conferred with officials concerning some new broadcasting set-up whereby the Lutheran Hour would not have to go off the air.

There has been referred to the St. Louis Field Division numerous mimeographed letters which were mailed on March 23, 1944 to various

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individuals. These letters were anonymously sent except for the signature "THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY". This letter contends that we were duped into the war by a gang of Jewish war mongers to save the British Empire, Communist Russia, and a mass of stupid Chinese coolies. It lauds GERALD L. K. SMITH and a number of the isolationist senators. The last paragraph reads, "the young vital nations like Germany, Italy, and Japan, are only doing what all nations have done in the past--expanded to overcome population pressure and gain raw materials. Several unwittingly opposed this natural growth, this God made law of survival, and therefore we suggest that a new day dawns for America--with the AMERICA FIRST PARTY".

[redacted] advised that someone had called SMITH over the telephone about this letter and he told that person that if the letter started with such words as "This country being duped into a war" he knows that he never said those words and would have nothing to do with such a letter.

[redacted]

[redacted] advised that he is acquainted with ROBERT GILMAN SMITH and he met SMITH at a national conference of clergymen and laymen in August, 1936 at Asheville, North Carolina. As far as he knows SMITH is not subversive and at the present time receives a pension of about $40.00 a month from the Methodist Church. There has been no indication that ROBERT GILMAN SMITH contacted subject SMITH during his last visit in St. Louis.

Various pamphlets which were distributed as a protest to SMITH's meeting are being placed in the file.

The leads which have previously been set out for the St. Louis Field Division as shown in the referenced report are being disregarded as it is not believed that they would develop any pertinent information or by covering them would it serve any useful purpose.

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- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

[redacted]

b7c
b7D

[redacted]

all Special Agent [redacted] who overheard these conversations from a room adjacent to SMITH's hotel suite without the aid of any technical equipment.

b7c

[redacted]

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One copy of this report is being sent to Buffalo for information, inasmuch as there were conversations between SMITH and some unknown individual in Buffalo.

ral Bureau of Investigat

United States Department of Justice
Saint Louis, Missouri
April 14, 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-PBS/mk

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with alias,
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being forwarded herewith copies of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated April 14, 1944 at St. Louis, Missouri. There was considerable information developed in St. Louis while SMITH visited here from March 24 to 27, 1944 and this information in all of its detail has previously been furnished to the Bureau and other offices in the form of a log dated March 31, 1944. DEFERRED RECORDING

b7c

Because of the fact that the St. Louis Field Division does not have sufficient background in this case, it is not fully understood what is being considered strictly confidential for the use of the Bureau only, or material to this investigation, much of this information has not been set out in the above mentioned report. It is therefore called to the attention of the Bureau and the Detroit Field Division that for complete detail reference should be made to the log, rather than depending on this report.

Very truly yours,

G. B. Morris

G. B. MORRIS,
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted]dck
100-6013
cc: Detroit

b7c

RECORDED

52 JUL 1 [redacted]

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS

5 - file
2 - 7-4-44 L.K.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 12 OF 18

FILE NUMBER : 62-43818

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 28

PAGES REVIEWED: 101

PAGES RELEASED: 99

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN [redacted] SL FILE NO. 100-6013

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Saint Louis, Missouri	3/6/44	2/14-19; ~~21-23/44~~	[redacted] EN

TITLE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with alias;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY

CHARACTER OF CASE
SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

SMITH and wife were in Saint Louis, 2/17-19/44, to continue organizing the America First Party and to give speech on 2/17/44. Admission by card only. Attendance was between 600 and 700 people. SMITH in his speech suggests LINDBERGH for President, attacks President ROOSEVELT and his cohorts, and also attacks the British. He appeals to the Republicans to furnish a candidate other than WILLKIE, and offers the support of his followers to the Republican Party if they do so. Audience made up of old people, and quite a few Germans. Also in attendance was editor of the German language newspaper who has in past been pro-Nazi. Veterans groups and Communist Party have protested against the use of the Municipal Auditorium, however, there were no disturbances. DONALD LOHBECK is the organizer in Saint Louis, and SMITH is thinking of having him organize in Kansas City, Missouri. SMITH confers with all persons previously contacted in Saint Louis in January, 1944, except DR. WALTER A. MAIER, who, however, had his private secretary at the speech. SMITH contacted former members of the America First Committee who appear anxious to renew their work and back SMITH. He also contacted FRANCIS DeMOOR, head of the Social Justice Club in Saint Louis which presently has low membership but quite a large mailing list. REMBERT GILMAN SMITH of Tulsa, Oklahoma, is former Methodist preacher and author of anti-administration book who gets Subject SMITH interested in this book. There is indication that McCULLOUGH, reporter for "Saint Louis Post Dispatch" and former America First Committee member, who has written articles riding SMITH, has told SMITH of investigation by ONI, and is acting as source of information on local

[redacted]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
62-[illegible] 438/81-481
RECORDED & INDEXED

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
5 - Bureau
2 - Detroit (Encs.)
1 - Oklahoma City (Info.)
3 - Saint Louis

COPIES DESTROYED OCT 13 1964

COPY IN FILE

APR 7 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/23/97 BY SP5 [illegible]

[redacted]

Saint Louis File No. 100-6013

Synopsis of Facts (cont.): [redacted]

matters for SMITH. Plans made for Midwest Conference and Rally of America First Party in Saint Louis tentatively 3/30/44.

- P -

Reference:

Report of Special Agent [redacted], Saint Louis, Missouri, dated February 12, 1944. b7c

Details: I. Preliminaries to SMITH'S Speech Scheduled February 17, 1944

On February 12, 1944, the distribution of the admission cards for the GERALD L. K. SMITH speech for February 17, 1944, had begun. Many of these letters were sent out by DONALD LOHBECK in first-class mail, and the envelopes were marked "urgent." Two tickets were usually sent to each individual, along with a handbill bearing SMITH'S picture, and a letter on the stationery of the America First Party and signed by the Saint Louis Committee--DON LOHBECK, Temporary Chairman. The place of the meeting was the Municipal Auditorium, Assembly Hall No. 1, Saint Louis, Missouri. Copies of this material are being forwarded to the Detroit Field Division.

The admission cards were necessary for attendance at this meeting, and permitted the bearer of the card and whoever accompanied him to come into the meeting. Immediately the Americanism committees of various veteran groups in Saint Louis protested the permission which was granted to SMITH to use the Municipal Auditorium, and the "Saint Louis Star Times" gave prominent display to these protests. The other two newspapers, the "Saint Louis Post Dispatch" and the "Saint Louis Globe Democrat," carried small editorials and notices, but they did not give it prominent display. The Municipal Auditorium Commission, however, permitted SMITH the use of the assembly hall.

The Twentieth Anniversary of the "Daily Worker" at the Municipal Auditorium was held on February 13, 1944, at which BILL SENTNER, Business Agent, Electrical Workers, a member of the War Labor Board, and a member of the State Committee of the Communist, called SMITH a "little rodent." In his talk he said that SMITH should not be permitted to talk and explained how in 1937 to 1939, the various veteran groups and C.I.O. had forced the German-American Bund to disband (this is true). SENTNER brought out that the mailing list for SMITH was the same as that of the America First Committee, and that this was no coincidence.

[redacted]

Saint Louis File No. 100-6013 [redacted]

II. Activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH in Saint Louis on February 17, 1944

Records of the Statler Hotel show that SMITH and his wife arrived at that hotel in Saint Louis, Missouri, at 10:45 A.M. on the morning of February 17, 1944.

[redacted] advised that several newspaper men were awaiting SMITH, as was also DONALD LOHBECK, Chairman of the America First Committee in Saint Louis. LOHBECK and SMITH mentioned the possibility that there might be trouble at the meeting and were of the opinion that the protest was the work of the Jews.

[redacted] advised that among others, MR. EVERETT of the "Star Times," their photographer, MR. MONTAGUE, and MR. DAUGHERTY of the "Globe Democrat" interviewed SMITH. SMITH told the newsmen that his itinerary would be as follows: A leadership meeting on February 20 in Chicago, and then meetings in Minneapolis on February 22, Detroit on February 26, and Cleveland on February 29, Pittsburgh on March 1, and Philadelphia on March 2, and then to Washington, D. C. for conferences on March 4. He advised that this was the first leg of a nation-wide tour. In Washington, D. C., he will confer with various senators and congressmen, including HOFFMAN and REYNOLDS, and he will also appear before the Military Affairs Committee to testify against the National Service Act.

Pertinent remarks which SMITH made to the reporters, as obtained through [redacted] are listed as follows:

"We want a real Republican for a candidate in 1944; a real Nationalist we can support."
"Nationalism is the preservation of our national soverignty and the keeping of our government in Washington."
"ROOSEVELT is playing the bankrupt nations for world power just like he played bankrupt states and cities for national power. I wouldn't be surprised to see WILLKIE as the Vice-president with ROOSEVELT, and then ROOSEVELT resign to become President of the world with WILLKIE becoming President of the United States."

SMITH blamed the President for the United States entry into the war, declaring "we should have been building a two-ocean navy, and then there would not have been any Pearl Harbor."

SMITH defended his patriotism against the attacks of the veterans groups in Saint Louis, saying that he did not think that those fellows represented the Legion as a whole but only represented themselves and possibly the Jewish War Veterans. He said that he would be perfectly willing for his patriotism to be judged by HERMAN LUHR, head of the Americanism Committee of the Michigan American Legion, and by HOMER CHALLEAUX, National Americanism Chairman of the American Legion.

[redacted]

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Saint Louis File No. 100-6013 [redacted]

An article in the "Star Times" reported that "the only thing SMITH refused to criticize or laud during the lengthy interview was the war effort because 'I am not a military expert and that would not be patriotic and might give comfort to the enemy.'"

During the interview with newsmen, SMITH criticized ROOSEVELT and WILLKIE along the same lines as he has always done.

While the "Star Times" and "Globe Democrat" reporters were interviewing SMITH, McCULLOUGH of the "Post Dispatch" came in. McCULLOUGH appeared very friendly with SMITH and took the liberty of interrupting the other newspaper men in their interviews. McCULLOUGH told SMITH that a reporter, JULIUS KLYMAN, at the "Post Dispatch," who is a Communist, thought it outrageous that SMITH would be permitted to speak.

[redacted] advised that some of the side remarks that McCULLOUGH made indicated that he, too, is anti-Semitic. b7c

SMITH was asked what he thought about the causes of the war, and he answered that the cause was the attack by the Japanese upon Pearl Harbor, but that if ROOSEVELT had not spent so much money boondoggling instead of spending it on armaments, we would have had a big army and navy to protect ourselves instead of a political machine. SMITH was also asked what should be done with HITLER, and he advised that he could not say. He believed that this matter was in the hands of the Commander in Chief and his military aids, and that he would leave it up to those persons. He claimed to have confidence enough in the chiefs of our army and navy, and as a side light commented that he wished that the Commander in Chief were someone other than ROOSEVELT, as he naturally did not have any confidence in him. The question was asked, "would you ask for a trial?" SMITH put off this question by saying that he would trust the military men in whatever action they took. [redacted] advised that EVERETT of the "Star Times" who was conducting this inquiry asked what SMITH thought of HITLER'S responsibility for the war. He answered saying that there was no limit to what power mad men like STALIN and HITLER will do. He said "this war is not an issue—no war can be an issue after it begins; from then on criticism is directed to the conduct of the war and postwar plans." EVERETT asked what postwar plans SMITH had in mind, and was referred to the first issue of "The Cross and the Flag" which contains an article entitled "Victory—A definition." b7

SMITH advocated a rebirth of Nationalism and claimed there is a difference between GEORGE WASHINGTON'S type of Nationalism and HITLER'S type. He claimed that by Nationalism it is not meant provincial Isolationism. McCULLOUGH, the "Post Dispatch" reporter, indicated that he had been a member of the America First Committee.

EVERETT asked SMITH about his membership in the Silver Shirts, and

[redacted]

Saint Louis File No. 100-6013 [redacted]

SMITH advised that he had been sent an honorary membership card but had never been affiliated with that organization. He advised that one of the reasons he felt resentment toward the B'Nai Brith is because that organization bought PELLEY'S files from him some years ago when PELLEY needed money and then published a letter showing that SMITH held a membership card, but they have not published the letter which SMITH wrote repudiating his membership and returning his card. SMITH learned that the B'Nai Brith had a copy of his letter from GEORGE SOKOLSKY, a newspaper commentator. SMITH advised that the reference to himself in the book, "Undercover," relative to his marching through Saint Louis with Storm Troopers of the Silver Shirt organization was a "forgery."

[redacted] advised that McCULLOUGH told SMITH that he received a letter from [redacted] about [redacted] (SMITH'S associate in Denver). McCULLOUGH also indicated that he is anti-WILLKIE. SMITH attacked ROOSEVELT and the New Deal for having taken the people's rights away through the rationing system and thus depriving them of their "day in court." b7

While the "Star Times" reporter was calling in his story to his office, SMITH told him to include in his "smear story" the fact that his son is in the army and stationed in India. Although his son has had six years of military training, he is not an officer but his classmates are. SMITH felt that because his son's father is the "terrible GERALD L. K. SMITH" he is just a soldier and is leading a mule in India.

[redacted] who was engaged in conversation with someone else at the time, advised that McCULLOUGH and SMITH were conversing, and McCULLOUGH said something about an investigation and mentioned "the head of the ONI." [redacted] believes that McCULLOUGH is serving as a source of information for SMITH. SMITH asked McCULLOUGH to get him some background information on FRED EMIG, one of the veterans who was protesting his meeting, and [redacted] subsequently learned through other sources that McCULLOUGH did furnish information to SMITH which permitted SMITH to attack EMIG. b7

McCULLOUGH, however, did mention that he was not going to write a long article for SMITH, and in that way give him more publicity. SMITH asked McCULLOUGH if he thought that word had gotten around to his followers (meaning "America Firsters"), and McCULLOUGH answered "Yes, they've heard about it."

McCULLOUGH told SMITH about a reporter by the name of HEPNER of the "Post Dispatch" who was going to cover the meeting for the New Republic. LOHBECK, who was also present, inquired of McCULLOUGH whether MRS. BUELL (phonetic), Assistant Editor of the "Post Dispatch," had gotten a ticket.

[redacted] learned that EVERETT of the "Star Times" advised SMITH

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[redacted]

SMITH that he had had orders to stay close to him all day, whereupon SMITH had answered "I am accustomed to being watched." SMITH told EVERETT how he had been smeared in the past, and how, when the true facts were known, it had been found out that the criticism against him was unjustified. He cited as an example the time he was in Cleveland, Ohio, where he had been barred from using the auditorium, and when he presented his side, the Municipal Council was all for him.

SMITH told EVERETT of the efforts of the Communists and Communist Jews to intimidate people, and also the efforts of the administration to subject its opponents to investigations. He said these things, however, have not intimidated a few people such as CLARE HOFFMAN, HAMILTON FISH, ROBERT REYNOLDS, GERALD NYE, and himself.

SMITH advised EVERETT, in the presence of [redacted] that he was not a member of the America First Committee, because at that time he was Chairman of the Committee of One Million, but as they had the same ideas about things, they would work together. b7D

SMITH feels that he has many friends, as he is a friend of everyone who is against ROOSEVELT.

[redacted] advised that SMITH engaged in a long-distance telephone conversation with his office (possibly his secretary, BERNARD A. DOMAN). Apparently MRS. LUNDEEN was leaving Detroit for Chicago, and SMITH recommended that she make arrangements for her trip through [redacted] at the Statler Hotel in Detroit. MRS. LUNDEEN was to bring SMITH'S personal attention mail with her to Chicago. b

[redacted] learned through [redacted] that SMITH felt as though the "Star Times" reporter had been softened, and that the man was doing something repulsive against his inner self in covering this assignment, and that he just mouthed the words that the Jews put in his mouth, and that the Jews could never face him in the open. He also mentioned that McCULLOUGH was a paradoxial fellow and felt that McCULLOUGH, in writing the articles which are more or less against SMITH, is doing these things but actually knows better. [redacted] knows that SMITH is aware that LOHBECK'S Selective Service status is 1-AO.

[redacted] advised that REMBERT GILMAN SMITH, who was formerly a Methodist preacher, and was founder in 1937 of the Oklahoma League against Communism, Naziism, and Fascism, had contact with SMITH in Saint Louis. R. G. SMITH'S permanent address is Box 2123, Tulsa, Oklahoma. He has written an anti-administration book which he is trying to sell. The book is printed by the J. W. Burke Company of Macon, Georgia. About fifteen years ago he wrote another book "Communism over Methodism." R. G. SMITH has sold 200 copies of his book to a man in Oklahoma City, and GERALD L. K. SMITH was interested in this book, b

and inquired if enough paper could be obtained to continue publishing the book. Subject SMITH wants copies of R. G. SMITH'S book for his friends, and he will be furnished them by R. G. SMITH at $1.50 apiece. R. G. SMITH explained that there is enough material in the book for twenty-five speeches against the New Deal.

[redacted] advised that SMITH was also contacted on this day by ROBERT MUELLER (phonetic), a friend of [redacted]. MUELLER was one of the individuals who helped put on a "share the wealth" meeting for SMITH in 1935. b7c

[redacted] learned that GEORGE GEBHARDT contacted SMITH and asked some question about the Quakers, and SMITH told him that they were Pacifists, but that he is a Nationalist.

[redacted] advised that Subject SMITH and R. G. SMITH decided that the best sentence that could describe his book is "A study in the betrayal of our constitution." R. G. SMITH mentioned a fellow named WEBER, possibly a Baptist preacher in Oklahoma, and as well as [redacted] could determine, he is known as the "Radio Minister of the Southwest." R. G. SMITH claimed that WEBER is a follower of his, and Subject SMITH recalled that WEBER had bought his stuff in wholesale lots of more than 200 copies.

R. G. SMITH has lived almost all his life in Georgia, is sixty-six years old, and has been fighting Communism for a long time. He and Subject SMITH, along with [redacted] discussed Communism and the evils which have beset our country, and the break-down of religion of the United States. They decided that all the trouble in this country is due to the break-down of the faith in Christ. They also mentioned the tie-in between the Communists and the Jews, and both claimed that they were not anti-Semitic. R. G. SMITH was going to try to get to Chicago Sunday to hear GERALD L. K. SMITH, who recommended EARL SOUTHARD to him and gave him his personal card. Subject SMITH arranged to buy thirteen of R. G. SMITH'S books for $25.00 and promised him a check, however, as R. G. SMITH was hard up for money, he got cash on the spot. Subject SMITH wanted to send these books out to a select group and wanted all his key men to have a copy of it. b7c

It was determined from general sources in the law profession that R. G. SMITH was in Saint Louis apparently trying to promote the sale of his book and also circulating a form letter among lawyers which was directed to FELIX FRANKFURTER of the Supreme Court requesting his resignation. He had also spoken to DEAN SWEET and Bishop SCARLETT of Saint Louis and considered them both Reds. He had also seen [redacted] at Concordia Seminary. [redacted] determined that that Subject SMITH recommended that R. G. SMITH go out to see [redacted] MAIER and gave him his personal card of introduction. b

R. G. SMITH has a son who is an Ensign and a graduate from the Coast Guard Academy. He obtained some of the material for his book from AMOS PINCHOT,

[redacted] but PINCHOT made him promise that he would not disclose the source of his information in the book (it was noticed in the newspapers of last week that AMOS PINCHOT died). R. G. SMITH was displeased that Vice-president WALLACE, who was in Saint Louis a few days ago, would not see him. He has written a large number of letters to various congressmen and has also written to President ROOSEVELT and other high-ranking officials criticizing them directly.

[redacted] advised that at a subsequent interview of SMITH by EVERETT of the "Star Times," SMITH was asked about his last visit in Saint Louis on January 14 and 15, 1944, and whether he gave any talks at all at that time. SMITH answered "no." He also answered "no" to the question as to whether SMITH had made any contacts at Concordia Seminary (this questioning apparently deals with SMITH'S contact with DR. MAIER at Concordia Seminary and SMITH'S appearance before some of the students through DR. MAIER). SMITH explained that he had gone out to Concordia Seminary with the preacher, HARVEY SPRINGER, who was with him, and who had heard quite a bit about the Seminary and also heard MAIER over the radio. EVERETT asked "did you talk to DR. MAIER?" and SMITH answered "no, we didn't even try to see him."

[redacted] advised that SMITH explained how he treats newspaper men courteously even if they work for the "Daily Worker," and told of an incident where JOHN SPIVAK, a writer for the "New Masses," had tried to interview SMITH under false credentials and how he ran away when SMITH threatened him. He also mentioned the fact that some woman tried to interview him claiming that she was a Nazi spy. He claimed that prior to this meeting with her in the Statler Hotel, he notified the FBI. In relating these incidents, [redacted] advised that SMITH explained his activities in Detroit, and explained that he very seldom goes to his main office because he would be heckled and harassed by people who were against him. He said that he has gotten such good service from the Statler Hotel in protecting him from this type of people that he arranges to hold his interviews with people at the Statler Hotel, usually in the coffee shop or lobby.

[redacted] advised that LOHBECK has a grocery store clerk who is one of his best workers. LOHBECK also had received several telephone calls and requests for an article published by WHEELER in the Congressional Record. LOHBECK believes that the Social Justice fellows (like JOSEPH KOESTERS and GEORGE GEBHARDT) make good street fighters.

[redacted] learned that WILLIAM D. MONTGOMERY was asked by SMITH to scout the meeting that evening without being conspicuous to see if there would be any trouble makers there, and then pass on this information to MRS. SMITH who would be at the door. MONTGOMERY had wondered if he would be called upon to give speeches, and SMITH told him that he could expect to be giving talk within the next ninety days. SMITH told him that he had spoken to a man in Chicago who wanted MONTGOMERY to come up there and give a speech. This is possibly SOUTHARD. It was MONTGOMERY who gave SMITH the name of MARTIN FEDERER, an old America Firster, Telephone FLanders 7412. LOHBECK is also acquainted with FEDERER.

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[redacted] was impressed that whenever SMITH had an opportunity he would make some anti-Semitic remark, or immediately connect any remark of a person with whom he was talking as being anti-Semitic and then elaborate on it. [redacted] noted that there were several instances where LOHBECK made a couple of remarks about Jews where he did not mean to speak of them in a derogatory sense, but SMITH commented upon it that way, and LOHBECK corrected him by saying that "these were good Jews," etc. SMITH told LOHBECK that he was thinking of sending him to Kansas City to help organize there, inasmuch as he was very much pleased with his work in Saint Louis. On one occasion SMITH commented about the coming meeting, saying "wait until the audience hears me raise hell with the New Deal and the British, and if they are a normal audience, they will really like to hear it."

The meeting was held at the assembly hall of the Municipal Auditorium and started at about 8:00 P.M. There were approximately 600 to 700 people in attendance which is its capacity. There was no disturbance or any picketing before the meeting began. On the stage with MR. and MRS. SMITH were MR. and MRS. LOHBECK and GEORGE GEBHARDT. LOHBECK opened the meeting by saying that they had waited for a long time to find a man they could follow without being afraid, and "he came down from Detroit to continue on the policy and with the program that we had followed so sincerely up to the time the United States went into war. We had heard from National Headquarters of the America First Committee that the Committee was dissolved. We lost contact with our best workers." He asked that wor be passed around that they wanted these workers back and said "we have started again and will not stop this time. He said "this meeting is to present the one man who has stopped his work in the cause of Americanism and American Nationalism. He has not been intimidated by the governmental harassment which many of us know and which has stopped some of us." He then introduced GERALD L. K. SMIT as head of the America First Party.

SMITH began his talk by saying that he was mindful of the accomplishments of Saint Louis, but one thing stays in his mind and is symbolized and personified by that phrase so often heard, "Spirit of Saint Louis"---CHARLES A. LINDBERGH. Upon the mention of LINDBERGH'S name, there was a great applause. SMITH said he hoped to present LINDBERGH to the Saint Louis audiences for a speech and also he hoped to introduce to Saint Louis "that maligned and persecuted lover of Christ, Father CHARLES E. COUGHLIN." (great applause).

SMITH attacked the Communists and ROOSEVELT and gave a tirade against the "international bankers, international politicians, and international finaglers, who want to load us with a debt and tax load to pay the debt for the worl for the next century." He then made a play on the word, "first," and said tha there was only one thing above "America First" and that was faith in Christ. He tells how he promised his old mother that he would never make a speech without mentioning Christ's name.

SMITH told how the politicians have run the show for a long time, and

that the best citizens have stood on the sidelines. He claimed that these political rascals are symbolized by men like HARRY HOPKINS.

At this point he had REMBERT GILMAN SMITH, the former Methodist preacher, lead the audience in prayer.

SMITH began his speech by praising LOHBECK for making this meeting successful, and FREDERIC [illegible] audience got up and announced that LOHBECK is a conscientious objector, SMITH immediately cut him off, saying that LOHBECK'S status has been established by a draft board appointed by the President of the United States and asked the audience to give LOHBECK a big hand. It is noted that the audience did not show any resentment at all to the fact that LOHBECK is a conscientious objector.

SMITH introduced all the people on the stage, including GEBHARDT, and described him as a former head of one of the Social Justice groups.

SMITH then asked the people in the audience who had one son in the army to raise their hands, then two, and then asked those with three to stand up and give their names. One of these individuals was MRS. WALLACE E. HEIFLER, possibly HEITZLER, who has three sons in the Marines. Another man was possibly JOSEPH FARKUS. The others did not give their names. A negro man stood up and said that he had three sons in the armed services, and SMITH took that occasion to tell the negro not to believe what the Communists are saying, and that the America Firsters are not against the negro race.

SMITH told the group that he hopes the America First Party will not be necessary, and that the republicans will nominate a man whom they can support; that is, someone other than WILLKIE. He then appealed to the Republican Politicians in the audience to note how the tide is running and pointed out to them that he and his followers are a powerful force with which they should concern themselves and align themselves with their group. He warned the Republicans against selling them out, saying "if you do so, we will hold our convention, maybe in Saint Louis, and nominate "the Spirit of Saint Louis." He said the Republicans can have the America First votes, or even the Democrats' votes, if they turn their party back to men like WHEELER and CLARK.

SMITH then showed himself to be definitely against WILLKIE and said that Communism has its spokesman in the Vice-president of the United States. He pointed out that at the 26th Anniversary of the October Revolution in New York in November, 1942, WALLACE was the main speaker. He called for WALLACE'S impeachment. He said that the government in Washington is shot through with the disciples of WALLACE and FELIX FRANKFURTER whom he classified as a Communist.

SMITH told the story of how he was introduced to the student body of Harvard University by a MR. GRACE, and members of the John Reed Club, who

[redacted]

are Communists, tried to break up the meeting.

SMITH also said that he was against being sucked into a world government and being brought back into the British Empire. He told of how the British were trying to interfere with American politics.

He referred to DEEM SMITH, former head of the Standard Oil Company, who had spoken on Eastern Imperialism, both on the part of the Japanese and the British.

SMITH went into some detail in the plans for the world government, and exhibited the flag which the Internationalists have designed. He attacked WALTER WINCHELL, and told his audience to read Senator JOHN RANKIN'S speech in congress. He said "if Jewish statesmen want to check anti-Semitism, they should choke that rat who is doing more to spread it than anyone else in the United States."

SMITH gave out a definition of victory in 1944, which he has repeatedly set out in his publication and other places. He also brought out the difficulties which his son has had in the army because his name is GERALD L. K. SMITH, and also the fact that his son is not an officer because of this.

SMITH said "I know it is a boldness that borders on danger. I know I risk my safety in the presence of bureaucratic tyrants who are playing all the tricks to silence this fearless voice....they know if the truth is let out they will not remain in power....they can't stand this truth....the only way they can stay in power is to silence those who speak it (truth)."

SMITH then told how the veterans cannot hope to be given any consideration through ROOSEVELT, and how the present administration would rather spend billions of dollars in foreign countries than to give the veterans what is their due. He said "we must save the nation's wealth for our veterans. I would not trade one wounded veteran for all the Mexicans in Mexico, all the Brazillians in Brazil, all the Argentianans in Argentina, or all the Chinese in China."

He asked the audience if they would like for him to bring to Saint Louis CLARE HOFFMAN or MRS. LUNDEEN, or possibly GERALD P. NYE, and they answered in the affirmative. He forgot the name of the large hall in the Municipal Auditorium, and asked McCULLOUGH, the "Post Dispatch" reporter, who was sitting in the front row, what it is called.

SMITH then started taking up his collection and explained how this is done. He furnished everyone with an envelope and pencil, and they could put in the envelope as much money as they wanted, and also could write on the front of it how much money they would like to donate every month. He told the people about his way of organizing, explaining that he did not elect people to office

because these people would then be harassed, and his enemies would go around and have these people fired from their jobs and persecuted. In his way of organizing, GERALD L. K. SMITH "will take the heat and keep it off the people."

SMITH said "the bureaucrats thought after Pearl Harbor they would use the war to imprison us. They thought they would call us Nazis and traitors and divisionists. They thought they would use those circumstances to strike us under the belt." He also said "they thought they would lock up all Nationalists like LINDBERGH, HENRY FORD, NYE, WHEELER, and myself, but they can't do it. There are too many of us. We are America." (applause) "If they do strike down this fearless voice and let me rot behind the filthy walls of a concentration camp, they will not gain, because the blood of the martyrs is seed of the church, and for every GERALD L. K. SMITH they put down, 1000 will rise up to haunt these bureaucratic tyrants. Freedom will not die. Give me liberty or give me death." (applause and shouts of "'atta boy, GERALD").

SMITH then continued with his collection, and all the time that the collection was going on, he kept up a running line of chatter. He called upon JOSEPH KOESTERS and other volunteers, including MRS. SMITH and MRS. LOHBECK, to help collect the envelopes. He advised that everyone who gave a dollar or more would receive a copy of the book, "And So They Indicted Me," by G. EDWARD JONES. He advised that for every dollar they would get one book, so that if a person gave $5.00 he would get five books. He advised that this may be the beginning of a great movement which sweeps the country, and they may want to have something which they can save for the years to come and show that they were a founder of this Crusade. It is the "gold seal America First certificate," and everyone who pledged $1.00 a month or more would get one. The seal has upon it a picture of GEORGE WASHINGTON. He said that anyone who didn't want to give their name should just write "money" on the envelope. He also distributed a petition calling for Congress to help the veterans. This program is "One Thousand Dollars for Each Veteran." SMITH also distributed copies of "The Cross and The Flag" and copies of RAY TUCKER'S article. He had everyone stand and face the flag in order to pledge allegiance. He explained the various ways in which the flag can be saluted—the military salute, the hand over the heart, and the outstretched hand with the palm up. He explained to the audience that they should salute with the palm up and not with the palm down, which is the Fascist salute. He pointed out that the "Star Times" would take a picture of them if they used the Fascist salute and would harass them. After the pledge of allegiance, he had the audience stand as they were and recited the Lord's Prayer.

He closed with thanking the audience for its hospitality, saying that he and MRS. SMITH have had so much persectuion and harassment, they are grateful for the cordial reception they received in Saint Louis. He ended saying "God bless you. God bless and save America. Goodnight." There was scattered handclapping.

The audience became a little restless during the collection which took

a considerable time, and there was a definite let-down in the enthusiasm once the collection started. However, there was no concentrated effort to leave the hall, but it must be noticed that SMITH any number of times mentio ed during his speech that the Communists, New Dealers, or anyone else who go mad could leave at any time they wanted to. The meeting closed at 10:25 P.M. The details of this meeting were made available through Confidential Source #1. Further details of this meeting will be set out later in the report.

b7D [redacted] advised that MRS. LOHBECK was interested in seeing ho her family would react to the meeting, as they are against this sort of thing She said that they represent the "smug" group. SMITH commented to her that i is not a disgrace to stir up the rabble and quoted the Bible to the effect th "Jesus Christ was condemned because he stirreth up the rabble."

III. Activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH in Saint Louis on February 18, 1944

[redacted] advised that ROBERT MUELLER (phonetic), the attorney, and a friend of [redacted] was very drunk and went to see SMITH on the morning of February 18, 1944. He told SMITH that he did not think very much of his taking up any collection at the meeting and thought he should eliminate that. [redacted] advised that when MUELLER gets drunk, he curses quite a bit, and di so with SMITH. However, SMITH took no offense and "kidded him along." MUELLER ran in a congressional race in Missouri and claims that he ran a close third, but was sabotaged by the Catholics and the Social Justice group. He claims he was supposed to get some money from Father COUGHLIN, but did not get it. MUEL LER has known MONTGOMERY for about five years and said that [redacted] got MONTGOME his job at the City Hall. MUELLER claims that he is the one who got [redacted] his job. MUELLER is forty-one years of age, has worked as an electrician, his par ents are American born, and he, himself, graduated from Saint Louis University Law School. MUELLER told [redacted] that [redacted] was at the meeting last night and liked it. SMITH told MUELLER that [redacted] was at the meeting, but becaus of his job at the City Hall, SMITH did not expect him to become involved in the America First Party. SMITH asked MUELLER whether there were any "old Republica wheel horses" there, but MUELLER told him "no."

b7C & b7D

[redacted] advised that SMITH gave MUELLER a big build-up, and told him to come back when he was sober. Throughout MUELLER'S talk with SMITH, he continually asked SMITH, "what are you aiming at?" He repeated this question so much that it apparently became embarrassing to SMITH, and SMITH said that he would talk to him about it when MUELLER'S mind cleared up. SMITH reminesced with MUELLER about the HUEY LONG days and also mentioned [redacted] and the two brothers (possibly th [redacted] brothers) who helped put on a meeting in 1935.

b7C & b7D

b7D [redacted] advised that SMITH inquired of McCULLOUGH, the "Post [redacted]

Dispatch" reporter, as to what the fellow at the Jefferson had to say. [redacted] did not know the significance of this remark. In talking about LOHBECK and his conscientious objection status, SMITH said that he did not think they should persecute those people. McCULLOUGH, who introduced SMITH to BENESCH, Editor of the "Star Times," was asked by SMITH how BENESCH liked the meeting, and also what JULIUS KLYMAN'S reaction was.

[redacted] advised that a MR. LaVALLE (phonetic) was at the meeting the night before, and probably was the one who shouted out the fact that America First is shown on naturalization papers. LaVALLE is retired and lives with someone in Saint Louis. He pioneered in the internal combustion engine and taught at the Sweeny School in Kansas City. He is about seventy-one years of age and is a member of the Spanish American War Veterans. LaVALLE wears his America First button behind his lapel and has worn it ever since he first got it. LaVALLE is become senile, but is a great admirer of GERALD L. K. SMITH.

[redacted] advised that Father AMBROSE F. GRIFFIN, who is the Pastor of the Church of the Seven Founders, 7641 Rock Hill Road, Affton, Missouri, greatly admires SMITH and is also against Communism. SMITH emphasized to Father GRIFFIN what he had done for the Catholic Church, along with HUEY LONG, in Louisiana. He told Father GRIFFIN how he got into the field in which he is now working and said he decided that "the Jews would not keep me down." He told the story that he had seen Archbishop HAYES in New York regarding Communism and had told the Archbishop that he knew what was going on in Mexico regarding the plans to persecute the church and also knew about the Spanish situation. SMITH asked the Archbishop for an intelligent understanding of his work, and the Archbishop turned him over to DAVID KELLY. He claims that he owes much of his knowledge of "Christian philosophy as it relates to politics" to KELLY. Brother JOHNSON in New York was assigned to SMITH to assist him.

SMITH continued his story that after spending some time in New York, he deliberated as to where it would be best to expand his activities, and he decided on Detroit, Michigan. He began broadcasting in that city, pointing out the Communist threat to this country. He pointed out that at that time he had had the support of the wealthy men who were afraid the Communists would take their money. Father GRIFFIN told SMITH that he knows a man like that in Saint Louis; namely, MARTIN FEDERER, who was at the meeting last night. Father GRIFFIN apparently knows FEDERER quite well and described him as a miser. SMITH, in continuing his story, said that when the war came on, these fellows (the manufacturers) got government contracts, and it was necessary for him to change the emphasis. SMITH said he contacted General WOOD and others in the America First Committee about the units in Ohio, etc. SMITH said that after we got into the war, some people deserted him.

[redacted] advised that Father GRIFFIN said that he is acquainted with two Catholic Churches in Detroit. Father BOYLE is pastor at one, and Father BOSBURGH

[redacted]

is at the other. SMITH told him that his office manager in Detroit, MR. DOMAN, is a devout Catholic, and SMITH thinks very highly of him. SMITH also mentioned that they were the guests at breakfast of someone by the name of O'BRIEN. He claimed that he is a good friend of JOHN McGILL, head of the Knights of Columbus. SMITH told of hearing a Father TERRELL, who spent some time in Spain and came back to the United States to tell of his experiences, and SMITH was so impressed with his story, he devoted an entire radio address to it, whereupon the "Jewish Gestapo of Chicago took him to task."

b7D [redacted] learned that SMITH inquired of Father GRIFFIN as to how he gets along with DR. MAIER, who is "working up our alley." SMITH said that MAIER'S personal secretary came to him last night after the meeting with some message from MAIER. SMITH told of having a meeting in Buffalo, New York, where he had a Father O'BRIEN on the platform and also mentioned that he has been at Father O'BRIEN'S church. He also submitted a manuscript to Father O'BRIEN which SMITH submitted to an editor of one of the newspapers, who had called his speech seditious. He forced this editor to retract this statement. SMITH thinks highly of the "Buffalo News." SMITH claimed that WINCHELL and men like him help their movement, because the people know what type of an individual WINCHELL is. He also claimed that WINCHELL got his first automobile from DUTCH SCHULZ, a notorious gangster, and from this beginning of associating with hoodlums, he became a personal aid to the President of the United States as a naval officer. MRS. SMITH commented that DUTCH SCHULZ had been a large contributor to the ROOSEVELT campaign. SMITH said "Communists are wrecking the Christian Churches from within---the Jewish Fifth Column." SMITH believes that the Jew in Russia now has lots of money, because ROOSEVELT is giving so much of the money away. SMITH is of the opinion that the people in Saint Louis want to be anti-New Deal but pointed out that their three newspapers are all New Deal papers. He told Father GRIFFIN of the attack against him by the veterans groups in Saint Louis, and said that this is Jewish strategy. SMITH also said that it is diabolical how WINCHELL is trying to get us into war with Argentina. SMITH also entered into an anti-Mason tirade, and told of their sinister influence against him in Michigan.

b7D [redacted] advised that SMITH told the story that in 1935, when he was in Saint Louis, representatives of the Friends of New Germany came to him and told him that their organization had found that LONG'S assassination had been planned in Vienna by the Jews. SMITH figured at that time that they were fanatics, and then when he went back to Louisiana, he did find out that HUEY LONG'S assassinators had some Vienna contacts, and he now believes that those men of the Friends of New Germany were correct.

[redacted] who has a number of contacts in the old America First Committee, advised that he learned from [redacted] whom he recommended that Agent not contact, that [redacted] who was a voluntary worker for the America First Committee, and [redacted] came to

b7C, b7E

[redacted]

SMITH to inquire about his organization and also showed some doubt about LOHBECK. However, SMITH reassured them that he was quite all right. These women told him that they were very enthusiastic workers of the America First Committee, and one of them took care of the files and mail. SMITH explained his organization, saying that their work had been one-half above and one-half underground. His organization did not elect officers because if they did so, these persons would be heckled, and one of the officials might even go over to the "enemy." He explained that the admission cards to the meetings have a code number on them, and these cards are tabulated in Detroit to determine which of the volunteers has been most productive. He also said that he has his volunteers fill out some questionnaire so that his operators can check on the background of the individuals. These women were very anxious to find out more about the organization, and SMITH told them there were no powers behind him; that he was the leader of the movement, and that everything was above board, and that it would not be like the America First Committee which was filled with stuffed shirts.

[redacted] advised that one of these women asked SMITH whether he had seen LINDBERGH, and he told her "yes, and he backs our idea." She claims to personally know LINDBERGH and does not feel that he would want any public office and does not want to campaign for him because of this. SMITH answered that he mentioned LINDBERGH in his speech the night before just to use his name as a sample. These women, although they were for WILLKIE in the last election, are presently very much anti-WILLKIE. The women asked SMITH who he thought would be a good candidate, and he said that he was not a BRICKER man, but that BRICKER seemed to be making some headway. He believed that McCORMICK would not want to be President and allowed his name to be used just as a "nice gesture." SMITH is not for DEWEY, because he is tired of being ruled by New York State and feels that DEWEY did HAMILTON FISH a terrible injustice. Both of these women agreed with this. The women asked SMITH what he thought of NORMAN THOMAS, and he advised that he considers him an intellectual---an old man. SMITH agreed with these women that if they had to choose between WILLKIE and ROOSEVELT, he would vote for NORMAN THOMAS. One of these women asked all these questions, because her husband was very much interested.

[redacted] further advised that during the conversation between these two women and SMITH, mention was made of KLEIN, an attorney for Colonel SANCTUARY, who has been indicted for sedition. SMITH asked them who is the best congressman in this district, and the women advised that PLOESER was, explaining that they are better acquainted with him than the others because he is their congressman. These women know the DeMOOR brothers and are also acquainted with MARTIN FEDERER.

[redacted] stated that when [redacted] gave SMITH her name, he commented that some people think that everyone with such a name (German name) should be liquidated. These women also furnished SMITH with a written list of names and said that an especially good worker was [redacted] who resides on Copelin Avenue in Saint Louis.

[redacted]

SMITH advised that he does not expect much from prominent people, and this is one of the reasons why the America First Committee did not make a success. He advised that he had GEORGE GEBHARDT on the platform in order to show them that he did not want stuffed shirts but was making an appeal to the ordinary working class. SMITH said that HENRY FORD is an admirer of his, and told a story about FORD'S secretary, whose name is possibly STUART (?), asking SMITH to drop by.

SMITH told these women about his organization, saying that he is against having volunteers do his regular work because under the guise of volunteers the "enemy comes in and reads his mail, etc." SMITH advised that he sends out from 8,000 to 10,000 pieces of literature every day, and that each piece discloses something against the New Deal. He advised that he is always getting new names. He explained to the women how LOHBECK had been selected, and said that a newspaper reporter, who had been a member of the America First Committee, had O.K.'D LOHBECK (this is probably McCULLOUGH). SMITH also told the women about how he gets expenses, in that the humble people send in their dollars and cents. One of the women told SMITH that the German Consul in Saint Louis had sent money to the America First Committee (some mention may have been made about [redacted] of the German Embassy coming to America First Committee meetings). Both of these women said that it would have caused them very much trouble had it become known that the German Consul was sending the money. b7c

Through [redacted] it was learned that among others, MARTIN FEDERER, REMBERT GILMAN SMITH, and DONALD LOHBECK and Subject SMITH had a lengthy conversation. FEDERER explained that Father GRIFFIN told him to come and also explained that he is a good friend of Senator CLARK. Mention was made that CLARK is an admirer of HUEY LONG. SMITH told a rather long story of himself testifying before the Lend Lease hearing in Washington, D. C. He explained how he was not harassed by the Chairman of this Lend Lease hearing, CONNALLY, because he had something on CONNALLY. SMITH said that he would run an article by CHANNING POLLACK, "We Planned It That Way," which some magazine was afraid to publish. b7D

Mention was made of PAUL ANDERSON, who lost his radio station because he drank heavily. SMITH is acquainted with [redacted] at Shreveport, Louisiana. This person is also possibly known by FEDERER. FEDERER mentioned that he saw JOE FORSHAW, former head of the America First Committee, a few days ago, who has some lawsuit on his hands, and LOHBECK commented that he is definitely against FORSHAW. FEDERER and LOHBECK were co-workers in the America First Committee, and they talked about old times. FEDERER was also anxious to find out what SMITH has in mind, and what his object is, inasmuch as he was greatly disappointed in the America First Committee. b7c

SMITH said his purposes are as follows: (1) Convince the people that someone can get up and tell the truth. He believes that the people gave up, and

[redacted]

that he can encourage these people (2) Crusade in journalism as everyone has stopped publishing, but he has started putting out his magazine (3) To emphasize the truth, stating that there were some people who did not want to turn the country over to the British or the Communists (4) Lay the foundation for an insurgent party "which has the guts to put an ultimatum before the Republican Party." In this regard SMITH advised that strategists of the Republican Party have come to him and begged him not to go too far with his movement and assured him that they were going to nominate a good man. SMITH advised that he does not want to split the Republican Party (5) To endorse the Republican candidates in other offices, hoping to place Republicans in local and national jobs.

SMITH also explained that if they are betrayed by the Republican Party (meaning if WILLKIE is nominated), they will form the America First Party and work for 1948.

REMBERT GILMAN SMITH visited MR. RAY, the Editor of the "Globe Democrat," earlier in the day, and told GERALD L. K. SMITH that RAY was all for SMITH. However, it was brought out that RAY, himself, had not said very much, but had just agreed with some of the things that R. G. SMITH had said.

The group discussed the coming elections and mention was made that KENNEDY is a personal friend of BURTON WHEELER. SMITH said that WHEELER told him all about KENNEDY. FEDERER mentioned a man by the name of [redacted] who is an American Legion man, and said that he was at the meeting last night. LOHBECK commented that [redacted] is anti-British and anti-ROOSEVELT. FEDERER mentioned that EARHARDT was a trouble maker. This fellow is also possibly a Legionnaire. LOHBECK said that [redacted] was an organizer for [redacted] LOHBECK also mentioned BILL SCULLY, the oil man of Oklahoma, and PHILLIPS, the oil man from Bartlesville, Oklahoma, and the name [redacted] is also mentioned. LOHBECK and FEDERER believe that it would be well for them to get together to think up all the names of the individuals who were formerly sympathetic with their movement. It is to be noted that [redacted] were not acquainted with all of the names mentioned, nor did they know the significance of these individuals.

b7c
b7D

LOHBECK brought up the point of possibly having an intermediary meeting someplace in South Saint Louis for possibly about 1,500 people. He suggested the Triangle Park.

SMITH commented about [redacted], and LOHBECK said that he is a good man. SMITH explained that [redacted] because of his job at the City Hall, cannot actively support the America First Party, and suggested that there be formed the Independent Republicans.

b7c

FEDERER claimed close friendship with WALTER PLOESER, and said that PLOESER has changed somewhat and he does not want to do anything that will prejudice his political future.

[redacted]

[redacted]

SMITH stated that DEWEY spoke in favor of him (SMITH) before Pearl Harbor. He mentioned that he has the balance of power in two states which are needed for success in a national election. He also mentioned the names, [redacted] and SAM____. He mentioned these individuals as liking them.

b7

SMITH said "the government is not worth a damn. We'll have to build an entire new government on men like LOHBECK. We'll make it that LOHBECK will be better known than PLOESER. If we had a thousand preachers like Preacher SMITH here and a thousand priests like Father GRIFFIN, we would be able to accomplish our purposes. The best man in the United States Senate is GERALD NYE. I love NYE. We have exchanged many long, personal letters." SMITH told of a meeting which he had arranged for NYE under the name, "Independent Republicans" in Ohio. However the head of the National Republican Committee in North Dakota is a Jew by the name of STERN, and pressure was brought to bear upon NYE, so that he had to call off this meeting.

Regarding the building up of the government on men like LOHBECK, SMITH elaborated on this as to how new speakers and new leaders must be built up from the ordinary men in their movement. SMITH also said that they would have to form Veterans Committees, in order to "catch them as they come out of the service." He said "we must build the leaders out of the soil." SMITH explained that RAY DANIELS of the "New York Times", London Department, had told him when he was interviewed that the men who are in the army in England are very discouraged, and that all of them would join the America First Committee.

SMITH explained how EARL SOUTHARD is trying to get RUSH HOLT to make speeches for him, but HOLT has not agreed to this to date. SMITH believes that the most courageous men are HOFFMAN, _____, REYNOLDS, and NYE.

FEDERER recommended that SMITH see DeMOOR of the Social Justice movement, and called him on the telephone and arranged for DeMOOR to come down to the hotel in the evening.

[redacted] advised that FEDERER and R. G. SMITH were greatly impressed with SMITH, and both men feel that the United States had to get into the war when it was attacked, but they feel that if a different policy had been followed before the war, it would have kept the United States out, and the Japanese would not have attacked us. FEDERER explained that he had worked for ROOSEVELT'S election in 1932 and 1936, but now gets sick of hearing his name. FEDERER holds an absorbing hatred for ROOSEVELT.

b2D

[redacted] advised that JOSEPH W. KOESTERS is anti-ROOSEVELT, anti-Administration, and anti-Jewish. KOESTERS is of the opinion that ROOSEVELT has a devil's influence on this country. KOESTERS said that everyone said the meeting was "wonderful." KOESTERS and LOHBECK talked about the draft, and KOESTERS

[redacted]

told LOHBECK "you are within the law; everything has been done legally." He explained that he, himself, was rejected because of high blood pressure (it was actually psychoneurosis).

KOESTERS had a district zone air raid warden take SMITH from the meeting to his hotel, and the newspaper men took a picture of the automobile. He said this man had talked about the meeting all the way home (this man is [redacted] b7c

[redacted] advised that KOESTERS, LOHBECK, and SMITH were all satisfied with the meeting on the previous night, and SMITH explained that meetings are more difficult now than in the America First Committee days, because of (1) coercion and intimidation (2) transporation (3) night shifts and occupations. b7D

During general conversation about their "enemies," KOESTERS made the remark, "all those war mongers." KOESTERS heard from a friend of his that Mayor KAUFFMAN was at the meeting. A friend of KOESTERS by the name of [redacted] who is believed to have a job at the City Hall, told the mayor about the meeting. [redacted] seemed to be enthusiastic about it. LOHBECK said that two men came to him and said "don't let SMITH get away from the Republican Party." b7

This group engaged in general conversation, according to [redacted] and SMITH commented "sell the bonds to all the sheenies and then repudiate the debt." It is SMITH'S idea that we should reach out and take all the British Islands in the Caribbean on the theory of "islands for debts." SMITH was very interested to ascertain the percentage of Jews and percentage of Germans living in Saint Louis. He inquired if all the Germans are anti-Jewish. He could get no definite answer, but LOHBECK commented that the Jews around here have been the obnoxious type, and that we also have a lot of refugees. KOESTERS told the story of a fellow by the name of [redacted] who worked for the "Post Dispatch" and was a Bund member. KOESTERS went out with him a number of times and believes that he is a Jewish refugee. In their further comments about the Jews, SMITH said that CLIFTON FADAMAN of "Information Please" has advocated the liquidation of the German race, and LOHBECK also quotes FADAMAN as saying "we must learn to hate the German race." SMITH commented "they are a bunch of criminals, but I think there are some good Jews." KOESTERS said "very few," and SMITH replied, "yes, that's right. They all stick up for each other. Even the good Jews will stick up for the Jews." He also said "if I call one Jew a Jew bastard, they call me anti-Semitic." b7

KOESTERS told the story of a friend of his who is a bricklayer from the Old Country (this is possibly one of the air raid wardens who works with KOESTERS). KOESTERS spoke in a slurring manner of fellows who are enthusiastically trying to get into the army and navy and told the story of one young fellow he knows who was all enthused about getting into the navy, and now that he has been in it, does not like it very much. He also told of [redacted] who had to go into the army, although he was very much opposed to it and opposed to the

b7c

United States entering the war. KOESTERS and this fellow [redacted] both knew [redacted] the German Consulate (the Saint Louis Office conducted an investigation on [redacted] which has shown that he has been extremely pro-Nazi in the past). [redacted] advised that mention was made of the fact that [redacted] of the German Consulate came to America First meetings and enjoyed hearing what was going on. This conversation had been on the topic of German people, and SMITH asked "when we were at peace, was it any worse to be a friend of the German Consul than the British Consul?" b7C b7D

LOHBECK explained that the former sympathizers of the America First Committee in Saint Louis were completely cut off from other parts of the country until SMITH came along, and the publicity has worked out fine, inasmuch as it has consolidated the people, and they now can again work for the cause. SMITH said "the word Fascist is innocuous---it means nothing." SMITH then told of a boy who was a senior in high school who sent the president some hot letter calling it a Jew Deal, etc., and also commenting about going into the war. He sent SMITH a copy of his letter. SMITH reprimanded the boy for having written this letter. He said that the boy had written to the president that he was going to war, but when he came back he was going to jam a red hot poker down his throat. Within ten days the federal authorities had indicted this boy, and the community, which is apparently close to Detroit, congratulated the young fellow and made a hero of him. The United States Commissioner told the young fellow to go into the army. SMITH has now gotten letters from the boy saying that he is working for a screwball, a major in the army, who was formerly a newspaper man, and is always wanting to make a deadline. He says that this major is "hep on charts" and is always diagnosing things. The young fellow says it is like working in a bug house as they have a deadline every day and are not getting any place.

[redacted] advised that SMITH told KOESTERS [redacted]) that he looked upon him as one of the pillars of this movement. KOESTERS said that a brother, who is a bachelor, and a sister, who is an old maid, of JOSEPH T. SCHROEDER, who once ran for Congress and is now dead, were at the meeting the previous evening. They live at 44--Clamerack (phonetic) Drive. He knew that they hated the administration, so he sent them invitation cards. After the meeting, MR. SCHROEDER came to KOESTERS and shook his hand, saying "we cannot thank you enough for sending that card." KOESTERS also explained that LOU MOUSHAY wants one of the Jones books. He explained that [redacted] organized all of the air raid wardens in the whole district, and both he and SMITH agreed that he must have some organizational ability and it would be well to work him into their organization. b7C b7D

They got on the subject of the draft, and KOESTERS again told that he was turned down because of high blood pressure. At this point, according to [redacted] MRS. LOHBECK asked "don't you want to fight for FRANKIE?" KOESTERS answered that he never was for this mess and feels that it could have been avoided, but it was those in Washington who got us into it. b7D

[redacted]

[redacted] advised that the group sat around and admired GERALD L. K. SMITH, including SMITH, himself, and he told them how he handles hecklers and has never been out-smarted. He told of up and coming orators such as HARVEY SPRINGER, who was a former Communist, but who was converted to Christianity. He also mentioned CHARLES MADDEN, who was a Commander of an American Legion Post at Pittsburgh, and who has been in Chicago and Detroit to speak. He considers DEEM SMITH as another good speaker who talks on the science of empire building.

KOESTERS said that the Social Justice group in Saint Louis is made up of only about eighteen to twenty members who are religious fanatics. KOESTERS told of the FBI investigating the [redacted], and said that they are now scared to do anything.

[redacted] advised that [redacted]

b7c & b7D

[redacted]

[redacted] came to the Saint Louis Office and advised that he learned that [redacted] a Methodist preacher who lives in Webster Groves, Missouri, and [redacted] had spent some time with MR. and MRS. SMITH. [redacted] is very friendly with Governor DONNELL of Missouri, who is also from Webster Groves. When SMITH started telling [redacted] about the Republican leaders in Saint Louis who have come and asked him not to start an insurgent party, [redacted] inquired as to the identity of these Republican individuals, and SMITH answered "MR. QUEENY." (QUEENY is head of the Monsanto Chemical Company). However, SMITH did not enumerate any others.

b7c
b7D

[redacted] said that SMITH told the [redacted] about his being catapulted into national prominence through the assassination of LONG, and how he has been persecuted by various investigations which were ordered by President ROOSEVELT. The [redacted] are acquainted with [redacted], a Southern Methodist in Shreveport, who the SMITHS claim is a good friend of theirs also. SMITH told the [redacted] the story of his association with HUEY LONG and the details of LONG'S assassination, pointing out how the assassination was plotted by the ROOSEVELT clique.

It was learned through [redacted] that SMITH thought that the [redacted] were on his side. However, MRS. SMITH said "he was on our side to start with, but she is different. She never was...."

IV. Activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH in Saint Louis on February 19, 1944

[redacted] advised that while SMITH and LOHBECK were in the lobby of the Statler Hotel, they learned that Governor SALTONSTALL of Massachusetts happened to be visiting in Saint Louis. SMITH commented that they had been playing "fox and geese" with Governor SALTONSTALL. There is no indication that there was a meeting between SALTONSTALL and SMITH.

b7D

[redacted] stated that SMITH planned his coming meeting in Saint Louis as a

[redacted]

Midwest Conference and Rally, and LOHBECK said that they have lots of contact in the neighborhood of fifty to seventy-five miles. SMITH gave LOHBECK a pep talk and glorified their place and position in relation to the upbuilding of the United States, and SMITH compared himself and LOHBECK with the "stalwart men of the past."

SMITH outlined the advertising for the coming meeting as follows: Midwest Conference and Rally---America First Party---National Leaders to be present including Captain EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago, MRS. ERNST LUNDEEN, GERALD L. K. SMITH---In Kiel Auditorium Opera House; Director, DON LOHBECK; Chairman of Committee on Arrangements, JOE ROESTERS---A local committee of 500 has been formed. SMITH told LOHBECK to get that to the United Press which snaps up everything on him, and also to the I.N.S.

The records of the Statler Hotel show that the SMITHS checked out at 11:00 A.M. on February 19, 1944, and the transportation desk records show that they took a train to Chicago.

V. Further Details Concerning SMITH'S Speech on February 17, 1944

This meeting was covered by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] b

Information was received that the audience was generally made up of older people, and there were a number of people there who spoke with a German accent and were of German extraction. Agent [redacted] advised that he heard one woman say that SMITH "sounded just like der Fuehrer." He further advised that one of the women who got up and announced she had a son and two nephews in the army was a MRS. MACKEY (phonetic).

Agent [redacted] advised that he sat next to [redacted], who to[redacted] him that it was he[redacted] was accompanied by two women, one of whom was elderly, and these companions of [redacted] spoke with a definite German accent. It also came b7c Agent [redacted] attention that there was present a [redacted] who has a KURT, who is possibly in the army.

[redacted] b7D

Special Agent [redacted] advised that he observed an individual wh[redacted]

b7c

[redacted]

later identified to be [redacted] was taking notes on the speech and also made it a point to get all of SMITH'S literature. [redacted]

[redacted]

Also at the Bavarian Inn were [redacted] and his wife, [redacted] who reside at [redacted] voiced great enthusiasm over SMITH and expects HITLER to win the war. She is a native of Hanover, Germany. [redacted] and his brother, [redacted] are natives of Annheim, Germany, and formerly operated the [redacted]

[redacted] An article in the German language newspaper, "Westliche Post," dated August 6, 1936, is as follows: "AUGUST F. HEITZLER, State Supervisor for the National Union for Social Justice,

advised that Reverend COUGHLIN would be present at a mass meeting on Sunday, August 23, to be held at the arena." [redacted]

The various material passed out at this meeting is as follows:

(1) Copies of "The Cross and the Flag."
(2) Petition to Congress in behalf of war veterans.
(3) Copy of RAY TUCKER'S article about SMITH.
(4) Envelopes of the America First Party in which donations were collected. These envelopes had space where the individual could show how many dollars he wanted to give every month to help carry on the organization activities necessary to the founding of the America First Party and also space for the individual's name, address, and telephone number.
(5) Remarks of BURTON K. WHEELER of Montana entitled "The Balance of Power in Europe," as presented to the United States Senate 11-16-43. This was printed by the U. S. Govt. Printing Office in Washington, but is shown "not printed at government expense."

VI. Miscellaneous

Inasmuch as SMITH had announced that he intended to ask for the opera house for March 30, 1944, ISAAC HEDGES, Chairman of the Municipal Auditorium Commission, held a hearing on the application of GERALD L. K. SMITH'S America First Party for the use of the auditorium and invited the veterans organizations to attend. Protests against renting the auditorium to SMITH and his Party were presented by PETER MIRAVALLE, Chairman of the Post Commanders Conference, American Legion; NEAL GRAALDO, Chairman of the Americanism Committee, American Legion; FRED EMIG, Americanism Chairman Veterans of Foreign Wars; MORRIS STONE, Jewish War Veterans, and HERBERT BENJAMIN, State Secretary of the Communist Party. The commission, however, permitted SMITH the use of the auditorium, pointing out that the local sponsors are citizens of Saint Louis and therefore entitled to the use of the public facilites of the city.

There is some indication that the opera house will not be available for March 30, however, the convention hall is available on that date.

It has been determined that the man named KELLY mentioned in the report of Special Agent [redacted] Saint Louis, dated January 28, 1944, as a man interested in radio broadcasting stations, is the owner of a radio station in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

b7c

[redacted]

Saint Louis File No. 100-6013 [redacted]

ENCLOSURES: To Detroit Office.....(1) Mimeographed letter dated February 19, 1944, on stationery of America First Party and signed by DONALD LOHBECK, Temporary Chairman, Saint Louis Committee.

(2) Handbill advertising SMITH'S speech in Saint Louis on February 17, 1944

(3) Petition to Congress in behalf of war veterans.

(4) Collection envelope used by SMITH at his meetings.

P E N D I N G

[redacted]

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

[redacted]

AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Will furnish the Saint Louis Field Office with a list of the individuals in the Saint Louis district and vicinity who subscribe to SMITH'S "The Cross and the Flag," or individuals in this area to whom he sends his material, if such a list is available.

Will check the file of the Detroit Field Division to determine the identity of [redacted] from whom McCULLOUGH, the "Post Dispatch" reporter, received a letter about [redacted] of Detroit. It may be possible that [redacted] was furnishing McCULLOUGH what he thought was confidential information about [redacted] and McCULLOUGH, in turn, has passed it on to SMITH.

THE SAINT LOUIS FIELD DIVISION

b7c

AT SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI

* Will ascertain whether [redacted] was contacted by SMITH, or whether it was MRS. DONALD LOHBECK who made the call.

Will keep in touch with the developments of this movement in Saint Louis and the individuals connected with it.

Will conduct an investigation regarding all of the individuals mentioned in the Saint Louis reports in this file and correlate the information in the individual files of the various subjects.

Will determine from ONI just what investigation they are conducting in this case, especially as to any contact they may have had with the "Post Dispatch" reporter, McCULLOUGH, and whether they are using him as an informant.

****

One copy of this report is being sent to the Oklahoma City Field Division for information, inasmuch as REMBERT GILMAN SMITH, who has contacted Subject SMITH, claims his permanent residence is Tulsa, Oklahoma, and also the fact that GERALD L. K. SMITH is sending large quantities of his material to a Preacher, WEBER, who broadcasts from radio stations in Oklahoma and is known as the "Radio Minister of the Southwest."

[redacted]

Saint Louis File No. 100-6013 [redacted]

INFORMANTS

Source of Information #1 is a recording of the entire meeting on February 17, 1944, which was made through the amplifying system of the Municipal Auditorium by Special Agent [redacted] b7c

[redacted] b7c

[redacted].....Special Agent [redacted], who was stationed in a hotel room next to SMITH'S suite, and who overheard the conversations without the aid of any listening devices. b7D

[redacted]

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Case: SEDITION

SA: [redacted]

Date: March 6, 1944

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Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Reference is made to our previous correspondence in the above-entitled matter and to the several reports heretofore furnished you.

For your further information there are attached copies of the following additional reports which have now been received in the course of this investigation:

Report of Special Agent [redacted] submitted at Saint Louis, Missouri, on March 6, 1944.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] submitted at Saint Louis, Missouri, on April 14, 1944. b7c

Report of Special Agent [redacted] submitted at Buffalo, New York, on April 14, 1944.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Hunford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Keane
Miss Hardy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
MAY 1 [illegible] P.M.

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. 62-1126

Detroit, Michigan
May 9, 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8 BTS/MC

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was.
The America First Party
INTERNAL SECURITY G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth hereinafter the substance of information obtained from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, during the period from April 20 through May 8, 1944. b7D

Informant advised that SMITH has been in contact with GERALD WINROD, one of the defendants in the sedition case presently being tried in Washington, D. C., and that SMITH apparently had been inquiring of WINROD as to the progress of this case and expressing the hope that the outcome would be satisfactory for WINROD.

The informant stated further that he was under the impression that [redacted] an acquaintance of SMITH, was apparently staying in Washington, D. C., for the purpose of reporting to SMITH the progress of that particular trial. [redacted] has been in contact with SMITH on several occasions during the above-mentioned period and on these occasions [redacted] has advised SMITH as to the status of the trial. b7C

It is also being noted at this time that during the entire course of the above-named period SMITH has been very busily engaged in exchanging his opinion with others that he contacted concerning the possibility of DEWEY and other potential candidates defeating President Roosevelt in the next presidential election.

SMITH has been busily engaged also in contacting various newspapers explaining his opinion to the newspapers concerning WILKIE'S defeat in Wisconsin and the possibility of DEWEY being elected president in the event DEWEY refuses to recognize the potential strength of the SMITH organization.

62-4550-482
MAY 15 1944
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Director, FBI
May 9, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was.
The America First Party
INTERNAL SECURITY G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

Along these same lines, informant advised that SMITH in the last few days has filed petitions with the Secretary of State of Michigan for the purpose of having America First Party placed on the next ballot in the state of Michigan.

SMITH has also made arrangements for various meetings to be held in the month of May, said meetings to be at Cleveland, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Baltimore and Philadelphia.

Informant advised that during the time of the outbreak of the Montgomery Ward dispute in Chicago, SMITH dispatched a telegram of congratulations to SEWELL AVERY, operations manager for the Montgomery Ward Company. SMITH has commented on several occasions that in his opinion AVERY should be president of the United States. It is further to be noted that in response to the telegram sent by SMITH, AVERY at a later date communicated with SMITH thanking him for his telegram.

SMITH has recently been in contact with JOSEPH PEW of the Sun Oil Company in Philadelphia who apparently is the PEW who is regarded as a political power in the eastern section of the United States and at that time PEW stated that he was interested either in the candidacy of DEWEY or BRICKER whichever one came to the convention with the most votes. During the course of this conversation PEW did not seem to agree with SMITH in all of his statements and stated he intended to visit Washington the latter part of the month and might stop in to have a personal visit with SMITH.

It was ascertained that on May 7, 1944, SMITH met a group of his constituents in Flint and Saginaw, Michigan, with the idea in mind of having these individuals circulate petitions among the people in the northern part of Michigan for the purpose of having the America First Party placed on the ballot.

Informant advised further under date of May 6 that information had been received indicating that SMITH was attempting to persuade Congressman BINDURIP (phonetic) of Nebraska to address one of the America First meetings although there is no indication that the Congressman has definitely acquiesced to this proposition.

former Bindrup

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

JWW:MBB

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIG

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN 82440

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	4-14-44	3-23,24,30,31; 4-1,4-44	[redacted]

b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; The America First Party	INTERNAL SE SECURITY MAT

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject and CHARLES A. MADDEN spoke at private meeting held 3-31-44. Meeting was held at Hotel Statler, Buffalo, and was booked in the name of CHARLES A. MADDEN, American Legion Post of Pittsburgh. It was attended by approximately one hundred sixty persons, mostly women, practically all of whom were members of the Economies League of Buffalo. About eight members of the American Legion, Buffalo, insisted upon entrance to the meeting and were admitted. Upon adjournment of meeting, Dr. JOSEPH A. HAWN, Erie County Commander of American Legion, and PAUL WAMSLEY, Erie County American Legion Americanism Chairman, challenged the right of MADDEN to represent himself as spokesman for the Legion, which representation was denied by SMITH and MADDEN. Informants advise that SMITH appeared somewhat at a disadvantage during the course of his speech, probably because of the unexpected visitors at meeting. Excerpts of speeches at meeting set forth. Subject, MADDEN and Congressman CLARE E. HOFFMAN scheduled to speak at Kleinhans Music Hall on 5-17-44.

-P-

REFERENCES: Letter from Detroit to Buffalo dated March 16, 1944. Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 27, 1944, at Detroit.

b2c

DETAILS: [redacted]

b2c
b2D

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: John B. Hitte SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-483

RECORDED & INDEXED

30 APR 3 1944

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3 - Detroit
1 - St. Louis (Information)
3 - Buffalo

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205 OCT 13 1964

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DATE 10/2/82 BY

7-20

of the Economics League, advised that a closed meeting of the Economics League was being held at the Hotel Statler on March 31, 1944. He stated that GERALD L. K. SMITH and CHARLES A. MADDEN were to be the featured speakers. [redacted] advised that invitations to the meeting had been mailed to the members of the Economics League, and that although he had not received an invitation, he understood that it was to be very restricted in attendance and that it would be necessary for those attending to present their cards at the door.

[redacted] advised that about March 1, 1944, a person who represented himself as [redacted] Buffalo telephone number [redacted] b7c b7D [redacted] telephonically contacted the Hotel Statler and requested the use of the Fillmore Room for 8:00 P.M. on March 31, 1944. (It is noted that the Buffalo telephone directory lists one [redacted] telephone [redacted] No [redacted] is listed for the telephone number [redacted] The caller stated that he represented "CHARLES A. MADDEN, American Legion Post of Pittsburgh," and requested that the room be booked in that name. He stated that seating accomodations for three hundred twenty-five persons were desired. Informant advised that upon receipt of this call the Fillmore Room was rented for thirty-five dollars rent for four hours.

It was subsequently ascertained from [redacted] b7D that "GERALD L. K. SMITH AND WIFE", 1753 Seyburn Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, registered at the Hotel Statler on March 31, 1944, at 10:06 A.M. These individuals occupied Room 1408, at the rate of eight dollars and twenty-five cents per day, and checked out of the Hotel on April 3, 1944, at 10:15 A.M. Informant also advised that CHARLES A. MADDEN, 301 South Negley Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, checked in at the Hotel Statler on March 31, 1944, at 9:04 A.M. MADDEN occupied Room 1634, at the rate of four dollars and ninety-five cents per day and checked out of the hotel on April 1, 1944, at 4:47 P.M.

Informant also advised that [redacted] registered at the Hotel Statler on March 31, 1944, at 7:57 A.M. She occupied room 1410 at the rate of six dollars and five cents per day, and checked out of the hotel on April 2, 1944, at 3:56 P.M. The records of the Hotel Statler, according to informants, reflect that SMITH paid a total bill of $73.38, which included MADDEN's bill of $4.95 and [redacted] bill which was $14.65. b7c

Dr. [redacted], Erie County Commander of the American Legion, [redacted]90 Delaware Avenue, residing at 960 Amherst Street, both Buffalo, advised that he received information that there was a meeting booked in the name of "CHARLES A. MADDEN - American Legion Post of Pittsburgh" to be held at the

Hotel Statler on March 31, 1944. He advised that he had no knowledge that an official meeting of the American Legion was scheduled for Buffalo on that night and that he heard that subject and MADDEN were in town and thought that he should attend the meeting and find out what it was all about. He stated that he, accompanied by a few other members of the American Legion, went to the Fillmore Room at Hotel Statler at 8:30 P.M., March 31, 1944. He advised that there was a woman at the door of the Fillmore Room to whom he identified himself and the other members of the American Legion and told her that they desired to attend the American Legion meeting. The woman at the door advised him that it was the Economics League which was holding a meeting in the Fillmore Room. When he advised that it was booked in the name of the American Legion Post of Pittsburgh and demanded that he be permitted to attend, the woman called JOSEPH H. STOFFEL, President of the Economics League who immediately came to the door and greeted HAWN and invited him and his guests to attend the meeting.

HAWN stated that immediately after they got inside the Fillmore Room, they were given cards which set forth at the top of the card "The Economics League $$$$ An Organization to promote 'Justice For All' Through Constitutional Money", and were requested to complete the card with their names and addresses. He stated that they complied with this and were ushered to seats.

HAWN further advised that shortly thereafter STOFFEL opened the meeting by making a short introductory speech introducing GERALD L. K. SMITH. HAWN advised that after SMITH spoke about one hour, he concluded by introducing MADDEN. HAWN also stated that in view of the fact that MADDEN was apparently holding himself out as representing the American Legion, he requested [redacted] a member of the American Legion delegation, to make notes of the meeting. Excerpts from these notes will be set forth hereafter. HAWN also advised that upon conclusion of MADDEN's address, SMITH adjourned the meeting, whereupon he and PAUL WAMSLEY, County Americanism Chairman, went to the front of the room and challenged the right of MADDEN to represent himself as a spokesman of the American Legion. b7c

HAWN stated that several of the women in attendance at the meeting milled around the front of the room and he thought for a few minutes that a squabble might occur. He stated that trouble was averted when SMITH and MADDEN announced that the meeting "had nothing whatever to do with the American Legion." He stated that SMITH added, "I have no idea how such an error came to be published." SMITH then turned to HAWN and stated, "Has anything been said at this meeting tonight that can be considered un-American?" HAWN told Reporting Agent that he felt compelled to reply in the negative and did so. He stated that the same question was directed by SMITH to WAMSLEY and that WAMSLEY in some way avoided an answer.

HAWN estimated that about one hundred sixty persons, mostly women, attended the meeting. HAWN telephonically contacted [redacted], who thereafter delivered to this office [redacted] excerpts from the speech of GERALD L. K. SMITH and CHARLES A. MADDEN. They are as follows: b7c

> The Communist Party of Missouri was the leading opponent of our right to speak in the City of St. Louis. It was led by the head of the Communist Party named Herbert Benjamin. Herbert Benjamin appeared before the City Council and said: 'I protest the appearance of Gerald L. K. Smith and his leaders in the City of St. Louis'. The president of the council, knowing him, said: 'Mr. Benjamin, if Joseph Stalin came to the City of St. Louis, would you be willing to have him speak in St. Louis?' Mr. Benjamin said: 'Yes, if Joseph Stalin should come to the City of St. Louis, we would be willing to let him speak in St. Louis.' He said: 'I don't think it will hurt St. Louis.' The St. Louis Post-Despatch said: 'We do not agree with Gerald L. K. Smith on his principles but we believe there is a principle at stake' and I am pleased to say they all advocated our right to speak in the City of St. Louis. We were well satisfied in the City of St. Louis for it was here that Wendell Willkie had spoken, and we wanted to know whether we had a greater following than Willkie. Willkie's meeting was advertised far and wide. We sat up chairs in over-flow rooms. They put in loud speakers. They had a far better press; the appearance of Mr. Willkie was broadcast from one end of St. Louis to the other, and his appearance was publicised in all of the papers of the United States. When he stood up, on the night on which he was to speak, he had less than 700 people. When I stood up to speak, and Mr. Madden and Mr. Arthur _____, former commander of the American Legion for the State of Illinois, by actual count, not from somebody's estimate, but by actual checking by meter as they came in the door, we had 2189 people from 14 different states in the great central area.
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> * * *
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> I appeared in the City Minneapolis the other day in response to those who had testified against my right to speak in Minneapolis. When the witnesses were all through testifying against me--and there were seventeen of them--I arose and said: 'There is not a single question that any witness can ask me that I am not willing to answer. I want to take the charges that have been made against my patriotism one at a time. I am going to stop if I do not answer each one satisfactorily and I wil not proceed to the next one until it is answered satisfactorily.' I went down through the charges of these people--most of them left wingers.

* * * * * *

If Homer Chaillaux, Chairman of the Americanism Committee of the American Legion, shall challenge my Americanism I will never ask any committee to apply for the use of the auditorium in my name.

If Martin Dies, chairman of the Americanism Committee for the lower House, will question my Americanism I will withdraw any application to appear in your illustrious city.

* * * * *

MR. SMITH (referring to Mr. Hoffman) said: His activities have been underscored by Homer Chaillaux of the American Legion.

* * * * *

Mons. O'Brien said if there was ever a christian it is Joe Stoffel. When I wrote my reply to the editorial of the Courier-Express, I told Mr. Stoffel to take it to Mons. O'Brien and I said: 'If he don't approve of it, don't take it to the Courier-Express.' And I wrote in that letter: 'If this appears, it has the approval of Mons. O'Brien and Fr. Anstett.'

* * * * *

Why did we bring Mr. Madden here tonight? Because he is an American Legionnaire, Past Commander of his Legion Post, active in Americanism. Don't you dare impugn his patriotism. He has two brothers, each of whom have furnished sons for this war and both of those sons have been killed. We asked Mr. Madden to come over here--in fact, Mr. Madden arranged for this room tonight, in order that he might come over and give his testimony and review what he knows about our American First activities, and you are going to hear him here in just a very few moments.

I am sure that every person here wants to help the Committee pay the cost of this meeting. I have here something that I want to give everybody tonight that donates to this expense--a book written by an American Legionnaire, J. Edward Jones, entitled, 'So They Indicted Me', a story of most of the details of the persecution Mr. Jones had suffered in Washington. Head of the oil pool, he resigned and branded the whole thing as Facist. Harold Ickes said: 'Give him the works' so they went through his files and looted him for enough to send him to jail for 75 years. One day he was called up by a man who said he knew a man who knew a man who knew a man who wanted to see him. The man came up, one cold-blooded rascal. He sat him down in his office, pressed a button and started a recording

machine. He said: 'Who are you?' He said: 'I am Eleanore Roosevelt's business manager, I can take you to Washington and introduce you to the right parties and this will never come to trial.' 'How much will it cost me', he said. '$25,000.00'. He didn't know his whole conversation and a lot more than I have said had been recorded. He said: 'This is getting good. I will just sit tight and see what happens.' This is all a matter of court record. In a few days a woman called him. She said: 'I am the wife of the man who examined your books, and he wants to see you.' He said: 'Tell him to come to my office tomorrow morning at ten o'clock.' The man walked in; Mr. Jones pressed the same button, and he said: 'What do you want?' Well, he said: 'when I examined your books for the government, I examined them crooked but they told me we must give you the works but I can give you the information which you can give to your attorney and you will never be convicted.' Jones said: 'How much do you want?' He said: 'I want fifteen thousand dollars down and so much later on.' Jones said: 'Be at my home at Scarsdale, New York, tomorrow morning.' Jones was there. He had his house loaded. He made the man repeat the offer, handed him $15,000. in marked money, and they grabbed him on leaving the house. Watchmen on the lawn revealed that his next superior in the New Deal was hiding behind a tree. He ran. He was out there waiting for his cut. I persuaded Ed. Jones to write this down. He wrote it down and nobody would publish it. Finally he established his own little publishing firm and published it. I have sent these all over the United States. They contain the exact dictaphone records.

* * * * * *

We are going to have a great meeting in Buffalo. I will tell you more about it later on. I will tell you the name of the place. The contract is signed.

* * * * *

The first thing, we are indebted to the attorney for the Civil Liberties Union, who is in no sense a part of our program. He has defended everybody for their civil liberties, for their sound rights--Mr. BARNSDALL, of the City of Buffalo. If he is here, I want him to stand up. He is that little fellow way in the back. Mr. Barnsdall will corroborate what I am about to say. Our national committee has decided to cooperate with Mr. Stoffel and his committee in carrying on this fight. We have lost in the lower court and are going to the next court; in fact we are going

to carry it as high as necessary in order to win. We are not only conferring with Mr. Barnsdall, but we are conferring with the most reputable legal minds in America as pertains to this case and we will carry the case up to the higher courts on his advice. The cost is minor; there is no cost for the lawyer; the cost is for copy writing and so on which will run into three hundred dollars, counting my trip to Buffalo. The rent of this room cost $35. I am not asking you to pay the expense of Mrs. Smith's transportation, and mine ever here; that expense is being born by our committee. I am sure every person who is a friend of ours wants to give something each month. To every person who gives a dollar or more I will send one of these Jones' books.

* * * * * *

And also I bring out what Mr. Dies brought out. You were told the author of 'Under Cover' is a traitor and should be indicted for sedition. There are Legionnaires here tonight who have always supported Mr. Dies. I challenge the American Legion of this County to support Mr. Dies in his charge against that rascal who tried to prove that Henry Ford was a paid emmissary, and Senator Hiram Johnson, of California. Was Barkley sincere? Sure he was, about getting re-elected next fall in a state that went Republican.

* * * *

I want to say something else. The scurrilous liars that have been attempting to impugn my patriotism have accused me of promoting race-hatred between the blacks and whites. May I remind you that it was Senator Bilbo who said: 'Drive those nigger lovers out of the South.' The District Attorney has written me a beautiful letter that is available in photostat for the Legion Posts of the American Legion. Let me warn the minorities. There are sinister influences at work. I challenge any Jew or friend of the Jews to cite one instance where I have ever promoted anti-semitism.

* * * * *

Charles A. Madden is an honored citizen of Pittsburgh; a past Commander of his Legion Post; a man whose patriotism and Americanism has never been impugned, whose two nephews have already been killed in this war. We got off on the wrong foot in this town, the only town in America. Our enemies rolled up lies that were believed. Yes, we will admit the only reason we brought this Legionnaire here is to have him stand between us and our enemies. I want Mr. Madden to open, first, by quoting for you from memory the Declaration of

Independence. Let me tell you a little joke. He was quoting the Declaration of Independence for a big rally and one of our enemies stepped in--he was sent there to get Madden. He listeded in on Madden right in the middle of the Declaration of Independence and said: 'Listen to him. I don't like that; sounds like a damned Nazi to me'. What he was quoting was the Declaration of Independence. I present to you this good man, this rugged American, Charles A. Madden. Let's give him a hand. (Applause).

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

CHARLES A. MADDEN: Mr. Stoffel, Mr. Smith, members and my fellow Americans:

My only interest in this great nation of ours is for a good government while I live and the privilege of bequeathing to my children a good government when I pass on.

I became interested in Mr. Smith, and my only interest was the truth. Before I spoke for Mr. Smith I investigated every word that Mr. Smith had spoken, and I didn't take the records of the Communist Party or somebody else who was interested in damning Mr. Smith. I took factual evidence, and making any statement unsupported by facts only affects the character of he who makes the statement. I am sorry to say that some people make statements unsupported by any facts, to go out and get a lot of publicity and then have to retract it later. I am interested in the government our fathers bequesthed to us.

The Constitution of the United States is an admirable document. Mr. Gladstone, who was a Britisher at the time--British Prime Minister--said the constitution of the United States was the greatest document ever struck off by the brain and purpose of man and would be given a place in the history of the world.

I am interested in that document. I am interested in its preservation. I am interested that it will stand as a rock and when the flood tide sweeps over it will be still a rock, and when the flood tide recedes--and we have had a little flood tide in the last ten years--the constitution has been preserved, thank God, and the flood tide is receding.

Our fathers were opposed to tyrrany and saw it in action. When they penned that great document they not only protected everybody who came under the constitution of the United States but they

made it a document wherein those who had charge of it could not use it to the detriment of the people. They gave us an executive, a legislative and a judicial government, under which all of the people of the land would be protected equally under the law.

The beginning of our Americanism was when Thomas Jefferson penned the Declaration of Independence and I, as a small boy, was taught in the school, down in West Virginia, to recite the Declaration of Independence, and I have always been interested in everything pertaining to the preservation of the United States constitution.

I will recite the Declaration of Independence for you and I hope that no one, because I do, will say that I am attacking any kind or organization or other because I am only interested that our flag will float over this land; that no constitution shall be above our Constitution and no flag float above our flag.

(Here Mr. Madden recited the Declaration of Independence.)

My fellow Americans, that is the day Americanism started, right there. Patrick Henry's address in the Virginia Assembly, which I also know from memory, was a while ahead of that; the famous 'give me liberty or give me death'; that is all you hear; Patrick Henry said many things besides 'give me liberty or give me death'.

But our fathers went on to fight a war and throw off tyrrany, and the same people came to establish this great government under which for 155 years we have lived at peace as a unity.

Now, within the last few years, there have been attempts to put a flag above our flag.

Over a year ago I appeared before the Senate Military Affairs Committee and I have the document here that was put out by that Committee, exposing this flag which some one said is the United States flag or the Cambridge flag or something else. (Showing flag.)

I would like to explain to you people what this flag is. It isn't the United States flag. That is a 'Union Now' flag of Federal Unionism, Inc., which has offices in New York, number 1 Fortieth Street, or number 10 Fortieth Street, New York City.

That isn't the American flag. All they left us were the stripes. Where is New York? New York is represented in our flag as one of the Thirteen states. New York isn't there. My state of Pennsylvania

isn't there. Our state gave us the Declaration of Independence, the constitution of the United States and Betsy Ross made the first American flag in Philadelphia. Texas isn't there. California isn't there. Illinois isn't there.

Now, instead of condemning us for exposing this thing with the gold star, one state; the star of Bethlehem which represents the theocratic state, one government over all--that is what that flag is. I am sorry that it was represented as being the American flag because it isn't an American flag. The Empire State must go; the State of Pennsylvania must go, the state that gave us the flag, the state that gave us the Declaration of Independence, and the State that gave us the Constitution, and there is set up a government above our government, a union with great freedom. I exposed this thing before the Senate Military Affairs Committee on April 17, 1943. I have the document here.

Let us protect the flag with the 48 stars. That is our flag. Some people have said, 'Oh, that is just the flag we made up. We went down to the Anning Flag people in New York, the biggest flag manufacturers in this nation. We went in and asked to buy a 'Union Now' flag and they sold us that flag. They didn't sell us a Cambridge flag. I know what the Cambridge flag is, and I know well what it is; the King James and King Arthur star and cross in the corner. That is not the Cambridge flag (referring to flag in hand), that is the 'Union Now' flag. We don't need 'Union Now' with anybody on the fact of this earth.

The best answer to that is the fact that in 1917 and '18, when I and my comrades back there, went over to make the world safe for democracy, who had to come to the rescue of the great democratic republic of the western hemisphere? We went over there and straightened out Europe's trouble. Don't let anybody tell you we didn't win the war because we did. It was the politicians at the Peace Table that lost the war after we had won it.

This great republic here was able to go across to save Europe in '17 and '18. That is one reason we don't need anybody to help us. They have been fighting over there for thousands of years and couldn't save themselves.

Now, in 1939, when war started, it was the same old problem--to get us into the war. Who had to come to the rescue? America, the home of liberty, the great republic, the country of a free government, free men preaching individual liberty. We are the people that had to go to rescue the masses that don't have the brains enough to keep from fighting.

So why do we have to ally ourselves with them in Union Now? So instead of being at war for twenty years we will be perpetually at war. Those are some of the things we have come here to tell, and I will tell that truth until death perish my name, perish my liberty but let America be free; let her be independent.

Who are some of our critics? Mr. Winchell said Mr. Smith jumped on this flag here in Buffalo. Mr. Winchell was uninformed. If he had known the truth, I don't think he would tell an untruth. He was misinformed. Somebody told him Mr. Smith jumped on the American flag. Mr. Smith would not jump on the American flag, but he would be attempting to jump on something they are attempting to put above our flag.

I will tell you something about Walter Winchell. I will give you facts. In the Readers Digest of 1939 they accused us of being isolationists; we are still isolationists, and here are two years that are making history. History is in the making all the time. Maybe twenty-five years after somebody is dead they find out somebody instead of being wrong was right. Here is something from the Readers Digest. This is a copy of the Ave Maria Magazine, the official publication of Notre Dame University.

'Walter Winchell has been retired from active duty in the Navy because of his criticism of members of Congress who were isolationists before our country got into the war.'

Winchell is arousing our people to war, but Winchell was a greater isolationist than any of the people he criticized. He only turned turtle when it seemed expedient for him to get on the administration's band wagon so he could continue broadcasting.

Let's quote the Readers Digest of June, 1943.

Once again America is playing with the loaded dice of destiny. Once again America is playing the old school, but if we are to have another unknown soldier, let us not ask him to die for an unknown reason or in the mud where he will not increase America's resources. The last war merely ruined our fertile land. In the last war we loaned our gold and got gold-bricked in return. If Mr. Winchell jumped through the hoop at the opportune moment, as a reward he has been put on the inactive list where he can continue his broadcasting to his heart's content.

Mr. Winchell was a greater isolationist than I was. I am for co-operation with all nations. I believe what George Washington

believed; co-operate with all nations, covet good relations with all nations, but engangling alliances with none. Against the insidious wiles of foreign governments I abjure you to believe the philosophies of the people ought to be constantly awake, since foreign intervention is the surest way to destroy a republican form of government. That was George Washington.

We are going to have a great crop of young American men returning crippled. I belong to an organization, two or three organizations, that are pledged to assist these boys. I am a member of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, 40 & 8, and the Naval Veterans. I know what we went through. I know how we had to pound up the steps of the capital and back, pleading for the rights of the veterans of the last war. I know all of those things well. They finally were able to get through a little bit of legislation for the benefit of the veterans.

This newspaper here is March 10, 1933. That is six days after the present chief executive took office. Here is the message. He started out with the Economy Act that took more from the Veterans; it took four times more from the veterans than it took from anyone else. Too often in recent history liberal governments have been wrecked on the rocks of loose financial programs. Avoid this danger. It is too late for leisurely approach to the problem. We must not wait to act several months hence. The emergency is acute. We must meet it. We must meet it with resolute purpose. Now, the members of Congress arein agreement on economy. I believe you and I are in complete agreement and my duty is to advise you as to the methods. I am not speaking to you in general terms. I am reading from records.

In other words--I am dictating to you. That was on March 10.

Those were days when there was mass hysteria. You could propose a piece of legislation one day, send it down and get it passed the next day. House votes five hundred million federal cut. This is March 12, 1933. Veterans benefits slashed. Reduction in veterans' benefits estimated at four hundred million dollars a year, partly to be achieved by provisions of law and partly by bread powers given to the President to discontinue all benefits to World War Veterans subject to permanent disability. This omits the phraseology 'to increase the 8 1/3 cut to 15 per cent'. That has reference to members of Congress and doesn't have reference to veterans. In that cut the veterans were cut four hundred millions. There was a cut of five hundred millions but four hundred millions were taken from the veterans of the last war.

The question in my mind is this: Should we entrust to a man who made this cut on the veterans, a man who vetoed the soldiers' bonus when it was passed and thank God congress passed it over the veto because I needed it and many others did too? Should we entrust--and he has asked for the privilege of handling all the legislation of this war--should we entrust that to the chief executive to do the returning veterans as he sees fit?

For my part, I would give him a year's pay. I would tell him, when handing him his discharge, that he can go and look for a job for a year and if he don't find it we will pay him anyhow.

I ask you people in Providence to be honest, investigate. If that is brought out and there is mass hysteria abroad in the land, people in a hurry to beat their breasts regardless of many statements that are not true, I don't care where our flag floats, let that flag stand for justice wherever it floats. Let it stand for justice between man and man, between nation and nation, for humanity always.

I think that what we should do is, go and kneel in calmness, in spirit, and pray that the spirit of George Washington might return to us."

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[redacted] for the Courier-Express advised that he "happened to be on the mezzanine floor of the Hotel Statler a few minutes before 8:00 P.M., March 31", when he met subject. He stated he advised subject that the photographer and reporter were present in the hotel and requested that they be permitted to attend the meeting which he was holding. He stated that SMITH told him he would be glad to have them present and he was sorry that "you cannot attend". [redacted] stated that he explained that he was free for the evening and would like to attend. Whereupon SMITH invited him. b7c b7D

He told Agent that he attended the meeting and estimated that there were about one hundred sixty in attendance, adding that they were mostly women and mostly all members of the Economics League, with the exception of the representatives of the American Legion. [redacted] stated that in his speech SMITH charged that the City of Buffalo had violated the Bill of Rights of the Constitution in denying him the right to speak to the public in the city-operated or other community halls. SMITH said that his local committee b7c b7D

would take its case to the Supreme Court, if necessary.

According to [redacted] SMITH also stated, "I have been denied the privilege of speaking in the same auditorium used by EARL BROWDER, head of the Communist Party, HARRY BRIDGES, who was called a Communist by Roosevelt's own Attorney General and JOHN ROY CARLSON, author of 'Under Cover' and the man Representative MARTIN DIES calls un-American." SMITH stated that the "America First" stands for Americanism and nothing else. [redacted] also told Agent that in his speech SMITH declared that it was the "Left Wingers and Fourth Dealers" who were smearing him and the America First Party.

SMITH said the Party was for all the "necessary spending for the war effort, but not for the six billion dollars spent in South America, when this could mean $1,000.00 if distributed after the conclusion of the war." SMITH said that he was against any president holding office for more than two terms and that "if the Roosevelts should be divorced completely from politics after the next election, Willkie go to Moscow and Wallace peddle milk in China", he would be happy. He continued, "If only one man of the one hundred thirty million people of this country can direct this nation of ours, then this country is shot to hell and might as well find it out at the next election."

[redacted] further advised that SMITH declared that the America First has a seven-point program. These, SMITH said, were: America First in war and peace; no encroachment on National sovereignty; repeal of bureaucratic fascism; fight New Deal Communism; general treatment of Veterans of World War #2; no labor draft and return of system of private enterprise. [redacted] also stated that at one point in his speech, SMITH related that the head of a theological school in Minneapolis, upon his recent visit to that City, had asked him to dedicate a part of their library to SMITH's father who had been a well-known Baptist preacher in that area. He also stated that SMITH said that he was not opposed to any religious group and pointed out that his own son was a Catholic.

[redacted] advised Reporting Agent that the American flag was displayed at the front of the room throughout the meeting and that during the course of MADDEN's speech, MADDEN exhibited the Cambridge flag, with the exception of the fact that there was a star in the middle of the Union Jack, and stated that "this isn't the American flag."

Excerpts of the speeches of SMITH and MADDEN which were transcribed by [redacted] were exhibited to [redacted]; whereupon he stated that, in his opinion, the excerpts together with the foregoing comments made by him furnished a rather complete account of the meeting.

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PAUL WAMSLEY, 281 Hartwell Road, Buffalo, Principal of Public School #61, Buffalo, and Chairman of Erie County Americanism Committee of the American Legion, was contacted and advised that upon receiving notice that a meeting was booked in the name of the American Legion of Pittsburgh, he, accompanied by MORTON P. LEVY, Chairman of the Americanism Committee of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States, at the time of the meeting went to the Fillmore Room of Hotel Statler and requested that they be granted permission to attend the meeting. He stated that a man at the door of the hall politely told them that it was a meeting of the Economics League and that it was not open to outsiders. He advised thereafter that they were of the opinion that Dr. HAWN was already inside the hall and they had him paged. He stated that thereafter they accompanied Dr. HAWN to the meeting.

WAMSLEY specifically pointed out that while SMITH at one point in his speech told his audience that a public meeting would be held by him in the future at Buffalo, the place and time of which he would announce later in the evening, he failed to make this disclosure at any time throughout the meeting. WAMSLEY was unable to furnish any additional information regarding comments made by SMITH or MADDEN at the meeting.

MORTON P. LEVY, tailor, 1306 Delaware Avenue, Chairman of the Americanism Committee of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States, Buffalo, New York, confirmed the facts furnished by WAMSLEY. LEVY delivered to Reporting Agent copies of the following pamphlets which were distributed at the meeting:

Pamphlet entitled "666 SLAVE ACT", which was the statement made by GERALD L. K. SMITH in testimony before U. S. Senate-Military Affairs Committee on February 5, 1944.

Pamphlet entitled "ARE FOOD SUBSIDIES NECESSARY?" by WILLFORD I. KING.

Pamphlet entitled, "ARE THE UPPER INCOME CLASSES GETTING AN INCREASING SHARE OF THE NATIONAL INCOME?" by WILLFORD I. KING.

Pamphlet entitled, "THE WELFARE STATE - DO YOU WANT IT IN AMERICA?" by S. B. PETTENGILL.

Pamphlet entitled, "DESTRUCTIVE TAXATION", which was an editorial appearing in the New York Journal-American on June 11, 1943.

Pamphlet entitled, "JEFFERSONIAN DEMOCRATS vs. NEW DEAL" by S. B. PETTENGILL.

Pamphlet entitled, "I AM PRIVATE ENTERPRISE", re-printed from Benjamin DeCasseres' column in the New York Journal-American.

Leaflet entitled, "BISMARCK'S GOLDEN CHAIN" by SAMUEL B. PETTENGILL.

Leaflet entitled, "COMING CRISIS IN OIL" by S. B. PETTENGILL.

Leaflet entitled, "TEN POINTS . . . . . .
THEY COST SO LITTLE . . . . . .
THEY ARE WORTH SO MUCH!"

Leaflet entitled, "LINCOLN ON LIMITATION"

Leaflet with certificate of the "Constitutional Money League of America" printed thereon.

Mr. LEVY also advised that envelopes and pencils for contributions to the America First Party were distributed, adding that SMITH stated that if the persons in attendance made large contributions, they could keep the pencils.

The above mentioned pamphlets are being retained in the exhibit envelope of this file in the Buffalo Field Division.

[redacted] was subsequently interviewed and advised that he attended a meeting held in the Fillmore Room of the Hotel Statler on March 31, 1944, but that he did not arrive at the meeting until approximately 9:00 P.M. [redacted] delivered to Reporting Agent a copy of "THE CROSS AND THE FLAG" for March, 1944, Volume 2, Number 12, which he stated were being sold at the meeting for twenty-five cents. This copy is also being retained in the exhibit envelope of this file in the Buffalo Field Division.

[redacted] pointed out to Reporting Agent that he noticed a girl in the front of the room throughout the meeting and noted that she took a few notes during the course of the meeting. He stated that he was of the opinion that this girl must have been SMITH's Secretary. [redacted] told Reporting Agent that, in his opinion, SMITH throughout the course of his speech appeared somewhat at a disadvantage, adding that possibly this was caused by the unexpected visitors at the meeting.

[redacted] Kleinhans Music Hall Management, Inc., The Circle and 14th Street, Buffalo, New York, advised Reporting Agent that JOSEPH H. STOFFEL, President of the Economics League, who resides at 98 Comstock Avenue, Buffalo, attempted to rent the Mary Seaton Room for October 25, 1943, advising that the following persons would speak: SMITH, Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN and CHARLES MADDEN. [redacted] stated that she advised STOFFEL that the hall was not available for that date and referred

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him to the Buffalo Municipal Auditorium, where SMITH was not permitted to speak.

She stated the next contact she had with STOFFEL was on March 13, 1944, when he made inquiry as to when the Mary Seaton Room would be available, advising that the Economics League intended to feature SMITH as a speaker. [redacted] advised him that the room would be available May 16, 1944 or May 17, 1944, and told him to make a formal request in writing in the near future, in the event one of the dates was suitable. She advised that she contacted STOFFEL on March 27, 1944, and that he told her that the Economics League desired to rent the Mary Seaton Room for a rally to be held Wednesday, May 17, 1944, at 7:30 P.M.

STOFFEL subsequently confirmed this rental by letter dated March 27, 1944, which letter set forth: "The speakers on this occasion will be: Commander CHARLES A. MADDEN, American Legion Post, Pittsburgh; GERALD L. K. SMITH of Detroit; Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN is expected and if unable, some other nationally known person will substitute. [redacted] advised that the rental for a four-hour period would be seventy-five dollars, plus ten dollars for the use of the public address system.

[redacted] advised Reporting Agent that the Mary Seaton Room seats seven hundred ninety persons. She pointed out to Agent that the Kleinhans Music Hall, while owned by the City of Buffalo, is managed by the Kleinhans Music Hall Management, Inc., and that the City officials have no voice whatever in deciding to whom the hall should be rented. She stated that she was cognizant of the fact that the City of Buffalo had denied use of the Buffalo Municipal Auditorium to the Economics League to feature SMITH, but pointed out that it has always been the policy of Kleinhans Music Hall to in no way hinder freedom of speech, and consequently, they would have no basis for refusing to permit SMITH to speak in the hall.

She added that, in the event SMITH or any other person makes seditious statements in the hall, it would constitute sufficient grounds for their refusal to rent the hall in the future.

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- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE BUFFALO FIELD DIVISION

AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK

Will report activities of meeting of Economics League scheduled to be held May 17, 1944, at 7:30 P.M., at Kleinhans Music Hall, Buffalo.

Identity of confidential informants mentioned in the foregoing report of Special Agent [redacted] dated April 14, 1944, is as follows: b7c

[redacted]

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BU 14-7

A copy of this report is being designated for the St. Louis Field Division inasmuch as the City of St. Louis is referred to in the first paragraph of the excerpts of SMITH's speech set out in the foregoing report of Special Agent [redacted] dated April 14, 1944, at Buffalo, New York.

b7c

BUFFALO EVENING NEWS—Thursday, May 18, 1944

AMERICA FIRSTERS FACTOR IN POLITICS, SAYS G. L. K. SMITH

To the undisguised delight of most of the approximately 500 persons in the Mary Seaton Room in Kleinhans Music Hall Wednesday night, National Director Gerald L. K. Smith of the America First Party heaped criticism on the Administration and ridicule on New Dealers and declared:

"We're nationalists, we America Firsters, and because we're against the New Deal internationalists, they call us Fascists."

Mr. Smith's appearance climaxed several months' effort to get a hall in which to speak, the city refusing to rent Memorial Auditorium to him.

No untoward incidents marred the three-hour meeting. FBI and Secret Service men, plainclothes detectives and uniformed policemen were on hand but audience applause was the only interruption in the oratory of Mr. Smith and Mrs. Ernest Lundeen, widow of the late Minnesota senator.

"More Congress" Needed

Charles A. Madden, commander of a Pittsburgh American Legion Post, did not speak although scheduled and no explanation was given. Dr. Joseph R. Hawn, county commander, and Paul Wamsley, Americanization chairman of the American Legion here, attended "to see that the Legion was not misused by speakers."

As a fourth-term candidate President Roosevelt is open to criticism and must expect it, said Mr. Smith, declaring: "We don't need a big, strong man for President, we need less President and more Congress, we've had too much President in the last 11 years."

Sidney Hillman, CIO Political Action leader, is Mr. Roosevelt's man and has raised a tremondous fund from assessments against CIO members for fourth-term purposes.

Refers to Dewey

He invited Vice President Henry A. Wallace to move to Russia, and assailed other New Dealers and Wendell Willkie.

"Every politician knows that the next man to be President will have to consider the nationalists," Mr. Smith declared. "Gov. Dewey once spoke unfavorably of me but that was before the Wisconsin votes were counted—he won't say it again. If he can get along with the Chicago Tribune and Col. Robert R. McCormick, we'll get along. His mother in Michigan attends my meetings."

Mrs. Lundeen assailed Columnists Walter Winchell and Drew Pearson as "the two best-known smear artists today," urged an end to the "ruinous international myth with which foreign-minded people are trying to crush and ruin America."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8675 [illegible]

BUFFALO EVENING NEWS
Buffalo, New York
Date 5/18/44

ENCLOSURE

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

RHC:PC

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

FROM : R. H. CUNNINGHAM

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH

May 15, 1944
9:40 A.M.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mk

Mr. Olson
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

SAC Little of the Buffalo Office called at this time and advised that Gerald L. K. Smith will be in Buffalo on May 16th. He stated that Smith is scheduled to make a speech there on the evening of May 17th.

Little advised that Smith has made reservations at the Statler Hotel and requested authority to install a microphone surveillance in his room. I told Little if it could be done very discreetly and without any embarrassment to the Bureau, he could go ahead with this installation.

RECORDED 62-43811

27 MAY 18 1944

62-43811-484

17 JUN 14 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

F.B.I. TELETYPE

CLASS. BY SP4 GTJ/MG

DATE OF REVIEW OADR

10/2/82

EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

[redacted] c

FBI BUFFALO
DIRECTOR 51 [redacted] c
TOLL

1:37 PM

GERALD L K SMITH WA INTERNAL SECURITY G PURSUANT TO TELEPHONIC AUTHORIZATION [redacted] LAST MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE INSTALLED STATLER HOTEL BUFFALO 12:17 A.M. [redacted] c LAST AND REMOVED 12 MIDNIGHT SAME DATE.

LITTLE
2-37 PM OK FBI WADC HEY

[redacted] c RECEIVED

EX-18

[redacted] c RECORDED

2:09 PM EWT

[redacted] c

CONFIDENTIAL

ALL b1

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY MEMO
SUP (S) OF
DATE

1529

62-43919-485
F B I
10

[redacted] b7c

62-43818-485

RECORDED

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

SAC, Buffalo

June 15, 1944

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

EX - 35

GERALD L. K. SMITH, wa
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Please refer to Buffalo teletype to the Bureau dated [redacted] b7c informing that a microphone surveillance was installed at the Statler Hotel in Buffalo at 12:17 a.m., [redacted] and removed at 12:00 midnight that date. It is requested that you immediately notify the Bureau of the symbol number designated for this surveillance and also the identity of the room covered by the microphone surveillance and the place where the plant for this surveillance was maintained.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

CLASS. BY SP [redacted]
DATE OF REVIEW 10/7/82

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY FOLLOWING
SLIP (S) OF Class 06
DATE 10/19/82

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Dunford
Mr. Jones
Quinn Tamm
ase
ndy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
JUN 15 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CONFIDENTIAL

RECEIVED
JUN 15 02 PM

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Detroit

SL FILE NO. 100-6013

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Saint Louis	5-20-44	5-16-44	[redacted] RS

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with alias, THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Proposed America First Party meeting for May 9, 1944, called off. DON LOHBECK, Chairman, A.F.P., Saint Louis, Mo., ordered to report for pre-induction physical examination on May 27, 1944. JOSEPH KOESTERS, another leader of the A.F.P. in Saint Louis, ordered for pre-induction physical examination May 29, 1944.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Bureau File No. 62-43818. Report of Special Agent [redacted] Saint Louis, Mo., dated 5-1-44.

DETAILS: At the America First Party meeting on April 18, 1944, which was reported in the reference report, it was announced that there would be a meeting on May 9, 1944 at 3535 Pine Street, Saint Louis, Missouri, and the main speaker would be DEEMS SMITH of the Standard Oil Company.

[redacted] who is a member of the American Legion and also an officer in the Musicians Union used 3535 Pine Street for all of its meetings and when it was determined that the America First Party was going to hold a meeting there, it was decided by the owners of 3535 Pine Street that the America First Party was not desirable and that the hall should not be available

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-486

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2 - Detroit
2 - Saint Louis

cc Dir of Pers 6/6/44 [illegible]

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205 OCT 15 1964

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for this organization. However, [redacted] also determined that this meeting on May 9, 1944 was to be canceled by the America First Party as one of its two main speakers had to go to Washington, D. C. One of the speakers is a Reverend JOHNSON, who is active in the First Church of Spiritual Science. The First Church of Spiritual Science, according to [redacted] has in the past held its meetings at 3535 Pine Street and some woman who is a member of that church arranged for the meeting there of the America First Party. She told the manager of that building that they expected one thousand people to attend the meeting. However, she seemed to have some difficulty in raising the money for the rental of the hall. b7c

DON LOHBECK, Chairman of the America First Party, Saint Louis, Missouri, was ordered to report for a pre-induction physical examination on May 27, 1944. JOSEPH KOESTERS, another leader of the America First Party in Saint Louis, was ordered for pre-induction physical examination on May 29, 1944.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

SL No. 100-6013.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At Detroit, Michigan:

Will advise the Saint Louis Field Division if it desires that Saint Louis cover any future meetings or activities of the America First Party. It is to be noted that the individual cases on the various subjects who reside in the Saint Louis Field Division and who are active in the Saint Louis Field Division are being held open at the present time merely to follow these individuals' Selective Service status.

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
400 U. S. Court House
Buffalo 2, New York

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. 14-7

[redacted] b7c

May 18, 1944

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was.
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C,
SEDITION.
(Bureau File 62-43818)

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a clipping from the Buffalo Evening News dated Thursday, May 18, 1944. The pertinent portion of this clipping is the fourth paragraph which reads as follows:

> "FBI and Secret Service men, plainclothes detectives and uniformed policemen were on hand but audience applause was the only interruption in the oratory of Mr. Smith and Mrs. Ernest Lundeen, widow of the late Minnesota senator."

Although this meeting was covered by the Buffalo Office, no Agents from this office were in attendance among the audience at the meeting referred to above. The only individual contacted who may have been interviewed by newspapermen was Mr. PAUL WAMSLEY, Americanization Chairman of the American Legion in Buffalo, but in each instance the Agents interviewing Mr. WAMSLEY emphasized the confidential nature of the Bureau's inquiry in connection with the activities of GERALD L. K. SMITH.

It is believed that the statement quoted above was made without foundation on the part of the Buffalo Evening News and is merely an example of editorial liberty.

Very truly yours,

RECORDED & INDEXED

JOHN B. LITTLE, SAC.

62-43818-487

ENCL. Enclosure.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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☐ For your information: _____

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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
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FBI/DOJ

DYNAMIC RALLY

FIVE-STATE MEETING

Cleveland Public Auditorium

(MUSIC HALL)

CLEVELAND, OHIO

Mon., May 15, 1944

8:00 P. M.

Principal Speaker

GERALD L. K. SMITH

National Director

GERALD L. K. SMITH

Baltimore Sun (H. L. Mencken): "Gerald L. K. Smith is the greatest orator of this century. He begins where Bryan, Billy Sunday and LaFollette the senior left off."

Lowell Thomas says: "Gerald L. K. Smith is the most fearless and dynamic orator in America."

SUBJECT OF ADDRESS:

MAKE WAY FOR LIBERTY

Hear this address and you will understand why the Communists, the Nazis, and the New Deal Bureaucrats hate Gerald L. K. Smith worse than any living American.

You will also learn why he leads the most rapidly growing political movement in the United States.

Among the many topics with which Mr. Smith will deal in his address will be the following:

The "NO ELECTION" Conspiracy
SLAVE ACT 666
BUREAUCRATIC TYRANTS
NEW DEAL COMMUNISTS
THE FARM CRISIS
THE INTERNATIONALISTS
TREASON IN WASHINGTON
WORLD GOVERNMENT
THE FOURTH TERM PLOT
DYNAMIC ISSUES
FAT BUREAUCRATS and HUNGRY VETERANS

OTHER SPEAKERS TO BE ANNOUNCED

486

AMERICA FIRST

PRINCIPLES

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/2/82 BY SP-8600/MC

The America First Crusade stands for the Following principles:

1. ***AMERICA MUST BE PUT FIRST IN WAR AND PEACE.***

We do not mean this in the selfish, greedy sense. It is a fundamental social law that a man must consider his own first. A Scripture verse says: "He that careth not for his own is worse than an infidel."

We must safeguard our own natural resources. We must fight all attempts on the part of bureaucratic traitors to give away and exhaust our national wealth on their foreign and international ambitions.

What words could be *more appropriate* than "AMERICA FIRST" in the winning of the war. When peace comes, those whom we send to the peace table must be so loyal and trustworthy that their first consideration will be their own America.

We must make sure that our own veterans of this war are considered first. Attempts are being made to flood us with immigrants and refugees. If we allow millions of foreigners to flood into our country, they will take the jobs which belong to the men and women in the armed services. *This must never be.*

2. ***NO COMPROMISE OF [illegible]*** [illegible] are attempting to trick us into a world government. If this happens, a group of men meeting in Teheran, or Casablanca, or London, or South Africa, will be making laws for our people to obey. We must fight to keep our government in our National Capital. No foreigner must ever be permitted to make rules for our people to obey.

3. ***REPEAL BUREAUCRATIC FASCISM.***

Students of world politics admit that the Washington bureaucracy resembles the Fascism of Europe. It represents an attempt to control our personal lives as well as our daily work by government edict from Washington. The bureaucrats delight to call *those* of us who are Nationalists, Fascists. They know full well, however, that the real Fascists in America are the bureaucratic tyrants of Washington.

4. ***FIGHT NEW DEAL COMMUNISM.***

The present administration in Washington represents a strange wedding between the technique of Fascism and the philosophy of Communism. Thousands of Communists, pinks, and pro-Communists, are on the payroll of the United States Government. Many government bureaus take their orders from men who believe in the Stalin system.

5. ***LESS MONEY FOR FOREIGN POLITICS AND MORE FOR DISCHARGED VETERANS.***

Without limiting our military forces, we should put a stop to the *program of international boondoggling now* going on. Billions are being spent on South America, other billions are being loosely scattered all over the earth for *non-military* purposes, while our veterans are returning from this war, jobless and penniless.

Every man in the armed forces who has served more than one year should receive at least $1000—$500 cash, *and the remainder* at the rate of $100 per month for five months. We are spending on the South Americans alone enough to give a $1000 bonus to 6 million veterans.

6. ***NO LABOR DRAFT.***

Mr. Roosevelt and others would give us all a number and draft every man and [illegible]

7. ***RESTORATION OF THE SYSTEM OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.***

There are two outstanding enemies of private enterprise: (a) Corporate Monopoly; and (b) Government Control.

The poorest boy in America should be given an opportunity to make a *million* dollars if he knows how to do it. He must not be hindered by the monopolists who are usually controlled by the international bankers, and he must not be hindered by the bureaucrats who want everything to be run and owned by the government.

Private enterprise is the foundation of the American system. It springs from the teachings of Christ. Christ believed in the dignity of the individual soul, in the privacy of the individual soul.

The above issues will be emphasized in the days that are immediately ahead; and of course certain emergency issues will be discussed, such as the current attempt to call off the elections. But most of what we will have to say will center in the enunciated principles listed above.

EMERGENCY ISSUES:

a. Fight the slave act--Senate Resolution No. 666.
b. Fight all attempts to call off the election.
c. Expose conspiracy to steal the Soldiers' vote.

For additional information concerning the America First Movement write Gerald L. K. Smith, P. O. Box 459, Detroit 31, Mich.

Gerald L.K. S

AMERICA FIRST RALLY

CLEVELAND PUBLIC AUDITORIUM (MUSIC HALL) Cleveland, Ohio

Monday, May 15, 1944 - 8 p. m.

Below are six admission cards. These can be torn off and presented to friends. Make sure they are ALL distributed.

This card will admit bearer and friends to:

FIVE-STATE RALLY

AMERICA FIRST PARTY

CLEVELAND PUBLIC AUDITORIUM
(MUSIC HALL)
Cleveland, Ohio

Monday, May 15, 1944—8 p.m.

PRINCIPAL SPEAKER:
GERALD L. K. SMITH

Among the many topics with which Mr. Smith will deal in his address will be the following:

The "No Election" Conspiracy
Slave Act 666
Bureaucratic Tyrants
New Deal Communists
The Internationalists
World Government
The Fourth Term Plot
Fat Bureaucrats and Hungry Veterans
The Farm Crisis
Treason in Washington

Other Prominent Speakers to be Announced.

ADMISSION FREE

This card will admit bearer and friends to:

FIVE-STATE RALLY

AMERICA FIRST PARTY

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(MUSIC HALL)
Cleveland, Ohio

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CLEVELAND PUBLIC AUDITORIUM
(MUSIC HALL)
Cleveland, Ohio

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Treason in Washington
World Government
The Fourth Term Plot
Fat Bureaucrats and Hungry Veterans

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Carson
Mr. Lad
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Hurlford
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Gale
Mr. Dandy
Miss

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan

May 23, 1944

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~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
America First Party
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth hereinafter the substance of information obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, during the period from April 4, 1944, through May 21, 1944. b7D

The informant stated that during the above mentioned period of time the informant had not been able to secure a great deal of information relative to SMITH'S contacts in Detroit inasmuch as SMITH has spent a great deal of that particular time outside of the city conducting speaking engagements at various meetings held throughout the country. The informant advised that SMITH did not intend to return to Detroit until the week-end of May 27, 1944.

The informant stated further that he had received information to the effect that DONALD LOHBECK of St. Louis, Missouri, a follower of SMITH in that area, had spent some time in the vicinity of Detroit and was apparently following SMITH about the country acting as an aide for SMITH. The informant stated that he was under the impression that SMITH wanted LOHBECK to work for SMITH on a full-time basis to help SMITH in making arrangements for meetings in various parts of the country.

The informant related that SMITH had been in contact with Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS from Washington, D. C., and that SMITH requested REYNOLDS to send a telegram of congratulations to SMITH on the occasion of the meeting held in Cleveland on May 15, 1944. At this time REYNOLDS promised SMITH that he would send a telegram to SMITH at the time of the meeting.

In a conversation with DONALD LOHBECK on May 12, 1944, SMITH advised LOHBECK that when LOHBECK was making arrangements for Sunday meetings at the churches in the St. Louis area LOHBECK should not pay any attention to the Slavic groups but should find out about the Polish, German

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

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and Irish churches and talk to Mrs. STANLEY of Cleveland inasmuch as Mrs. STANLEY understood the situation. SMITH also suggested at this time that LOHBECK attempt to solicit the aid of the Lutheran churches.

The informant advised on this date also that in a conversation with an unknown individual from Washington, D. C., believed to be [redacted] SMITH requested [redacted] to try and make arrangements for a debate to be held at the National Press Club on or about May 24, 1944, the subject of the debate to be "Nationalism versus Internationalism." SMITH suggested that [redacted] attempt to secure either BALL, BURTON, FULLBRIGHT or Justice ROBERTS to oppose him in this particular debate.

At a later date the informant stated that he was of the opinion that arrangements could not be made for this debate to be held.

The informant stated that he had received information during this period to the effect that SMITH was quite enthused over the defense being presented by Attorney LAUGHLIN representing some of the defendants in the sedition trial held in Washington, D. C.

The informant advised under date of May 18, 1944, that in a conversation with an individual believed to be [redacted] well-known to the Bureau, [redacted] advised BERNARD DOMAN that the Milwaukee auditorium was vacant for June 9, 1944, for the prospective meeting to be sponsored by the America First Party in Milwaukee. At this time [redacted] requested advice as to whether or not the auditorium should be rented under a false name or whether he should come out openly and he was advised by DOMAN not to do anything about this matter until instructions had been received from SMITH.

Along these lines the informant later advised that he was under the impression that the Milwaukee authorities were very reluctant to rent the auditorium to SMITH and there was a great possibility that he would be unable to secure the auditorium in Milwaukee for the meeting on that date.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]
62-1126

AV
DTV

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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☐ For your information: _____

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FBI/DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-8577

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND	5-29-44	5-20,22-44	[redacted] :meb

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, was; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject conducted meeting in Baltimore on May 22, 1944, which was attended by approximately 300 persons. Subject SMITH and Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN made addresses. Gist of such speeches set out and indicate anti-Communist, anti-Roosevelt and anti-international views with emphasis placed on winning the present war promptly and bringing back the American soldiers rather than for them to act as foreign police.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Bureau File #62-43818.
Letter dated May 9, 1944, from Detroit Field Division.

DETAILS: - II -

This is a joint report of Special Agent [redacted] and reporting agent.

On May 22, 1944, GERALD L. K. SMITH of the America First Party, held a meeting at the Alcazar at Baltimore, Maryland, which was scheduled for 8:00 PM. However, it did not actually get under way until 8:30 PM, at which time there were approximately three hundred persons in the hall. This audience included about half a dozen persons wearing uniforms of the armed forces of this country.

PUBLICATION FILE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/22/81 BY SP7 MAS SC #88.144

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
	J. W. Vincent	62-43818-491	RECORDED & INDEXED
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (Enc.) 3 - Detroit 2 - Baltimore		38 MAY 31 1944	

ENCL BEHIND FILE

100-8577

The meeting was opened by a Mrs. KLEIN (phonetic) who stated she was the head of the newly-formed Blue Star Mothers Committee of Baltimore, Maryland, and she introduced GERALD L. K. SMITH as the principal speaker. It was noted that there were eleven men also seated on the speaker's platform. These individuals were referred to as members of the local committee for the America First Party; however, their names were not furnished at any time during the meeting.

Mr. GERALD SMITH emphasized that this meeting was of an organizational character and was not a popular expansion meeting and accordingly cautioned the press to keep this in mind and not to refer to the meeting as being a "dud" just because there were not a tremendous number of persons present. He commented on the fact that his organization had had a relatively inauspicious start in other locations of the country in earlier days so far as numbers of persons interested were concerned, but went on to point out that in the state of Ohio they now had 300,000 members, and as such, they held the balance of power there. He also indicated that due to WENDELL WILLKIE's opposition to the America First Party in Wisconsin, WILLKIE had been defeated thoroughly in that state in his recent primary candidacy.

Mr. SMITH was particularly out-spoken against what he termed the bureaucratic dictatorship in Washington and cited the fact that during President Roosevelt's terms in office, the Federal Government had spent more money than during all of the previous terms of all other presidents of this country put together. He again brought out the fact that BERNARD BARUCH had given a party for HARRY HOPKINS and his wife at a very elaborate cost at the same time that the Government was insisting that the public generally must tighten its belt.

Mr. SMITH also indicated that President ROOSEVELT had recently been sent to BERNARD BARUCH's estate in the South so as to keep him within the influence of such persons.

He also commented in a sarcastic way that D-Day had already arrived since Mr. ROOSEVELT's Army has now taken Montgomery-Ward. This comment brought considerable applause from the audience. He also remarked that the Constitution of the United States was thrown into the streets when they threw Mr. AVERY out of the Montgomery-Ward plant.

The second issue which Mr. SMITH emphasized in his talk was Communism. He commented that the Communist Party was being suppressed as a political

unit by the Communists themselves due to the fact that they found that the Democratic Party was doing more for them than BROWDER was. Also he indicated that Vice-President Wallace was also entirely too favorable towards the Communists and stated that Mr. Wallace had made an address in which he had stated that, "When the Revolution comes, he hoped there would be as little blood shed as possible." He indicated that he regarded Mr. Wallace as a stooge for Premier Stalin. He also brought out the fact that he was strongly opposed to SIDNEY HILLMAN, whom he regarded as a present favorite of the administration in Washington, and explained his opposition to HILLMAN as being founded on the fact that HILLMAN was entirely too pro-Russian and Communistic and not because of the fact that he was a Jew. He cited in this respect that the right wing of the American Labor Party had previously stated that HILLMAN was a Communist, and when HILLMAN first came to this country he was refused admission into any union because he was too radical.

SMITH also brought out the fact that since HILLMAN had been appointed to manage the political finances, the unions were assessing their members for quite large amounts and cited the fact that a CIO union in Detroit which had nine thousand members had been recently assessed the sum of $44,000.00 as its political contribution, and that such sum had to be contributed regardless of the individual political views of its members.

Mr. SMITH indicated he felt there was a Marxist-dominated bureaucracy in Washington and by way of criticism of Russia, brought out the fact that there were millions of Christians in concentration camps in Russia. He also commented that the Polish priest who had recently been to see Stalin and who was the subject of considerable newspaper publicity recently had made the trip in question as a result of plans worked out by SAM ROSEN and President Roosevelt and that this development had been worked out with a view to capturing the votes of persons of Polish extraction in the 1944 Presidential election.

During the speech, he also commented that Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau was desirous of starting a world bank and that contributions to the world bank would be based upon the amount of gold which each country possessed. In this respect, Mr. SMITH commented that in view of the fact that we possess practically all the gold, we would be expected to supply practically all the capital without obtaining proportionate benefits.

Comment was also made by Mr. SMITH to the effect that under the proposed

plans for a world organization which would require an international police force, our soldiers would be kept all over the world after the war was over and he did not feel this was proper or in accordance with the desires of the soldiers or of the people of this country. He also commented that this country was supplying three-fourths of the soldiers who are abroad and specifically cited that no soldiers had been sent abroad by Mexico or Brazil, although they were supposedly involved in the war just as much as this country.

He also indicated that it was his desire that this country win the war as promptly as possible with the assistance of Russia, China, and England, but stated that these countries were not democracies, and accordingly, we should not be tied up irrevocably with them. To give emphasis to his point, he called attention to the status of India and the method of handling conditions in Ireland during the Black and Tan Regime.

Mr. SMITH also commented that he was unable to understand why the Jews were generally opposed to him and the America First Party, in view of the fact that he has never said anything anti-Semitic and commented that in his opinion, the Jews should endeavor to become prominent in the America First Party, because America is the best country in the world for them, and the aims of the America First Party to continually look out for American interests first would directly favor the Jews, of course.

He also commented that in a recent speech Governor DEWEY of New York, when speaking before a Jewish group, had spoken quite scathingly of the America First Party and had referred to them as "rodents." In this connection, he stated that he had promptly protested to Governor DEWEY and implied that he had received assurance that such would not occur again. However, Mr. SMITH commented that if he could make an error of that sort in the past, he would be apt to make another, and he also indicated that he doubted if DEWEY would be able to obtain the Republican nomination in view of that error. He also indicated that the most united votes in the United States today are those of the members of the America First Party and the Republican party could not win without their support. In contrast, he cited that the most solid votes which President Roosevelt has are those of the left-wing Communist group dominated by SIDNEY HILLMAN and EARL BROWDER.

SMITH also emphasized that the purpose of the America First Party would be to get a Republican candidate selected at Chicago who would be entirely opposed to Roosevelt's foreign and domestic policies and not someone who

could merely out-Roosevelt Roosevelt and try to "boondoggle" more money in South America than is being done at the present time. He also indicated that if the Republicans did not nominate a satisfactory candidate, that was acceptable to the America First Party, then he himself might be a candidate for President. He also indicated that the Party would hold a national convention in Detroit so that they would be in a position to exert pressure upon the Republican and Democratic parties the same as any other pressure group in the country. He also indicated that the America First Party must lay deeply its foundations for a nationalist party and stated that the interest of four groups in the country must be satisfied, citing these groups as follows: (1) war veterans, (2) the workers, (3) the farmers, (4) independent businessmen.

To satisfy these four groups, he proposed the following program: For the veterans, he advocated a one thousand dollar cash bonus to each veteran who had been in service for over one year and also advocated that farm lands presently owned by the Government be opened to such veterans as homesteads. In this connection he stated that the Federal Government now owns enough farm land through foreclosures to cover the area of twenty states of this country.

For the workers he cited the institution of profit-sharing systems similar to those in effect at the Lincoln Electric Company of Cleveland, Ohio, and the Jack and Heintz Company should be followed so that the workers would receive from $15.00 to $25.00 per day. In this respect he cited that the Lincoln Electric Company workers have had a profit-sharing plan in effect for the past twenty years and that during the past year their earnings had averaged $5400.00 per worker and that these workers produced four times as much goods as did their competitors.

For the farmers he stated that the plan was to pay them a bonus for distribution and to clean up commodity monopolies and international bankers, as he said there had never been an over-supply of anything that was produced on the farm when the actual needs of the world's population were taken into consideration.

As to the small businessmen, he stated that monopoly of all sorts should be outlawed and bureaucracy interference with business should be eliminated. He claimed that as a result of the present administration's tendency to favor large concerns, over 260,000 small businessmen have been obliged to go out of business.

He closed his speech with the emphasis on the point that the soldiers should be brought home immediately after the war is won and that this country should maintain a great national defense and a two-ocean Navy and should not be interested in setting up a world nation where this country would merely be subject to the desires and wishes of other countries.

SMITH then introduced Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, the widow of Former United States Senator ERNEST LUNDEEN, whom he explained had been killed in a mysterious airplane explosion sometime ago. Mrs. LUNDEEN delivered her address through reading from a manuscript and it was explained by Mr. GERALD L. K. SMITH that she would read from a manuscript due to the fact that the point she was going to discuss contained dangerous things and that the only safe way was to have it read from a prepared manuscript.

Mrs. LUNDEEN stated that she viewed it as the principal duty of everyone at the present time to concentrate on winning this war as soon as possible and went on to emphasize that all of her remarks which she was going to make were to refer to the post-war era or to the era prior to the current war. However, it is to be noted in this respect that during her talk, various points were discussed which could only apply to the present day situation.

Mrs. LUNDEEN emphasized that isolationism was the basis on which this country was originally founded and through which it acquired its greatness and asked the support of the audience in destroying the myth of internationalism. She mentioned the United Nations Food Conference that was held in Virginia sometime ago as an instance of what happens when internationalism is allowed to run rife, and pointed out this conference, which had to do in large measure with the disposition of food raised in this country, was kept confidential even from members of Congress and news men, which, she stated, was entirely improper.

She also stated that she felt that her son and sons of other parents in the audience should have a right to say whether they desired to police foreign countries after the war is over. She also stated that Europe had always been a battle ground and that we had missed many European wars as a result of minding our own business, and that she regarded it as preferable that we endeavor to make our own citadel impregnable. She also stated that war costs money and that this one is going to cost billions and billions, but that the greatest hurt of all would be the casualty list; but they will finish the job and after the war is over,

they should restore the old type of America. She urged that there be no recurrence of the conditions such as existed at the conclusion of the first World War, with its large unemployment of veterans, etc.

She went on to cite that the present war has cost us already three times as much as it has cost Germany, ten times as much as it has cost Italy, fourteen times as much as it has cost Japan, and five times as much as it has cost Britain. She attributed these figures to the New York State Economic Council.

Mrs. LUNDEEN also explained that her interest in the America First Party and her fight for the principles adopted by that Party were merely continuance of her late husband's fight back in 1919 when he opposed the League of Nations.

She also commented disparagingly on the interests of the English people and the English Government in the results of the Presidential election in this country and cited an article in a publication of the Church of England which definitely stated that England could not help but be vitally interested in the results of the Presidential election in this country. She also brought out the fact that there were 580,000 refugees who were secure in this country and asked why they should have protection here, "When our own sons are sent over to fight for them. Why shouldn't they be sent over to do their own fighting?" She also commented on the fact that $586,000,000 worth of lend-lease supplies had been shipped from this country prior to Pearl Harbor and indicated that this activity on the part of the government had occasioned the loss of the Philippine Islands to Japan. She indicated that President Roosevelt's policy of helping other countries had stripped our own Army and also blamed the foreign policy of the State Department under Secretary Hull which had permitted Japan to acquire war materials with which to fight China and ourselves and yet had invited the Japanese attack by our note of November 26, 1941, which virtually was an ultimatum. She attributed this last remark to an editorial source which she did not identify, but cited it as a reason as to why no one should be in favor of a fourth term for Roosevelt. She also commented adversely regarding the "boondoggling" as she termed it, in the endeavor to buy good friends and neighbors in South America and in this respect commented that good friends and neighbors do not have to be bought. She also commented on the fact that in July, 1939, her late husband had made a speech inquiring why we did not endeavor to obtain permanent possession of islands located up to 1500 miles off our coast for use as permanent military bases, and on July 6, 1940, her husband had made the suggestion in the Congressional

Record that the various foreign countries affected should turn over to this country the pertinent islands involved as a part payment of their war debts due to this country. In contrast she cited that today we now have only long-term leases covering out use of such military bases and are paying enormous sums of money for their use. It was also noted that Mrs. LUNDEEN was quite out-spoken in her criticism of the columnists WALTER WINCHELL and DREW PEARSON, whom she stated were mere character assassins.

At the meeting in question, it was noted that the organization had available for sale to interested persons copies of the book by EDWARD JONES, "And So They Indicted Me" which was on sale for one dollar, and the publication of the America First Party entitled, "The Cross and the Flag," for twenty-five cents. There was also a calendar for 1944 which includes a photograph of GERALD L. K. SMITH and his family. A copy of "The Cross and the Flag" Volume #3, #1, for April, 1944, was obtained and is being furnished to the Bureau, together with a copy of America First Principles advertising the meeting of May 22, 1944, and cards being passed out for general distribution regarding the America First program and inviting the individuals to write to the America First Party at Detroit, Michigan, for further details.

It is also to be noted that during the meeting in question, GERALD L. K. SMITH asked for contributions to be made and indicated that these contributions were for the purpose of paying the rental on the hall and urged that everyone contribute as much as he was able. He specifically urged contributions of from one dollar to twenty dollars and urged that no one give a nickel, because if they could not afford more than a nickel, then they should come to him and he, SMITH, would give them a nickel.

In view of the fact that no further investigation remains to be conducted in this Field Division, this case is being considered HUC'd.

<u>ENCLOSURES TO THE BUREAU</u>: Copy of "The Cross and the Flag," Apr., 1944; Information card on Party; Copy of America First Principles.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JPHa/pk
62-43818

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
62-43818-491
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

RECORDED

For your further information and consideration in this case there is attached a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Baltimore, Maryland, under date of May 29, 1944.

b2c

Also attached is a photostatic copy of the March, 1944, issue of subject's publication, "The Cross and the Flag".

Enclosure

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RECEIVED READING ROOM
11 MAY 20 02 PM '44

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Mr. E. A. Tamm
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Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Thamford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 6
JUN 10 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-7463

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CLEVELAND, OHIO	6-1-44	5-15,19-44	[redacted] 67c fah

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with alias Gerald L. K. Schmidt The Committee of 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: On May 15, 1944 at the Public Auditorium, Cleveland, Ohio, GERALD L. K. SMITH addressed approximately 1600 persons. SMITH remarks followed his usual trend. Other speakers were HARRY ROMER, America First leader, Greenville, Ohio, RUEBEN RINDLER, Secretary of the Farmers' Guild, and Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Bureau File #62-43818. ~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

Letter from the Detroit Field Division dated May 9, 1944.

DETAILS: At 8:00 p.m. on May 15, 1944 GERALD L. K. SMITH, National Director of the America First Party, addressed an audience of approximately 1600 persons at the Public Auditorium, Cleveland, Ohio. To gain admission to the hall, it was necessary to present a card of admission. On the platform in addition to SMITH was Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, President of United Mothers of America, Cleveland, Ohio; Mrs. PHILIP MONPEAL, Vice President of the same organization; Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, widow of Senator LUNDEEN; RUEBEN RINDLER, Secretary of the Farmers' Guild; HARRY ROMER, America First leader, Cleveland, Ohio, and Reverend Doctor L. L. MARION, Pontiac, Michigan. This meeting was a five-state meeting of the America First Party. The meeting was opened by Reverend Doctor L. L. MARION of Pontiac, Michigan.

37

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100-7463

Doctor MARION stated the meeting had one purpose and that was to further the crusade of the America First Party. He stated this meeting represented America First support in the five states of, Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Michigan and New York. Doctor MARION introduced GERALD L. K. SMITH, stating that he had known SMITH for 25 years; that he was pure as gold and that he was the only man in the United States today that had the intestinal fortitude to face a concentration camp and a threat of imprisonment for speaking the truth as he sees it.

At this point GERALD L. K. SMITH took the rostrum and announced that the America First Party is presently carrying on a nation-wide tour and announced the following meetings; Wednesday, May 17, 1944, meeting to be held in Buffalo, New York; Thursday, May 18, 1944, meeting to be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Monday, May 22, 1944, meeting to be held in Baltimore, Maryland; Thursday, May 25, 1944, meeting to be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

SMITH stated that the America First Party was growing by leaps and bounds and was to be the coming party in the United States. He stated that two years ago the Communists and the New Deal tyrants expected to lock up GERALD L. K. SMITH and disband the America First Party, but the fact that they were able to have such a successful tour showed where these persons were wrong. He stated that several months back he had set up a plan of victory in 1944 with three points; first, to retire all ROOSEVELT's public life, second, to send WILKIE to Moscow, and third, to make HENRY WALLACE a milkman in China. He stated that they had been successful in the last two points and they hoped, and he felt sure, that they would be successful in removing the ROOSEVELTS from public life. SMITH stated that he has been criticized for speaking against the President of the United States in this manner, but he stated that if he is wrong in talking in that manner, it is worse for President ROOSEVELT to run for third term.

SMITH then outlined his tour through Wisconsin prior to primary elections in that state, and attempted to show to his audience that he had been primarily responsible for the defeat of WENDELL WILKIE. SMITH stated that WILKIE himself considers the America First Party to his defeat. SMITH at this point asked the audience to rise and sing the first and last stanzas of America, Pledge Allegiance To The Flag, and recite the Lords Prayer. SMITH then introduced Reverend Doctor L. L. MARION, Pontiac, Michigan, who had failed to introduce himself at the time that he had opened the meeting.

SMITH praised Doctor MARION for breaking up the Communist clique who controlled the OPA in Pontiac, Michigan, advising that the OPA had refused to give Reverend MARION gasoline and had attempted to dismiss his case by stating that there were too many preachers in the United States.

SMITH advised that MARION had carried the case to Washington and had defeated the OPA board at Pontiac, Michigan. SMITH stated that it seems to him "that if you are on the right side of politics, you can get all the gasoline you want".

SMITH then stated no matter who wins the election, the day of the two parties is coming to an end. He stated that even if the Republicans are successful, they have not set up their policies so that they are able to carry out the organization for government as the people really want it. He said the greatest danger to the United States today is the Communists, who are ready and have organized in the schools, the shops, in the pulpits and are ready to "Moscowize America" at the first chance.

SMITH announced that he had rented a hall in Washington, D. C. on the 24th of May; that he had challenged any of the Internationalists of Washington for public debate inasmuch as he wants to air the public policies of these persons who are giving our money to foreigners. SMITH stated that his representative in Washington had contacted several of the officials in the New Deal Government but they had all refused to debate.

SMITH pointed out that the large vote polled by MARTIN L. SWEENEY in the recent government primary in the state of Ohio was a reflection of the power that the America First Party had in the state of Ohio, and he stated that America First Party had the balance of importance in Ohio and that no one could be elected who attacked the America First Party and repudiated them.

SMITH launched into a tirade against LOUIS SELZER, Editor of the Cleveland Press, for the "smear campaign" that he had instigated against the United Mothers, stating that the only crime that these women had committed were being for America first.

SMITH then attacked the AAA, stating that an attempt was being made to coerce all farmers in Ohio to join this organization. He advised that the AAA had given all the farmers a quota of wheat to raise and if they exceeded that quota, they would have to pay the government $.49 a bushel or plow the excess wheat under. He stated that unless the farmers joined this AAA or fell in line with this New Deal policy, they were refused gasoline by the OPA boards and refused deferments for their employees by the draft board. SMITH attacked this procedure as a gigantic scheme to whip the farmers into line by the Washington bureaucrats.

SMITH at this time introduced HARRY ROMER, a member of the Farmers' Guild and America First Leader of Greenville, Ohio.

CV.F.O.
100-7463

ROMER attacked the American press and stated that it was "rotten to the core, not morally rotten but rotten in trying to keep the Communist trend in Washington and that the papers in this country could no longer be believed". ROMER stated that in his opinion GERALD SMITH is a better American than FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT and ELIZABETH DILLING was a better American than ELEANOR ROOSEVELT. ROMER attacked WALTER WINCHELL, stating that he is attempting to create disunity and his interest is mainly in promoting a fourth term. ROMER was bitter in his attack against the AAA and the New Deal and stated that the only salvation for the United States at this time was the America First Party.

SMITH then introduced RUEBEN RINDLER, Secretary of the Farmers' Guild, who spoke briefly and attempted to expose the method of operation of the AAA, inasmuch as they refused to give him machinery and tried to limit him to the amount of crops he could grow.

SMITH then introduced Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, widow of the late Senator LUNDEEN, who read a prepared speech in which she attempted to show that the aims of the America First Party today were the same as the aims of the America First Party in 1919. She stated the fight today was the same as during the FirstWorld War and that was a fight against unscrupulous politicians giving our country away to the Internationalists. She read certain newspaper clippings that show that her husband had led the fight in 1919 for "America First" and she stated that he had died a martyr to the cause and that GERALD L. K. SMITH had risen up to carry on the crusade.

SMITH again took the rostrum and stated that THOMAS L. DEWEY, Republican President Candidate, had stepped out of line and had insulted the America First Party. SMITH stated that when he had protested against this he had been contacted by several influencial friends of DEWEY and who requested SMITH not to abandon DEWEY at this time but that he had only made the speech in question, in which he had insulted the America First Party, because it was necessary to do so to line up certain persons along the Eastern Seaboard. SMITH advised the assemblage that he was going to be magnanimous in the above matter and that he would let THOMAS L. DEWEY have one more chance, but if he again insulted the America First Party, he would lose their support and in that way would lose the Presidency of the United States.

SMITH then asked for the authority to call on ROBERT McCORMICK or BURT WHEELER or some other candidate that he would choose to run against DEWEY if DEWEY did not stay in line. SMITH then attacked ROOSEVELT and Attorney-General BIDDLE for the action in the recent Montgomery Ward controversy and stated that these two men had dumped the Constitution of America into the street the day that they dumped AVERALL SEWELL into the street.

SMITH then quoted the five major points of the America First Party which it advocates. They are as follows:

1. One thousand dollars to every veteran in this war when mustered out. (less money for foreign politics, more money for American veterans)

2. Ten dollars, fifteen dollars, twenty dollars per day for workers by instituting profit sharing as practiced by the Jack and Heintz Company and Lincoln Electric Company of Cleveland, Ohio.

3. Cash bonus for farmers for production rather than for destruction; increased prices for farm commodities to be maintained by distribution performed and by a clean-up in our money system would produce an abundance of butter, meat, milk, etc.

4. Restore private enterprise by outlining monopoly and eliminate bureau interference with business.

5. No foreign policy, no world government, no international bank, a strong national defense, trade with all nations, permanent alliance with none.

SMITH then attacked the Good Neighbor policy stating that this country spent $6,000,000,000 on Latin America in order to buy this friendship and stated that this practice should be discontinued and that the money spent on the returning war veterans.

He stated that small business was being crucified by monopolies and Bureaucratic interference, and that less than 66 per cent of small business had received war contracts throughout America. SMITH then launched an attack against the "International Police Force" which they planned to set up to satisfy the whim of CHURCHILL and STALIN. He stated the United States should maintain a strong Army and Navy and they should not use it to protect anyone else, and that we should make no permanent alliance with anyone whatsoever.

At this point in the meeting SMITH itemized the expenditures in connection with the cost of the meeting and estimated it to be about $1,000. SMITH requested donations to offset these expenditures and to aid him in his crusade against the New Deal.

CV.F.O.
100-7463

The following literature was passed out at the meeting: A public statement by the United Mothers of America. This is a four-page statement which was issued by the United Mothers of America in which they attempt to refute the charges brought against them by the Cleveland Press. They also passed out blank membership application for the United Mothers of America in an attempt to get persons to advance money to aid the United Mothers in combating this "smear campaign".

At the time the meeting was disbanding, certain individuals passed out literature sponsored by the Peace Now Movement, 20 Berkeley Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Upon seeing this, SMITH again took the stand and called his followers back to the hall and advised them that this literature was not being passed out with his authorization; that he was not sponsor for it.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

JPHa:WMJ
6-9-44
62-43818

RECORDED 62-43818-492

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information there is attached a copy of an additional report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Cleveland, Ohio, on June 1, 1944.

b7c

Enclosure

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JUN 10 11 01 AM '44

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUN 10 1944 P M

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

NY FILE NO. 100-19707 MFK

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
NEW YORK CITY	6/3/44	5/22-25/44	[redacted] b7C

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases: Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt; AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[redacted] confirms previous statement which he gave concerning subject's activities. Claims SMITH told him of meetings with [redacted] on 3 occasions and that he saw [redacted] coming from SMITH's apartment on one other occasion. Maintains that [redacted], told him he had conferred with [redacted] and his advisers and reported the results to SMITH. b7C b7D

- R U C -

REFERENCE: Bureau file No. 62-43818.

Bureau letter to the New York Field Division, dated October 15, 1943.

Report of Special Agent [redacted], dated May 31, 1943, at New York City. b7C

DETAILS: AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

[redacted] at which time he furnished the following information: b7C b7D

[redacted]

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3-New York

19 JUN 5 1944

cc Clark 6/13/44 JOA

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206 OCT 13 1964

[redacted] b7c b7D

[redacted] He said that the information contained in this statement would be much more accurate than any information he could furnish at the present time. He explained that the above referred to statement was made at a time when his recollection of the facts was clear and that much of the material contained therein was verified by a diary which he kept. This diary is in the possession of [redacted] It will be recalled that the contents of the above-mentioned statement were reported in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 31, 1943, at New York City. b7c

[redacted] was shown the statement which he executed for [redacted], which purports to be the statement of [redacted] and he readily admitted that he is the author of it. He said that the alias was used in order to protect his identity from other persons having access to [redacted] information. [redacted] read the entire statement in the presence of the writer and confirmed the information which it contains. He claimed that all of his information is based on personal knowledge and that it is absolutely true. b7c b7D

In regard to his statement concerning SMITH's association with national Bund [redacted] stated that at first SMITH was desirous of taking over the entire membership of the German-American Bund into the Committee of One Million, which was the organization he headed while in New York City. [redacted] He said that SMITH told him that he had discussed this matter with [redacted] and that [redacted] had given his okay. SMITH contended that he could use the Bund to advantage in his anti-Communist campaign. [redacted] said that it was not expected that the Bund would lose its identity in the Committee of One Million, but that its entire membership would support the committee and would become members of it. It is his belief that SMITH was concerned principally with increasing the membership in the Committee of One Million and also in obtaining the dues which the Bund would be required to pay.

[redacted] admitted that he never took part in any discussions between SMITH and [redacted] and he does not know what [redacted]'s reaction was to SMITH'S proposition. He said, however, that SMITH talked of gaining fifteen hundred new members at one time through the Bund and said that he thought it was a mistake to lose this opportunity.

[redacted]

In regard to the connection between [redacted] and the Bund, [redacted] contended that [redacted] often had conferences with either [redacted] or some of his associates, and that he reported on these conferences to SMITH. He referred to [redacted] as the liaison between the Committee of One Million and the German-American Bund. [redacted] admitted that he had never been present at the time when [redacted] actually made his report to SMITH. In regard to personal meetings between SMITH and [redacted] stated that on one occasion [redacted] stated that he declined the invitation. However, on this same day he claims that he saw [redacted] and three other Bundists in the dining room of the Cafe Rouge, and that they were all wearing the Bund uniform. Later SMITH told him that he had met [redacted] after the luncheon in his private office. SMITH did not disclose what had transpired between [redacted] and him.

On another occasion [redacted] was called to SMITH's private apartment at the Murray Hill Hotel to go over some radio script with SMITH. When he reached the hotel he was told to wait in the lobby for a few minutes before going up to SMITH's apartment. While he was there [redacted] got off

AL DTC.170

the elevator and a short time thereafter [redacted] was instructed that he could now see Mr. SMITH. He said that he is positive that on this occasion [redacted] had just come from SMITH's apartment.

[redacted] recalled one other occasion on which SMITH told him that he had seen [redacted] He recalled that this was on the same day that SMITH had consulted with him as to the advisability of meeting [redacted], a known racketeer, who had been formerly active in New Orleans, Louisiana, and who was known to SMITH. It will be noted that the [redacted] referred to is the same individual who has recently been connected with the scandal regarding [redacted] in New York.

At the conference at which it was suggested that Bund members attend the mass meeting of the Committee of One Million at Philadelphia, in full uniform, [redacted] stated that SMITH said while they could be friendly with the Bundists, it was not necessary for them to tell the world about it. In this connection it will be recalled that in previous reports it was pointed out that [redacted] had urged that the Bund attend this meeting in Philadelphia and that he was opposed by [redacted] was finally successful in prevailing upon SMITH to order that the Bundists could attend the meeting but that they would not be allowed to wear their uniforms.

[redacted]

[redacted] was questioned in regard to the newspaper article in which SMITH was quoted as having said his ultimate purpose was "to seize the government". He said he had never heard SMITH make such a statement and

ALL
b7C, b7D

[redacted] He declared, however, that if this statement was reported by RAYMOND DANIELL of the New York Times, SMITH undoubtedly made it. He pointed out that at one time DANIELL was sent by the New York Times with SMITH to Louisiana, to attempt to expose DEWEY LONG and that SMITH may have made the statement to DANIELL privately.

[redacted] also advised that he has given information concerning SMITH to the Post Office Inspectors, regarding a possible violation of the postal laws and regulations, but that the United States Attorney in New York had declined prosecution. It is noted that the Detroit office has reviewed the Post Office Inspectors' file on SMITH's case.

[redacted], furnished a carbon copy of a typewritten report concerning the subject, which was submitted to him by an informant, who is apparently in close touch with the subject at Detroit, Michigan. This report covers some of SMITH's activities during the month of March, 1944 at Detroit, Michigan. It also contains a report of an America First Party Rally at Saint Louis, Missouri. This report is being forwarded to the office of origin and it is not being set out in detail herein inasmuch as the information may have already been reported.

The report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 19, 1940, at New York City entitled, [redacted] with aliases, ET AL; SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY, SEDITIOUS CONSPIRACY, THEFT OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY", reflects that under date of August 15, 1936, the Bureau requested an investigation of [redacted] It was developed in this investigation that [redacted] is rabid on Americanism and that she was connected with the Silver Shirts; also that she is very much interested in sociology and politics, and likes to discuss these subjects as well as promoting true Americanism. She was reported to have a distinct dislike for the Jewish people and is extremely erratic and self-centered. The report reflects that [redacted] was interviewed for information in connection with the investigation of the Christian Front, but that she was reported to be eccentric and on occasions irrational, and it was not believed that information received from her could be given much weight.

A review of the file reflects that all leads in this case for the New York Field Division have been covered and this case is, therefore, being referred upon completion to the office of origin.

ENCLOSURE TO DETROIT (1)
One typewritten report concerning GERALD L. K. SMITH, obtained from
[redacted]

b7c, b7D

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JTHa:WMJ
62-43818
6-15-44

RECORDED 62-43818-493

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your further information in your consideration of this case there is attached a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at New York City on June 3, 1944.

Enclosure

b2

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/92 BY SP8BTJ/mb

JUN 15 2 25 PM '44

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Rumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
JUN 16 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The main issue of this meeting was a talk against the Invasion of Europe. In other words stop the war and let the Huns take over, that is what was literally meant.

This so called Party was formerly the German Bund. Why such things are allowed to flourish in these critical times is beyond me.

That Lundeen woman along with those other rats should be horsewhipped and made to work at hard labor.

Detroit, Mich seems to be the head quarters of all such rats. They most likely have been the cause of all the

AMERICA FIRST

PRINCIPLES

The America First Crusade stands for the Following principles:

1. ***AMERICA MUST BE PUT FIRST IN WAR AND PEACE.***

We do not mean this in the selfish, greedy sense. It is a fundamental social law that a man must consider his own first. A Scripture verse says: "He that careth not for his own is worse than an infidel."

We must safeguard our own natural resources. We must fight all attempts on the part of bureaucratic traitors to give away and exhaust our national wealth on their foreign and international ambitions.

What words could be more appropriate than "AMERICA FIRST" in the winning of the war. When peace comes, those whom we send to the peace table must be so loyal and trustworthy that their first consideration will be their own America.

We must make sure that our own veterans of this war are considered first. Attempts are being made to flood us with immigrants and refugees. If we allow millions of foreigners to flood into our country, they will take the jobs which belong to the men and women in the armed services. This must never be.

2. ***NO COMPROMISE OF NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY.***

International planners are attempting to trick us into a world government. If this happens, a group of men meeting in Teheran, or Casablanca, or London, or South Africa, will be making laws for our people to obey. We must fight to keep our government in our National Capital. No foreigner must ever be permitted to make rules for our people to obey.

3. ***REPEAL BUREAUCRATIC FASCISM.***

Students of world politics admit that the Washington bureaucracy resembles the Fascism of Europe. It represents an attempt to control our personal lives as well as our daily work by government edict from Washington. The bureaucrats delight to call those of us who are Nationalists, Fascists. They know full well, however, that the real Fascists in America are the bureaucratic tyrants of Washington.

4. ***FIGHT NEW DEAL COMMUNISM.***

The present administration in Washington represents a strange wedding between the technique of Fascism and the philosophy of Communism. Thousands of Communists, pinks, and pro-Communists, *are on the* payroll of the United States Government. Many government bureaus take their orders from men who believe in the Stalin system.

5. ***LESS MONEY FOR FOREIGN POLITICS AND MORE FOR DISCHARGED VETERANS.***

Without limiting our military forces, we should put a stop to the program of international boondoggling now going on. Billions are being spent on South America, other billions are being loosely scattered all over the earth for *non*-military purposes, while our veterans are returning from this war, jobless and penniless.

Every man in the armed forces who has served more than one year should receive at least $1000—$500 cash, and the remainder at the rate of $100 per month for five months. We are spending on the South Americans alone enough to give a $1000 bonus to 6 million veterans.

6. ***NO LABOR DRAFT.***

Mr. Roosevelt and others would give us all a number and draft every man and woman to do whatever he or his subordinates might dictate. This would be penal servitude. We shall fight this proposal to the limit.

7. ***RESTORATION OF THE SYSTEM OF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.***

There are two outstanding enemies of private enterprise: (a) Corporate Monopoly; and (b) Government Control.

The poorest boy in America should be given an opportunity to make a million dollars if he knows how to do it. He must not be hindered by the monopolists who are usually controlled by the international bankers, and he must not be hindered by the bureaucrats who want everything to be run and owned by the government.

Private enterprise is the foundation of the American system. It springs from the teachings of Christ. Christ believed in the dignity of the individual soul, in the privacy of the individual soul.

The above issues will be emphasized in the days that are immediately ahead; and of course certain emergency issues will be discussed, such as the current attempt to call off the elections. But most of what we will have to say will center in the enunciated principles listed above.

EMERGENCY ISSUES:

a. Fight the slave act--Senate Resolution No. 666.
b. Fight all attempts to call off the election.
c. Expose conspiracy to steal the Soldiers' vote.

For additional information concerning the America First Movement write Gerald L. K. Smith, P. O. Box 459, Detroit 31, Mich.

Gerald L. K. Smith

America First Party

GERALD L. K. SMITH

Baltimore Sun (H. L. Mencken): "Gerald L. K. Smith is the greatest orator of this century. He begins where Bryan, Billy Sunday and LaFollette the senior left off."

Lowell Thomas says: "Gerald L. K. Smith is the most fearless and dynamic orator in America."

DYNAMIC RALLY

This meeting is being held in co-operation with the NATIONAL BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA directed by Mrs. Catharine V. Brown and Mrs. Lillian Parks.

MERCANTILE AUDITORIUM

1416 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

THURSDAY, MAY 25th, 1944

8:00 P. M.

SPEAKERS:

GERALD L. K. SMITH

NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Mrs. Ernest Lundeen

Widow of the United States Senator

SUBJECT OF SMITH'S ADDRESS:

MAKE WAY FOR LIBERTY

Hear this address and you will understand why the Communists, the Nazis, and the New Deal Bureaucrats hate Gerald L. K. Smith worse than any living American.

You will also learn why he leads the most rapidly growing political movement in the United States.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-2BTD/mcr

RECORDED 62-[illegible]494 F B I JUN 16 1944 INDEXED

Among the many topics with which Mr. Smith will deal in his address will be the following:

The "NO ELECTION" Conspiracy
SLAVE ACT 666
BUREAUCRATIC TYRANTS
NEW DEAL COMMUNISTS
THE INTERNATIONALISTS
TREASON IN WASHINGTON
WORLD GOVERNMENT
THE FOURTH TERM PLOT
FAT BUREAUCRATS and HUNGRY VETERANS

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-5778

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
PITTSBURGH, PA.	6-3-44	5-18-44	[redacted] b2c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, WAS. AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Meeting of the America First Party under the direction of GERALD L.K. SMITH held 5-18-44 at Carnegie Hall, North Side, Pgh. Attended by some 425 people. SMITH stated the America First Party stand. He denounced the President and the New Deal. The theme of the talk of Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, widow of the U.S. Senator, was "America First and not to become entangled in foreign wars." CHARLES A. MADDEN was on the platform.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Detroit letter to Pittsburgh dated 5-9-44.

DETAILS: AT PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA DEFERRED RECORDING

The meeting of the America First Party, which was held under the direction of GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH on May 18, 1944 at Carnegie Hall, on the North Side, Pittsburgh, was attended by some 425 people. Present on the platform with SMITH and Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN was CHARLES A. MADDEN.

Mr. SMITH opened the meeting by stating that he regretted that Mrs. MARIE DOWELL of the Defenders of the Principles of George Washington was not present due to illness. SMITH proceeded to knock the New Deal, the President, the Vice President, WILLKIE, and DEWEY. SMITH contended that the people have no choice because of the fact that DEWEY has endorsed HULL's foreign policies. If the people cannot get a strong candidate to oppose ROOSEVELT, SMITH stated that he would be president in 1948. SMITH mentioned that all Jewish organizations are against him and he could not understand why as they should be for America First,

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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62 43818-495

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22 JUN

- Bureau
- Detroit
- Pittsburgh

cc clerk 6/17/44 JPH

FJV

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 7-

this being the only country that hadn't thrown them out. He also mentioned that many people did not know that he was the first to go to Washington on behalf of the soldiers to have their pay increased from $21. a month to $50. He also advocated that an additional $50. be set aside for each boy so that when he came out of service he would have something to help him along and not depend on charity.

[illegible] Party stood for the following:

1. A thousand dollars to every veteran of the war when mustered out. Less money for foreign politics, more money for American veterans. Billions are being spent in South America. Other millions are being loosely scattered over all the earth for non-military purposes. On South America alone enough money is being spent to give $1000. to 6,000,000 veterans.

2. $10., $15., and $20. per day for workers by instituting profit-sharing as practiced by the Jack & Heintz and Lincoln Electric Company of Cleveland, Ohio.

3. Cash bonus to farmers for production rather than for destruction. Increased prices for farm commodities to be maintained by distribution reform and a clean-up in our money system. This would produce an abundance of butter, milk, meat, etc.

4. Restore private enterprise by outlawing monopolies and eliminating bureaucratic interference with business. Private enterprise is the foundation of the American system.

5. Foreign policy. No world government, no international bank, a strong national defense, trade with all nations, permanent alliance with none.

Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, widow of the United States Senator, was introduced by GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH. She advocated the principles of being free with all nations, trade with all nations, but to beware of foreign entanglements with any nation. She mentioned that some people want our boys to police the world after the war. Her idea was that it would be better to let our boys say something about this. She said that our boys should defend the United States and not fight foreign wars. Mrs. LUNDEEN

is not in favor of any League of Nations as no league can settle foreign wars. They have had over 400 wars since our country has been settled. In a recent food conference disposing of American food, American newspapermen and congressmen were not permitted to attend. As to the cost of the war, she mentioned that the cost of the United States is over $13,000,000,000 more than all the other warring nations together. She mentioned that a great many refugees are being permitted to enter protection and have their boys stay here while our boys go to foreign soil and fight their battles. WINCHELL, ALLEN, and PEARSON were listed by Mrs. LUNDEEN as smear artists.

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OFFICE OF ORIGIN

Pla:WMJ
-17-44
62-43818 - 495

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

RECORDED

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your further information in your consideration of this case, there is attached a copy of an additional report prepared at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on June 3, 1944, by Special Agent [redacted]

b2c

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/24/57

4

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
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Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
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Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nee
Miss Gr

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
JUN 19 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUN 19 1944
RECEIVED READING ROOM
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JUN 26 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 29

PAGES REVIEWED: 56

PAGES RELEASED: 40

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
June 12, 1944

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. 62-1126

[redacted]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Lodge
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starks
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Miss Gandy

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY
SECURITY MATTER;
SEDITION.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/7/82 BY

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth the substance of information obtained from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, during the period May 22 to June 8, 1944, inclusive.

b7D

Informant advised that during the above-mentioned period he had not been able to secure a great deal of information because SMITH spent a greater portion of the period outside of the city conducting speaking engagements in the East and Mid-West.

Informant advised SMITH owes federal income tax in the amount of $405 for the year 1941 and the Internal Revenue Department wants SMITH's check immediately or they will have to take further action to collect it. Informant stated meetings were planned for the fair grounds at Greenville, Ohio, June 4, and that SMITH is attempting to rent a hall in Chicago for the night before the convention.

Informant said that the auditorium of the Northern High School in Detroit, Michigan was rented by SMITH in the name of the Federation of Americanization and tickets were issued in the name of AMERICA FIRST. This provoked a controversy prompted by the CIO, who contested SMITH's right to have the use of a public auditorium. Informant stated a meeting was held by the Board of Education of Detroit on June 6, at which time the CIO and other objecting parties stated their contention in this matter, and SMITH is scheduled to have his say at a meeting on June 13, 1944. Informant advised that about six different groups were protesting to the Board of Education the use of a city auditorium by the SMITH group.

Informant stated SMITH ordered one thousand to two thousand booklets from JOE CAMP, New York City, and intends to distribute the pamphlets to his key people as a premium for donations of one dollar or more. Informant advised that the circular will read somewhat as follows:

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62-43818-496

JUN 14 1944

JUL 21

"With Lotions of Love.... What most Americans can do without is giving aid and comfort to the enemy....is helping Hitler's divide and conquer strategy.... and is creating disunity on home front. What self-styled patriot is a pitiful dupe of Axis agents? What gossiper'e propaganda has been branded as detrimental to the armed forces by Military Intelligence? What ex-isolationist tried to claim credit for starting World War II? What loud-mouthed anti-Communist has helped the Communist cause? What well known know-it-all does not know when he was married? What malicious scandal monger has a scandal of his own to worry about?" Informant said the books from CAMP were received on June 7, collect for the amount of $100.

Informant advised SMITH contacted [redacted] Milwaukee, Wisconsin; [redacted] Greenville, Ohio; HARRY ROMER, Cincinnati, Ohio; and Mrs. LUNDEEN; discussing meetings and distribution of propaganda. b7c

Informant advised that SMITH's mail has been better than usual and that SMITH is "okay" financially. Informant said SMITH had a tremendous meeting at Greenville, Ohio, where SMITH's contract for the fair grounds was canceled, but that about seven thousand people were there and it was a good crowd.

Informant also remarked SMITH is being sued for $100,000 in New York City for using the name AMERICA FIRST.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. Guerin, SAC

[redacted] b7c

RECORDED

62-43818 JPHa:WMJ
SAC, Detroit

June 19, 1944

EX-31

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C; SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION.

Reference is made to your letter of June 12, 1944, captioned as above wherein you advised in part that a confidential informant had learned that Smith is being sued for $100,000 in New York City "for using the name America First."

The Bureau is interested in this report and, accordingly, any additional data coming to your attention concerning this alleged suit or the parties thereto should be appropriately referred to the Bureau.

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JUN 19 8 15 PM '44
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Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lad
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Rumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Gesas
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
JUN 20 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

52 JUL 25 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

SL....FILE NO. 100-6013

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI	6-10-44	6-7-44	[redacted] b7c spa

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with alias THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject SMITH held three-hour meeting at Saint Louis, Missouri, June 7, 1944, at which approximately 750-1000 people were present. Subject claims attempts being made to set up ROOSEVELT dynasty and conspiracy to eliminate 1944 Presidential election. Subject stated intention of running for President of United States in 1948 on a platform of Nationalism, the planks of which support the worker, veteran, and farmer. United States Senator REYNOLDS of North Carolina to speak with SMITH under America First Party sponsorship.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Bureau File #62-43818.
Letter from the Detroit Field Division dated June 2, 1944.

DETAILS: AT SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI

DEFERRED RECORDING

Subject GERALD L. K. SMITH held a three-hour America First rally on June 7, 1944 at the Saint Louis Opera House, at which approximately 750-1000 people were present. At the entrance of the meeting were stationed various Communist workers distributing handbills castigating SMITH as a HITLER type of dictator in America.

The rally consisted principally of GERALD SMITH'S talk. It was opened by DON LOHBECK, temporary local chairman of the America First Committee, who briefly introduced the speaker. Present on the stand were Mr. and Mrs. LOHBECK, Mr. and Mrs.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: J. B. Hoover
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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2 - SAINT LOUIS

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22 JUN 12 1944

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DATE 10/7/92 BY SP-9[illegible]

White memo to Tamm
Ltr to St. Louis 6/19/44

GERALD L. K. SMITH, and a Reverend JOHNSON, Pastor of the Winnebago Presbyterian Church, who opened the meeting with prayer for the success of the European invasion.

SMITH denounced ROOSEVELT, claiming that thousands of dollars were being spent and an organization had been set up in New York which is intended to have JAMES ROOSEVELT succeed FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT in 1948 in the White House. SMITH predicted further that there was also a movement under way to cancel the 1944 Presidential election in November under the guise of military necessity and he stated that if this were not successful, President ROOSEVELT would then run for reelection on a Nationalistic platform and SMITH would be hard-pressed to keep President ROOSEVELT from climbing on the America First bandwagon, stealing their thunder in order to obtain his reelection.

SMITH criticised severely the Administration spending money in foreign countries on good will which only goes to the benefit of the international bankers, when the money should be spent on providing better standards of living for the American people and for the returning veterans.

SMITH claimed that it was the action of the America First Party which defeated WILLKIE in the Wisconsin primaries and he stated that he, SMITH, would be a candidate for the Presidency in 1948 on the America First program, which would have as their platform a nationalistic policy. In this program, SMITH stated the veterans would receive $1,000.00 mustering-out pay and that the Government, which now holds land through foreclosures equivalent in extent to the Atlantic seaboard states, should give this land proportionately to the veterans for their rehabilitation. The worker, stated SMITH, would receive $25.00 a day wages in the profit-sharing plan as presently practiced by the Lincoln Electric Company of Cleveland, Ohio. Under the America First policy, the farmer would operate under a reversal of the New Deal, that is, he would be paid for producing and not for destroying his crops. SMITH stated that his aim was to outlaw monopolies and bureaucracies in the Government.

SMITH further stated that in the late summer or early fall, United States Senator ROBERT R. REYNOLDS of North Carolina, Chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, has agreed to speak with SMITH in Saint Louis under America First sponsorship. He claimed also that REYNOLDS has agreed to cooperate in endorsing and helping to elect America Firsters to the United States Senate and the House of Representatives.

It is also to be noted that in the Saint Louis area, a rift has appeared in the America First Party in that there is dissension in the ranks due to SMITH'S refusal to remove DON LOHBECK, temporary local chairman of the Party.

Twice during the evening, SMITH interrupted his speech in order to take a collection as, he explained, he is unable to personally address all these cities which are clamoring for him to take collections; he solicited pledges of monthly amounts and the audience was given envelopes to fill out with their name and address and the amount of their monthly pledge. The second collection was for the sale of their publication, "The Cross and the Flag", and other literature.

A copy of this report is being sent to the St. Paul Field Division since it is noted in referenced letter that SMITH is to sponsor rallies in St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minnesota, on June 12 and 13, 1944.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JPHa:WMJ

RECORDED 62-43818 - 497
SAC, St. Louis

June 19, 1944

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, WITH ALIAS; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C; SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION.

Reference is made to the report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at St. Louis, Missouri, on June 10, 1944.

b7c

It is noted that the first paragraph of the details is inclusive of the following statement: "At the entrance of the meeting were stationed various Communist workers distributing handbills castigating SMITH as a HITLER type of dictator in America."

The Bureau desires that you immediately advise as to the source of your information in connection with this statement (that is to the effect that the people stationed there were various Communist workers) and whether the persons so stationed have actually been identified as Communists or are merely thought to be or alleged to be Communists or of Communistic sympathies.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SEP/SJM

JUN 21 1 52 PM '44

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Quinn Tamm
Mr. Lease
Mr. Candy

COMMUNICTIONS SECTION
MAILED 14
JUN 21 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

25 JUL 20 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-22780 EG

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
PHILADELPHIA, PA.	6/23/44	6/12/44	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject addressed meeting sponsored by Mrs. CATHERINE V. BROWN and Mrs. LILLIAN PARKS, Officers of the National Blue Star Mothers of America on May 25, 1944 at Philadelphia. Approximately 450 persons were in attendance. Meeting also addressed by Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN.

- RUC -

Reference: Letter from Detroit to Philadelphia dated May 9, 1944.

Details: The following report on the meeting addressed by subject, held at the Elks Hall in Philadelphia on May 25, 1944 under the auspices of the officers of the National Blue Star Mothers of America, Mrs. CATHERINE V. BROWN and Mrs. LILLIAN PARKS, was furnished by the [redacted] to this office. b7D

"At 8:35 p.m. the chairman Mrs. LILLIAN PARKS opened the meeting by having the audience repeat the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, then a Mrs. YEAGER sang two verses of the Star Spangled Banner.

Mrs. LILLIAN PARKS then read a prepared speech: Good evening, Mrs. LUNDEEN, Mrs. BROWN and Mr. GERALD L. K. SMITH. I also wish to extend to you good and loyal citizens of the Philadelphia area who are attending this meeting tonight the best wishes and thanks of the Blue Star Mothers who are the sponsors of this meeting. It is seldom that the opportunity presents itself to gather the speakers of such prominence as GERALD L.K. SMITH and Mrs. LUNDEEN on the same platform, but we all know what they stand for and what they think about things which are going on in this country. We know that we are engaged in a global war. Our forces are poised in England on the eve of Invasion. I call your atten-

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-1198

RECORDED & INDEXED

30 JUN 24 1944 166

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tion to House Bill 262 now before the Committee in Congress which would delay the invasion and the inevitable casualities until we know what we are fighting for and what is going to be gained by invading Europe. Do we want our boys to be policemen of the world after they finish this global war? Do you want them to spend their lives acting as policemen of Europe, Asia and Africa? If you do not know the answer yourself ask one of them and you will get it in no uncertain terms. Many men in high office in Washington have forgotten the traditions and customs of this great country and have embarked on a career of internationalism that can only lead this great Country to disaster. As a member of the Blue Star Mothers, I call upon you to elect only those men to office who have the best interests of the country at heart, end this slaughter of our boys and bring them home to their rightful place in American life.

It now gives me great pleasure to introduce our fearless organizer and President Mrs. CATHERINE BROWN.

Mrs. CATHERINE BROWN: Thank you Mrs. PARKS and Good evening Mr. SMITH and Mrs. LUNDEEN. I think under the circumstances it would be well for me to tell you about the late husband of Mrs. LUNDEEN, the Senator from Minnesota who was killed in an airplane crash on his way to address an America First Rally in 1940 in Minneapolis. EARNEST LUNDEEN served as a Congressman for many years and his death brought to a close a career that was definitely and always concerned with the welfare of America first. He was first elected a representative and then a Senator. He opposed entry into World War I just as he opposed participation in World War II. After our Country plunged in World War I however he did everything possible for the welfare of the soldiers and was instrumental in securing the bonus for veterans of World War I. After his untimely death he was the target of such smear artists as Winchell and Pearson but his wife has courageously taken up the work where he left off. It now gives me great pleasure to introduce Mrs. LUNDEEN, wife of the late Senator from Minnesota.

MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN: It is a great pleasure to be called upon to speak before such an outstanding group of American citizens of Philadelphia and vicinity and to appear on a platform with such a man as GERALD L.K. SMITH. Mrs. BROWN was very kind in giving up the time alotted to her to tell you something of the life history of my husband, the late Senator LUNDEEN. All the men and women in this audience realize that we are engaged in a global war. Our sons and daughters have been called from their homes and places at our tables to take part in this struggle. It is our duty to help them in every possible way. It is our duty to win this war as quickly as possible so that our children can return and take up the duties of useful American citizens and follow the careers which they would have normally had not this terrible war intervened.. The statements which I am about to make apply to the period before this war and prior to Pearl Harbor. I ask again that you keep this in mind for it is very important. We hear a great deal these days about isolationism. I refer to call it nationalism. Whatever we are called be it isolationists, non-interventionists, nationalists or any other term, it is always well to remember that George Washington, the

Father of our Country, was an isolationist. He had the principles and courage to fight for his beliefs.. He worked and fought hard to free this Country from the constant turmoil of war which was always going on in Europe. However, Washington's policy was not one to make this a hermit Nation. In his farewell address he clearly states the great principles which he hoped would endure after he retired from public life. It was friendship for all nations, trade with all nations and entangling alliances with none. Under this type of leadership this Nation grew to true greatness. We pursued this policy faithfully until the fatal year of 1917 when we deviated from it and became involved in World War I. Since that time a certain element in this Country has been trying steadily and with success to destroy the policy of America first which lead to our greatness.

Just what do they mean by the myth of isolationism. I say it is no myth. It has been the strong foundation upon which a great American Nation was built. On the contrary I would say Internationalism is a falsehood and a myth. I wish to cite an article from the Washington Times Herald, it is entitled "We Missed These." It is a list of the wars fought in Europe since Columbus discovered America. There have been 462 minor and major conflicts since that time, almost one a year since Columbus arrived on these shores. We missed these wars by minding our own business and it was the desire of our forefathers to escape these wars and the overburdening weight of taxation which goes with such conflicts. Europe has been a battle ground for centuries and always will be. How can it be any different when people put hate in their children's hearts before they do anything else.

I tell you our present trend must stop. We must bring our boys and girls home away from this senseless slaughter and make America impregnable. I ask you to write to your Congressman, asking him to support the bill which would hold up the invasion until we know what we are fighting for and what we will gain by invading Europe. It is time that we brought our children home and taught them to love their neighbors, instead of teaching them to invade other countries and make enemies of their inhabitants. We all know something of the tax burdens of today. It is costing America billions and billions of dollars to carry on this war of internationalism. $10,000,000 an hour is what it is costing us every hour. Next year Mr. Morgenthau says it will cost a whole lot more and we are now taxed to the limit. I tell you we cannot be armory, bank, commissary and bread basket of all of the Nations of the world. The most terrific burden will be casualities. Our brave boys will finish this job but many will never return and others will come back horribly maimed, but they will finish the job.. Let's have an America when they return where they can re-establish themselves, where all races, creeds and colors can live harmoniously. Let's not have a repetition of the lastwar when long lines of veterans walked the street hungry and ill clothed. I say wake up America.

Think what this war has cost this Nation to date in actual dollars. The figures are staggering but there is another important and often over-looked fact: It has cost us 5 times as much as Great Britain, 6½ times as much as Russia, 10 times what it cost Italy and 14 times what it has cost Japan. These figures come from the

New York State Economic Council and explain why 27,000,000 people paid income taxes in 1943 while only 4,000,000 had to pay taxes in 1940. Another example was the international food conference held in Virginia. Leaders of many foreign governments were present and plans were made to dispose of the food supply grown by our American farmers. Elected representatives of the people from Congress and representatives of the press were denied admission. Think of it, plans were under way and made to dispose of our present food supplies as well as those grown after the war and the people of the United States are not supposed to know what those plans are. This is a working example of internationalism right under our very noses. I say destroy this myth and wake up America.

When my husband the late Senator LUNDEEN began demanding that we remain neutral at the outset of the present war in Europe, he was immediately subjected to a smear campaign by the Winchells and the Pearsons. Senator LUNDEEN fought against sending our boys to Europe in 1917 so this smear campaign is nothing new to me. I helped in that fight and have been trying to get back to real Americanism since 1919. Let's stop trying to settle the age old quarrels of Europe, let's get out of Europe now and stay out. Let's think of America first and not be carried away by sympathy for some group, or groups, of people to our own detriment.

I was looking through the files of my late husband and found a card which he used in the election of 1916. It bears a phrase which is familiar to all of us "America First". Let's think of a bonus for our boys. It was through the efforts of Senator LUNDEEN who began working in 1920 that the Veterans of the World War I received a bonus a few years ago.

These smear campaigns are nothing new to me. I have been subjected to the tactics of the Winchells and Pearsons for many years but my husband who died a year and a half before we got into this war was a target of their campaigns continuously. They called him pro-Nazi and any other name that would villify his character. Imagine the feelings of myself, my son who is a Lieutenant in the Armed Forces and my daughter who is a student at the University of Minnesota when these men started on Senator LUNDEEN after he was dead. They knew that the law states that you cannot libel a dead man and he could not reply to their charges.

I had a taste of the smear campaign very early in life, right after Mr. LUNDEEN and I were married. I was a school teacher in Hawaii and met the Senator on the boat going to Honolulu. A year later we were married and I went back to Minnesota to live. People began to stare at me on the street and it finally became annoying. I asked my husband if there was anything wrong with me and he said "No". Finally a little 14 year old girl came to visit me one day and was sitting on the porch. Mrs. LUNDEEN she said, may i ask you a question. I replied certainly and if I can I will answer it. Well, she said, when you were a girl in Hawaii did you always wear a grass skirt. See what they did, they had circulated a story that I was a native of the Hawaiian Islands.

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In 1941 I requested the Blue Network for an opportunity to answer the charges hurled at my late husband by Winchell and the opportunity was granted me. I think I have the distinction of making the first attack on Winchell and my remarks are included in the Congressional Record of March 1941.

As long as we have such people in our Nation as third termites and now they are fourth termites in our midst why shouldn't we have a law on our Statute books instead of an unwritten law that no man shall occupy the Presidency more than two terms. Roosevelt broke an American tradition and rotation in high office is essential to our form of Government. Under this system this Nation became one of the greatest in the world and it is a fine thing that so many of you are here to listen to a man like GERALD SMITH who is thinking of the interests of his Country first.

Think of it, while our sons and daughters are fighting a global war over a half million refugees are in this Country safe and secure taking their jobs and letting them fight for them. I say deport these people to their own countries - put them in uniform and let them fight their own war. Can't you see friends that if Uncle Sam continues fighting this war and spending billions of dollars and plays Santa Claus to the [illegible] world he will become a very bedraggled old man with only his whiskers and very few of [illegible]

My husband advocated the securing of island bases [illegible] ago and they laughed at him. Oh, you couldn't touch the possessions of other countries in this hemisphere. Now we have them on 99 year leases and our boys are fortifying them and building a ring of steel about the Nation. I tell you if Mr. Churchill were in the White House and Mr. Roosevelt were in England it would be a different story. We would have had the islands and a lot more to boot. The Nations of Europe never paid, or made any attempt to pay, the debt they owed us after the last war and they will do the same thing this time.

The issue of America First should not be controversial. Everyone in this great Country should be for it. Do you realize that the men you send to Congress control the lives of sons and daughters and the welfare of the soldiers serving around the world. Congress will say after the war whether we are continuing the policy of sending our boys abroad to act as policemen for Europe, Africa, Asia and the globe. There is too much pity and foreign thought in this Country today.

Let me cite an editorial to you from the Chicago Tribune. It is a very enlightening piece of news and gives you some insight into what was going on when we were supposed to be neutral in this country and before we went to war, the same kind of neutrality which we are demanding of Spain and Sweden. (She then read the editorial which in effect stated that at the outbreak of the present war General MacArthur had 35 bombers and 75 pursuit planes in the Phillipines). Think of it friends - goods which were urgently needed by our Armed Forces and were ordered by the Army and Navy Departments were taken away or not delivered to the men protecting American territory and they were unable to cope with the Japanese attack when it came. I do not know who is responsible for this condition but

certainly someone in the Administration in Washington should be held accountable when this war is over. There were enough planes produced in this country up to that time to have adequately supplied MacArthur. A few hundred bombers and pursuit planes would have turned back the Jap attack and saved the lives of many and the untold suffering of others who were captured by the Japanese. Now while this terrible condition went on, MacArthur supplied with 35 bombers, our State Departments bungling attempt was made to keep peace in the Pacific. If such a condition existed, and they should have known so in the State Department, they had no right to deliver a note to Japan which was practically an ultimatum late in November. This is the sort of thing against which we are fighting and which true Americans will not stand for. I say wake up America.

Congress controls the purse strings of America and it is the duty of the people to size up the candidates and what they stand for before sending them to Congress, not to spend time pitying poor Russia, poor Poland, or poor France. We can sympathize with these people but we must control our sympathies and think of America first.

Good friends and neighbors can't be bought and do not have to be bought, pouring money into South America on lend-lease, or the good neighbor policy will not make them our friends.

We pledge Allegiance to one flag and one Country. We broke all ties to foreign countries when we came here seeking peace and freedom and that one allegiance is to America.

Churchill is for England first, he is a Nationalist. Stalin is for Russia first, he is a Nationalist. Why shouldn't our leaders be for America first and be Nationalists.

Our program is win the war first, that is our first duty now that we are in it, then elect members of Congress who will revive and maintain American traditions. Bring our sons home where they belong and have the country which Washington described in his farewell address as "Friendship with all nations, trade with all nations and entangling alliances with none".

The Chairman then introduced the main speaker of the evening, GERALD L. K. SMITH.

GERALD L. K. SMITH: Good evening Mrs. PARKS, Mrs. BROWN, Mrs. LUNDEEN and you loyal American ladies and gentlemen of Philadelphia and vicinity. I certainly appreciate the remarks of Mrs. PARKS when she introduced me as the next President of the United States.. It shows that she at least believes that there is going to be a change. You know some persons have given up and think we will have a Roosevelt forever. Just the other day I read that a group of people in New York have started grooming Colonel James Roosevelt for the Presidency in 1948 to perpetuate the dynasty, but this isn't going to happen. We are going to get rid of Roosevelt and the bureaucrats in the November election and save this Country for real Americans, and it will be through the efforts of the America First Party.

Ph #100-22780

Just who the candidate will be I do not know, but we are not looking for the type of candidate who can out-Roosevelt Roosevelt. What we need in this country is more Congress and less President, we have had too much President for the last 11 years coupled with bureaucratic tyranny in Washington. We don't want a man who can out-Roosevelt Roosevelt. Roosevelt is a champion in his own class, he has out-spent anyone in history and heaven knows we don't want anyone who can do better in that line than he has. He has built up a Federal payroll of three-million people, handed out our resources with a free hand by lend-lease and the so called good neighbor policy. We are spending money on this war at the rate of $10,000,000 an hour and I tell you that this cannot keep up without plunging this Country into financial ruin which will make the 1932 debacle look like a boom.

We are on the verge of the invasion of Europe. Our boys are scattered throughout the world fighting on many battle fronts, fighting for God only knows what. I am sure I don't know, but I do know that while they have been conscripted and taken from their homes and jobs to fight this war, 580,000 aliens have moved in to take their jobs and places at the table. I say deport these people to the countries they came from, they left because they would have to fight, I say deport them, let them then put on a uniform and fight their own war and leave our boys alone.

Our forefathers left Europe because they did not want to be engaged in ceaseless brawling. They wanted to escape the heavy taxation that is the inevitable result of wars and they came here and set up a government which they intended to keep out of Europe's troubles. Right here in Philadelphia men like Washington, Jefferson, Franklin and others made decisions that involved blood-letting but they never lost sight of the fact that they were leaving a heritage for us to follow when making these decisions. They wanted us to be friendly with all nations but have entangling alliances with none.

I read in the paper recently that this Country has demanded that Spain and Sweden act as true neutrals in the present conflict. Now I ask you if this Country acted as a true neutral in 1939, 1940 and 1941. We took sides with one of the belligerent nations in Europe, supplied them with arms and conscripted an army here at home. And what for? At present it looks as though it was done to let the Communists rule Europe. France was ruled by these low slimy creatures. I have read some of the books written by Leon Blum, who was Prime Minister of France. In them he says that he can see nothing wrong in incest, imagine that nothing wrong with incest, which is sexual relation between brothers and sisters. Such Godless people have now made an inroads into this Country and are taking over the Government under the very noses of real Americans today. What happened to France? She was rotten to the core and could not defend herself, and mark you - I want your attention to what I have to say, this Country will meet the same fate unless a strong Nationalist Party comes to the front, takes over the reins of power, throws out these tryannical bureaucrats that are eating the heart out of this Country, conserves our resources for America, builds a ring of steel

around this Country and fortifies it as a citadel.

We are facing a time such as has never been faced in this great Country before and it is the duty of the America First Party to bring these things to the attention of everyone. There are millions of people in this Country who feel the same way as I do but they do not speak up. It is now time for them to speak up and act.

Winston Churchill is for England first and Stalin is for Russia first, why our leaders in Washington are not for America first or don't speak up, I cannot comprehend. It is the duty of every Republican member of the House and Senate to speak up at this time and stop this shameful waste of our money and the lives of our young men.

I want to know what we are going to gain by invading Europe. Are we just going to let the Communists rule Europe? If you go into a store and lay one-hundred dollars on the counter you want to know what you are getting. Well we are putting at least a million lives on the line for they will be casualities in dead, wounded, missing and prisoners. What are we going to do about it? I want to know and every member of The America First Party wants to know and should force the issue with his Congressman. Remember he is your elected representative under our form of constitutional government and has the right to demand a showdown with that clique in Washington.

One thing that I am going to demand strongly, I do not want British interference in our elections. I have heard that they are ready to spend three millions to re-elect Roosevelt. Anthony Eden's paper Yorkshire Post came out and said that the election of anyone but Roosevelt and a Congress which supports him would be the death blow to Britain's hopes. Well get your bottle of brandy ready Mr. Churchill for just what you don't want is going to happen in November and the America First Party is going to be the cause of your trouble. We are going to elect a man who has the interest and welfare of this Country at heart. You have said that you would not preside at the dissolution of the British Empire but we will not send our boys to India to help keep down the Indians and keep Gandhi in jail. In other words we are not going to conscript our boys to police Europe, Asia, Africa and let the other countries go ahead and do as they please. Mr. Roosevelt and Mrs. Roosevelt have visions of becoming the head of a world state. If he is elected this time when the war is over he will resign to become head of this super-duper government. And what does this mean, a flag over our flag, a government over our government, a Congress over our Congress. I tell you that as long as there is a breath in my body and a pulse in my wrist this condition will not come to pass. They call me a rabble rouser and the leader of the lunatic fringe, but as God is my judge, I will never permit such a condition to come to pass as long as I have the power of speech to shout against it.

These bureaucrats in Washington who want to control every inch of our lives don't do things in a small way. When people began to speak up against this profligacy they immediately conspired to put them in jail. I tell you that they wanted to

Ph #100-22780

Charles E.

put Father Coughlin in jail, Charles Lindbergh, Burton K. Wheeler, Bob Reynolds, Gerald Nye and Gerald Smith. We were investigated by the FBI, Internal Revenue and any other Government agency controlled by these rats who might be able to get anything on us but they couldn't do it and we are here today.

When they couldn't put us in jail they started out on a new tack. They got those arch smearers Winchell and Pearson to work on us and attempt to smear characters of such out-standing Americans. Imagine a rat like Winchell trying to smear Father Coughlin and Charles Lindbergh.

Then they had another of the same stripe, a man named Carlson write a book "Undercover" which smeared these men and many others including Henry Ford. I tell you America is in terrible shape when such men as Winchell and Pearson can do things like this.

Look at that woman whom you just heard speak (pointed to Mrs. LUNDEEN), imagine the feelings of her children and herself, when such rats started to smear her husband before the earth had packed on his grave. He came to his death in an untimely airplane accident while on his way to address an America First meeting in Minneapolis and the crash has never been satisfactorily explained. That woman is the type we should be proud to have in the White House, not one who is traveling all over the world or the Carribbean stirring up trouble and even going so far as to stir up trouble at home. That is one of the troubles today with this Country. Women are acting like men, dressing like men, and men are acting like women. If my wife ever comes home dressed in trousers, chewing tobacco or smoking cigarettes, I serve notice on you that I will do something no woman can do, I will grow a beard down to my waist.

But now I want to tell you more about the coming fight in the Presidential election this year. The months roll around quickly and November will be here Before long and there is much work to be done. First of all I want to tell you about Wendell Wilkie, that fraud who ran for President against Roosevelt in 1940. The Democrats and the Republicans nominated Roosevelt and Wilkie right here in Philadelphia and then the farce started. Roosevelt started to promise something over here and Wilkie came right back and promised something better over there. They spent most of the campaign out-promising each other and it made no difference in the long run which one was elected, things would have been just the same. We weren't ready for them and were caught napping and they just laughed at us, but we are ready this time and have disposed of that fraud Wilkie already. You know he started all over again talking internationalism and talking about spending large sums of the public money when we are already taxed to the limit. But let me warn you Morgenthau has said that more money will be necessary next year to support this profligate and spendthrift outfit and unless they are thrown out of Washington in November you will be ground down further this year. Well, he started up and down the Nation trying to gether delegates for the National Convention but he found out that the America First Party as well as other people were working against him so he decided to come to Wisconsin and make a test of sentiment for he knew he had

to have votes from the Middle West to get the nomination again. So he decided to come right out into my bailiwick and make a campaign and I welcomed the opportunity for a showdown with this rascal...You know Wisconsin is a great dairy state so he came out there and squirted milk all over himself in an effort to fool the farmers. You know the last time he tried to pose as a grass roots farmer, he got down in the grass in Indiana and rolled around until he had the smell of horse and cow on him and fooled some of the people but he wasn't fooling anybody this time.

Now I want you to remember all the papers in Wisconsin were for him except one. He started his campaign by saying GERALD L.K. SMITH - that terrible man - was against him and thought all the people would flock to him. That suited me perfectly for I knew the strength of my organization in the state. My organization was not composed of money interests or powerful people in public life. They are just the plain people, hard working and out-spoken who can be relied upon in any emergenty to deliver the utmost, particularly if the future of America is at stake. Well, I called them together and told them to get out and work against Wilkie. I told them what to do and supplied them with the necessary literature to carry on the fight.

He started his campaign in a small town admidst the rolling hills of Wisconsin. Just to salve the audience of farmers along he told them that some great people came from this town. I sent him a telegram saying I agreed with him for I came from that town. Well, he had a caravan of twelve automobiles travelling with him on the trip. You know our gas ration coupons were cut from three to two gallons but Wilkie must have gas for his campaign and Eleanor must betaken through the Caribbean. Then his caravan moved on to Sheboygan and as they entered the town a hearse coming out of a cemetery fell in behind them. I told them this was a bad omen for Wilkie's success, a hearse the 13th car in his entourage. We both worked through the state, the papers playing right into my hands and saying Wilkie was against Gerald Smith.

Newspaper men came to me for a prediction since I had accepted Wilkie's challenge to fight it out in Wisconsin and I must say that most of them published my interview correctly. I went out on a limb and predicted that he would not secure one delegate for I knew the strength of America First. No other politician dared to make so rash a prediction. The best any other said was that he would secure at least five of the delegates. Well, the results began to pour in and I was in my hotel the next day. Well that bare foot boy from Wall Street can go back to where he came from. You know I always said that I would send him to Moscow and now his friend Roosevelt can send him there if he wants to do it. We showed him definitely that we want no part of him.

But now something else has happened which is definitely worrying me and was a slap in the face for every loyal member of the America First Party. Governor Dewey of New York who has been making a strong showing among Republicans made a remark which he must take back or he loses our support. He was addressing a Jewish Welfare meeting in New York and made the remark that "He wanted no part of GERALD SMITH and his rodents - He and his ilk should not pollute the stream of American life". I immediately wired Dewey asking him what he had said. At

the same time I looked up the definition of rodent and this is what I found: a rodent is an animal which gnaws with its teeth. It mentioned the rat and that is bad, then it said squirrel and that isn't so bad for they bury nuts in the ground. Then it said porcupine and that is alright and finally it said beaver and that is fine. If he wants to class us as beavers we certainly have no kick. Why Dewey made this remark in front of a Jewish meeting I cannot understand. I am against no man for his race or creed, but the Jewish element in this Country is against GERALD SMITH, I know that. Why this is I don't understand because if I were a Jew in America - the only country where they are free today, I would fall down on my knees and thank God for being here.

Those arch smearers Winchell and Pearson have attacked me and attempted to smear me in every possible way. Why I want to tell you that we were turned down on several halls in this town through the efforts of these people. Who do you think rented us this hall which we are using tonight? Well I'll tell you, the colored Elks. Think of it the colored people laid aside their prejudices and opened their facilities to us. Maybe the Jews could take a lesson from them. I serve notice on them that they would be doing better to open their synagogues to us and let us hold our meeting there than they would by carrying on their campaign of hate against me and the America First Party. I'll give any person a necktie that can show me one Jewish organization that is not against me. Any sensible person knows that 99% of the Jewish vote in America will go to Roosevelt at the coming election so why the America First Party, which Colliers Magazine admits has three million members, and I will tell you that it is double that number, should be kicked in the teeth to secure 1% of the Jewish vote makes me mad. Think of it, kicked in the teeth to secure 1% of the Jewish vote.

Well things started to happen after I sent Mr. Dewey the telegram. He said that he didn't mean it. To forget it and not worry about it. One of his close lieutenant called me by long distance phone in Cleveland the next day and said now please forget it, he did not mean it. I replied so he did mean it, well you mean he has just read the results of the Wisconsin primaries. The speaker did not say anything more but apologized again and asked me to forget it, but the matter is not settled and we must have a distinct understanding and a strong Nationalist plank in the Republican platform before we support Mr. Dewey.

You know that Mr. Roosevelt just got back from a vacation spent in the south at the palatial estate of Bernie Baruch, that sinister figure which has been haunting the White House for the past eleven years, beside the time which he spent around there when Woodrow Wilson was President. They had the President down there for his health, tanning his skin to get him ready for the coming campaign. They are afraid to let him slip out of their sight for a minute and want to keep him in hand all the time. Them and the arch spenders of the palace guard the Hopkins, the Wallaces and the rest.

Those dirty Communists, Browder and the rest. You know Browder actually spent time with the President in the 1940 campaign and he is with him again, this time under a new name. You know Stalin dissolved the Communist Party or Internationale, probably for his own purposes, and I really can see no sense to him having one in the United States which takes orders from Moscow and must be sup-

ported financially when the Vice President of the United States runs up and down our Country making speeches for him. You know he made a speech in Oregon in which he described the coming revolution and paid high praise to the Russian system of government, well I say if he likes Russia so well why doesn't he go there? You know I said I would make him a milkman in China. Well I didn't think they would take me so seriously but now I see they are sending him to China. That is a good place for him, maybe the Russians will decide to take over there and he can have just what he wants for he and his ilk are no good to this great Country.

How can we accomplish all these things which we want to do to keep our Country the same as it was designed by the great founders Washington, Jefferson and Franklin. Well I will tell you, you can't just make it as you want it by hating Roosevelt, the bureaucrats and tyrants that have taken over Washington. You have to love your Country. I married Mrs. Smith whom you see seated here on the platform. I made love to her and courted her and I won her by making love to her and not by telling her how much I hated other women. Well that is the way it is in every day life, you must love something to be constructive not just hate. We will be married 20 years come June God willing. We don't belong to clubs or go in for entertaining. We don't have time.. We lead a simple life carrying on the fight for American Freddom to which I devote practically all of my time. (Told of his son who is in the Armed services and presently in a hospital in India - says when he returns he wants him to take up the life of a useful citizen.)

We have set the roots of a powerful Nationalist Party in this country and if we are defeated this year we will be able to go on to 1948 and win the election that year. I know Americans such as are in this audience will always be for America first.

Now I want to report on the progress we have made since the last meeting. We have a definite program for the America First Party in the coming election and have a five plank platform which I hope the Republicans will be sensible enough to incorporate in their platform and ratify at the Convention in Chicago. They have had a taste of the power of the America First Party in Wisconsin and they know they can't win without the support of the America First Party this year.

Well here is our platform:

1. A $1,000 bonus for every veteran of this war who has served more than a year in the Armed Forces. Think of it only $1,000 but at the present it is the best we can do for them without increasing the burden of taxation. These men were conscripted - dragged from their homes and families and deserve every consideration after fighting this global war. How will this money be obtained. We will stop such foolishness as lend-lease and the good neighbor policy. You don't have to buy good neighbors. A friend is a friend. Those traitors in Washington have dumped six billion dollars into South America buying good will. This will be stopped. Think of that amount of money it would pay $1,000 each to the first six million men demobilized and we would be a long way on the say to demobilization and the return to peace.

2. Take care of the workers by paying salaries of $10, $15, $20, $25 dollars a day. Concerns in this country are able to do this and I cite the Lincoln Electric Company of Cleveland. This Company shares profits with employees and it is not uncommon for an employee to make $5,000 to $5,400 a year. The concern is one of the soundest financially, has paid dividends regularly for the past twenty years and still pays its employees these salaries. They have found over a period of time that such a system steadily increases a workers output of production - sometimes as much as four times as much as one who does not share in the profits. Pass a law saying that over a certain amount which is used to pay dividends, all profits in excess of that amount which are not shared among employees must be paid to the Government in taxes.

3. A cash bonus to farmers for producing, not for destroying, food. Think of farmers ploughing under wheat and cotton when all this can be corrected by reform of the process of distribution and a clean-up in our money system. An era of plenty can replace an era of want if we let the American farmer produce as much as possible, pay him a reasonable wage for his work and price for his commodities and see that it is properly distributed to where it is needed. If we do this there will be an abundance of butter, meat, milk and all goods now rationed. There is no need for such nonsense in this great Country of ours.

4. Restore private enterprise by outlawing monopoly and eliminating bureaucratic interference in business. Think of it during the present war 250,000 small business men have gone to the wall. Do you know that 80% of the billions spent on this war and let in Government contracts have been to less than one-hundred firms in the country. I would restore the profit motive to business by decreasing taxes, furnishing employment and doing away with bureaucratic interference. The little business man must have a chance. If your son or husband comes home from the war and wants to start a clothing store, gasoline filling station, grocery store or any other kind of business with his $1,000 bonus he must feel free to do so.. He must not be afraid that some big monopoly will put him out of business. Take the big oil monopoly, we know it is controlled by five companies but has no right to put any man out of business. Neither should the clothing monopoly before the man has his suits /first suits/ sold from the rack.

5. Our foreign policy. No world government. No international bank. A strong National defense. Trade with all nations - permanent alliances with none. The America First Party is opposed to any form of world government, no matter what name or form is assigned to it by the tyrants in Washington. We don't want our boys to police the world. We want them to come home after this war is over and won and take up a useful place as citizens of this great country. If you don't believe me ask one of them and he will tell you in no uncertain terms. You know this international bank turns people's stomachs and sometimes it gets so strong even too strong for those who advocate it thoroughly. I

want to read an editorial from the Philadelphia Record of May 22nd. This editorial is in a paper which has consistently supported the policies of internationalism put forth by Roosevelt. Mr. Stern the publisher and editor is among the leading proponents of international cooperation in the country. This editorial deals with a United Nations Allies scheme put forth to lure us away from the American System (read part of the editorial). It was even too strong for Mr. Stern's stomach and it turned over. Now let me point out to you, even Mr. Stern could not stand this program.. Once you enter into this conglomeration you cannot withdraw. Now isn't that something. Imagine you sign away your birth right to enter a nefarious scheme and can never get out of it no matter what happens.

The last point is no matter what happens you cannot go to war under any circumstances. Think of it, wouldn't the world have a lot of fun with us. Suppose Stalin decided that the Mexicans should cross the Rio Grande and take half of Texas. All he would have to do was tell the Mexicans to go ahead and he thought it was a good thing and the Mexicans would boil over the border and we could not go to war and chase them back where they belong. Anything like that could happen to us. Well Mr. Stern soured at this. I don't give him credit for being a great statesman but he is a smart editor and publisher and has good nostrils. He [illegible] tell which way the wind is blowing and scent what the American people wan[illegible] tell you we must build a strong fortified citadel with a ring of steel [illegible] composed of islands like Iceland, Bermuda, Greeland and Hawaii and lest the rest of the world mind their own business.

Now they are proposing an international bank. Morgenthau came out with that scheme not long ago. Nations of the world are supposed to put in money according to their share of the world's gold. Well there is no use of me telling you what will ahppen. We have all of the gold so we will put in all the money. In any of those super-duper schemes which they want to set up with headquarters in Casablanca they always want one or two Americans in the group to write and sign checks. And by the way I might tell you that since we took all the gold in the country to Fort Knox and buried it in the ground, I am demanding that it be counted. Let's see if it is all there, I want to know if any of it has been shipped or taken away to some foregin country for some sort of nonsense, or to set up some sort of wild scheme. I don't trust the people who have had control of our gold.

I have more good news for you. We have arranged a giant rally to be held in Chicago by the America First Party the night before the opening of the Republican Convention. There will be two thousand of our leaders there from all over the country. The rent of the hall will cost eight hundred dollars. We will demand a showdown with the Republican Convention and they must insert our planks in their platform. We are particularly interested in the strong nationalist plank. If they don't do this we will not support them in the election and they can't win without the support of the America First Party. If they refuse to accept our program I will be the candidate for President of the America First Party. I know it is a trip to the cross but I will make the sacrifice for I know that our Nation faces a crisis such as it has never faced in its history. If I am defeated we will have laid the groundwork for 1948 and then we will win for nationalism

will have swept the Country.

I know that it will require a great deal of me physically but I have a strong body given to me by the loins of a God-fearing father and the womb of a Christian mother. I have counted up in the past 2 weeks and I have had just 48½ hours sleep. You ask me how I do it. Well God gives me strength. I will continue this fight as long as I have a breath in my body and a pulse in my wrist. My father will celebrate his 58th wedding anniversary this year and he retired from the ministry on his 50th wedding anniversary.

Now friends at this point I would like to stop. People often ask why I don't drop the curtain at this point and I would like to do so very much. I am covered with sweat and I would like to go back to my hotel room, take a bath and rest for I must catch a train at 20 minutes to one and ride until late tomorrow morning to get the point which I want to reach. You know I was late tonight. Well a long distance phone call from Detroit delayed me. It was about an article for the magazine Cross and Flag on which I had to make a decision. You know paper is scarce and I have a few copies which you may secure as you go out as long as they last. Leave any contribution you desire or just take one. I would like to stop but how many will remain seated for 10 minutes, maybe it will only take 8 minutes. You know if I stopped at this point it would be very nice but I would go back to my hotel without knowing your names and nothing would happen. We can't carry on this fight that way.

Now will you ushers please step to the front and I want some volunteers from the audience. Just step up here. Now hand them the envelopes. Hold them in your hands until everyone has one. Now take out the pencil and write in the upper left hand corner the number of tickets you want for our next big rally in Philadelphia, 100, 50, 25, 10 or 5. We are going to have a big one I think in Convention Hall and I am trying to make arrangements to have Senator Rob Reynolds, Chairman of the Senate Military affairs committee on hand to address you. Now write your name and address on the envelope and put into it any amount which you see fit. You can make it on a monthly basis or if you don't want to do that put in any amount of cash you desire. Now replace the pencil for they are scarce and seal the envelope. Pass them toward the aisles and hold them up so the ushers can see them. Someone take care of the gallaries please. Who is going to the galleries. Answers (Mrs. MILLER and Mrs. LEITERBACH). They will take care of it.

Now just one more word, I have some other good news for you, a coalition of Democratic and Republican Congressmen whom I visited the other day have promised me that they are both working in their parties to get rid of this new deal element which are fighting so hard. Think of it even Democrats want to get rid of these traitors. There are some copies of J. Edgar Jones "So They Indicted Me" just a few on hand and you may secure them as you go out along with copies of Cross and the Flag while they last.

I want to pay high tribute to the great Catholic Church and the Catholic hierarchy

for the way in which they handled a situation which was created by those tryants in Washington and which they then tried to shove over on the church when their diabolical plot was discovered. You know when we went to war over Poland, at least that was the excuse for starting the war when the Germans invaded Poland. Now the picture has changed and it looks like Poland is to be invaded from the east by Russia. Well to win back this Polish vote they got a Polish Priest and he went to Washington where Roosevelt initialed his passport, put him in a special plane and flew him by the most secret route to Russia. In Moscow he was supposed to confer with Stalin, come back to America and give the New Deal credit for saving Poland. The scheme backfired and criticism arose in this Country of the plot. Immediately he was said to have made the trip on his own initiative, but the Catholic hierarchy knew how to handle the matter. He was ordered home and was unfrocked as well as other disciplinary action. The whole scheme was exposed for just what it was, a New Deal trick to regain the Polish vote. The Church lost no prestige, but instead has increased in stature in the minds of true Americans for their firm and decisive action in a matter where they might have been drawn in New Deal politics.

Stalin ordered the White House to have the Government destroy all the copies of investigations made against the Communists, but when I left Washington this morning the records were still intact.

He then had all persons stand and repeat the Lord's Prayer in unison.. He then stated: The ushers will pass out cards to you bearing the five planks in our platform as you go out the door. Take as many as you want and pass them along to your friends. You will have to pardon me if I seem to rush away without shaking hands with all of you but I must take a bath and catch my train. However, Mrs. LUNDEEN would like to shake hands with each and everyone of you and if you so desire just step up here to the platform. Good night now and God bless you all.

There were no signs or decorations in the auditorium. A legal size American flag was properly displayed on the stage. There were approximately 450 persons in attendance. The audience was very orderly. It is not known the amount of money that was collected."

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7-4-44

RECORDED

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information in your consideration of this case, there is attached a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on June 23, 1944.

b2

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SEP/SPC

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Rumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

59 JUL 12 1944

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6-26-44
62-43818

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your information in your consideration of this case there is attached a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Cleveland, Ohio, on June 15, 1944.

Enclosure

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8BTP/MC

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Nease
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Hollaman
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Candy

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62-43818-499

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 29 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JUN 28 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This case originated at DETROIT, MICHIGAN — Detroit File No. 62-1126

Report made at	Date when made	Period for which made	Report made by
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	6/9/44	4/3,8,15,22; 5/8,15,22/44	[redacted]

Title	Character of case
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G; SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

[redacted]

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted] advises SMITH has been engaged in extensive speaking tours for the past two months. SMITH apparently intends to take active part in next presidential election and has expressed viewpoint that he may decide to have himself nominated for the presidency. SMITH has filed petitions with Michigan Secretary of State requesting that AMERICA FIRST PARTY be placed on ballot at time of next election. SMITH contacted VIVIAN KELLEMS of Connecticut relative to her dispute with the Government over alleged illegal disclosure of mail written by herself, and requested KELLEMS to address SMITH rally but KELLEMS refused to participate. No further recent evidence to indicate SMITH intends to organize war veterans. SMITH continues to evince interest in sedition trials in Washington, D. C.

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted], dated March 27, 1944, at Detroit, Michigan.

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Approved and forwarded	Special Agent in Charge	HANDLED IN STOP DESK	RECORDED
R.A. Guerin		62-[illegible] -500	INDEXED

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2-Cleveland	3-Detroit

36 JUN 13 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/7/82 BY [illegible]

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De 62-1126

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan

All of the information set forth hereinafter, unless otherwise stated, has been received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. b7D

Informant advised that in the month of March, 1944, SMITH had contacted [redacted] formerly connected with the Ford Motor Company, at which time [redacted] stated that he had attended a recent Reverend Father COUGHLIN meeting, and that at this meeting comment was made to the effect that the National Service Act would create chaos and that it would be used as a bayonet in labor's back to allow the Administration to take over twenty-five thousand dollars that the various labor unions had accumulated. SMITH at the time of his conversation with [redacted] stated to [redacted] that all of Father COUGHLIN'S friends were his friends all over the country. b7C

This same informant advised that SMITH had been contacted by Reverend [redacted] of Baltimore, Maryland, at which time [redacted] and SMITH had attempted to secure a meeting place in Baltimore, Maryland. At that time SMITH advised [redacted] that he wanted [redacted] to arrange a meeting with WALTER RIDDLE of Maryland; that RIDDLE was desirous of running for the Senate and wanted to seek the advice of SMITH. Informant stated further that on or about March 15, 1944, SMITH had contacted the Ford Motor Company and at that time he had related that [redacted] had allegedly met SMITH at the Statler Hotel in Detroit, and at that time [redacted] had expressed a desire to contact Father COUGHLIN. b7C

This same informant advised that some time in March, 1944, SMITH had attended a meeting at the Central Methodist Church, which meeting was addressed by MAX LERNER, whom the newspapers described as a "liberal from the East," and at that time SMITH became quite aroused over statements made by LERNER and jumped onto the stage and challenged LERNER to a debate, which challenge was not accepted.

Informant advised further that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had contacted one [redacted] of Detroit in March, 1944, and at that time [redacted] advised that he was a disabled World War 1 veteran and presently resided at 5031 Lincoln Avenue, Detroit, Michigan. At this time SMITH mentioned to [redacted] that he was trying to organize a Veterans Committee in the AMERICA FIRST PARTY, and that SMITH was desirous of securing the aid of a World War veteran to help the cause and serve on the committee. [redacted] allegedly contacted a [redacted] at the Veterans Hospital in Detroit, b7C

De 62-1126

and [redacted] supposedly promised to contact the Commander of the local American Legion Post in an attempt to locate an individual who would be able to help SMITH organize the World War Veterans of War No. 2. Since that time, however, there has been no further evidence to indicate that SMITH actually intends to follow through with his announced intentions of organizing the Veterans Committee of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY. b7c

Informant advised that SMITH had recently apparently been having some trouble with his local printer, and SMITH was of the opinion that the Anti-Defamation League in this area had contacted his printer and attempted to persuade the printer to discontinue printing SMITH'S publications. SMITH stated along these lines that the printer was supposed to have contacted the Police Department, and at that time was advised by the police that if he did not print the material someone else certainly would, so he might just as well print the publications and get the business.

1944
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On March 20, 1944, it was ascertained by informant that EDWARD JONES of Louisiana, the author of the book entitled, "And So They Indicted Me," had on or about that date sent a check to SMITH in the amount of $890.00 to pay the bill then owed by SMITH to the ~~Embassy Press~~, his local printer. SMITH stated at that time that he ~~intended forwarding~~ five thousand books to JONES.

See Bureau main file

Information was received from this informant that SMITH had received a letter from one [redacted] and that [redacted] was apparently in some sort of trouble in Coral Gables, Florida [redacted] b7c b7D

[redacted] SMITH did not intend to do anything about this matter inasmuch as he felt that [redacted] plenty of friends who would help him in his difficulties.

Informant related further that SMITH had been in contact with GEORGE SOKOLSKY, a New York commentator, and that SMITH had been discussing with SOKOLSKY the possibilities of DEWEY becoming elected President.

SMITH contacted Miss VIVIAN KELLEMS of Westport, Connecticut, at which time he expressed his sympathy to her after her alleged accusations against the United States Government of illegal disclosure of mail written by

herself. SMITH stated that he was entirely in accord with the views expressed by Miss KELLEMS and extended an invitation to KELLEMS to address one of the SMITH rallies, advising KELLEMS that in all likelihood she would receive a tremendous ovation from the people in the Midwest for her attitude in this dispute. KELLEMS stated that until the matter had been settled by appropriate Senate Investigating Committee, she definitely did not want to participate in any SMITH meetings.

Informant has advised the Detroit Field Office on numerous occasions that SMITH apparently is very interested in the outcome of the present sedition trials in Washington, D. C. SMITH apparently is interested mostly in the outcome of the case against GERALD WINROD, and has expressed the opinion on several occasions that WINROD is not guilty in this particular matter. SMITH has also expressed the opinion that the Government has taken five or six guilty seditionists and linked their names with twenty or twenty-five patriotic Americans with the idea in mind of smearing the "good, patriotic Americans" in the eyes of the public. Along these lines, SMITH has been continuously advised as to the progress of the trials by [redacted] b7c an acquaintance of SMITH, who apparently is attending the trials in Washington, D. C.

Informant advised the first week of May, 1944, that SMITH had filed petitions with the Michigan Secretary of State for the purpose of having the AMERICA FIRST PARTY placed on the next ballot in the State of Michigan.

This same informant advised that SMITH became very interested in the Montgomery Ward case, and that SMITH sent a telegram of congratulations to SEWELL AVERY, Operations Manager for Montgomery Ward, congratulating AVERY for his courageous stand. SMITH has also expressed the opinion that men like AVERY should be persuaded to run for the presidency.

SMITH has recently been in contact with JOSEPH PEW of the Sun Oil Company in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, who is, according to SMITH, "a great political leader in the East," and at that time SMITH inquired of PEW as to the identity of the candidate PEW was supporting for the Presidency. PEW at that time stated that he was interested either in the candidacy of BRICKER or DEWEY, and informant stated that although PEW seemed to be quite cordial in his statements with SMITH, PEW definitely did not indicate any desire to have any political affiliation or social affiliation with SMITH or the AMERICA FIRST PARTY.

Informant stated that in the early part of May, 1944, SMITH had met a group of his constituents in Flint and Saginaw, Michigan, with the idea in mind of having those persons circulate petitions in the northern part of Michigan, requesting that the AMERICA FIRST PARTY be placed on the next ballot in Michigan.

Informant also related that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had persuaded DONALD LOHBECK of St. Louis, Missouri, to participate in SMITH meetings in various sections of the country. SMITH apparently is desirous of securing the services of LOHBECK to help make arrangements for various meetings throughout the country. LOHBECK, along these same lines, has indicated a desire to actively participate with SMITH in various meetings throughout the country, and in fact there is a great possibility that LOHBECK might be a permanent member on the SMITH payroll.

In connection with a meeting which was to be held in Cleveland, Ohio, on May 15, 1944, SMITH, prior to that time, had communicated with Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS in Washington, D. C., and requested that the Senator send a telegram of congratulations to the SMITH group on the evening of May 15, the night of the contemplated SMITH meeting in Cleveland. REYNOLDS at that time promised SMITH that he would send the telegram of congratulations.

On or about this same date SMITH, in a conversation with DONALD LOHBECK, stated that when LOHBECK was making arrangements for SMITH meetings to be held in the St. Louis area LOHBECK should not pay any attention to the Slovak groups but should find out about the Polish, German and Irish churches and also suggested that the appropriate officials in the various Lutheran churches might be approached for active support of the SMITH cause. SMITH was more or less planning on a meeting to be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on June 1, 1944, although SMITH has apparently become involved in some dispute with the Milwaukee authorities concerning the rental of a hall in Milwaukee. There is a great possibility that SMITH will not be able to secure a meeting place in Milwaukee on June 1, 1944, the date which he has specified he desired to conduct this particular meeting.

The following information was received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. [redacted] and as such has obtained the information set forth hereinafter. The information received from this informant is being set forth verbatim. b7D

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FBI/DOJ

[redacted]

b7D

Subject GERALD L. K. SMITH attended a meeting at the Christian Temple, Pontiac, Michigan, on May 4, 1944, which meeting was attended by Special Agent [redacted] of the Detroit Field Office. Information relative to this meeting, as submitted by Special Agent [redacted] is being set forth as follows: b7c

"SMITH stressed particularly the "Montgomery War Case," stating that this was a striking example of "Hitlerism" and of "Bureaucratic Fascism" and stated that if the Bureaucrats could throw a businessman out of his place of business, they could also throw a preacher out of his church.

"SMITH stated that he had been in Washington recently, had talked to a prominent member of the United States Senate and had been advised that the United States forces would suffer a million casualties within the next ninety days as a result of the invasion. He stated this would be the greatest "blood bath" in all history, and that it could have been avoided if President Roosevelt had spent the country's money, from 1933 on, for ships and guns instead of for various "boondoggling projects."

"Subject explained that he had tried to prevent the United States from entering the war, and that he was proud of what he had done in this effort. While, he stated, he was now behind the war one hundred per cent, he did not want any internationalists, such as President Roosevelt, to run the country any longer or to dictate peace terms. Subject stated he did not begrudge the billions of dollars which were being spent on training army and feeding American soldiers, but that he did denounce the Administration for spending additional billions for "useless lend lease" and for purchasing good will in South America.

"With reference to the sedition trial now being held in Washington, Subject said this was an exhibition much like the "Moscow trials" of several years back; that the Administration had been afraid to indict any important individuals, such as Senator NYE, Colonel LINDBERGH or himself, and had stooped to the device of indicting a lot of "little people." Subject stated that this trial marked a new high spot in un-constitutional activity by the New Deal since the defendants were being tried in Washington, instead of in their home localities, which procedure is completely un-constitutional, according to the Subject.

"Subject also referred to the AUSTIN-WADSWORTH Labor Draft Bill as being slavery and stated that a bill of this kind could become law nowhere else in the world except in Russia or Germany.

"At frequent intervals Subject referred to his AMERICA FIRST party, stating that its slogan was "Christ first in America." After the meeting went on it developed that the principal purpose of SMITH'S appearance was to obtain about five hundred signatures on petitions to put this party on the ballot in Michigan. The pastor of the Christian Temple, Reverend MARION, is a close friend of the Subject and evidently had circulated petitions among the members of his church. SMITH appeared very displeased when he learned that only one hundred fifty names had been obtained and insisted that the church would have to get out and get another three hundred fifty names before Sunday. He wound up by offering several prizes to the people who got the greatest amount of names.

"SMITH was the only speaker on the program, being introduced by Reverend MARION. The latter recently got into considerable difficulty with the OPA in Pontiac as a result of alleged illegal use of gasoline rationing coupons. In the course of his remarks, Subject defended MARION, stating that his courage in facing the OPA had been instrumental in obtaining more gasoline for all preachers throughout the country since it had brought the situation to the attention of Congress. About one hundred fifty persons were in attendance at the meeting."

De 62-1126

Under date of May 18, 1944, the Detroit Field Office was advised by the Milwaukee Field Office that [redacted] had advised an informant of the Milwaukee Office that [redacted]

b7c
b7D

ENCLOSURES: TO THE BUREAU - Miscellaneous literature obtained from confidential informants.

- PENDING -

De 62-1126

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

IN ACCORDANCE WITH BUREAU INSTRUCTIONS INVESTIGATIVE REPORTS SUBMITTED IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

BUFFALO FIELD OFFICE

At Buffalo, New York, will conduct appropriate investigation at the time of the AMERICA FIRST meeting on May 17, 1944, and submit results of investigation in report form.

BALTIMORE FIELD OFFICE

At Baltimore, Maryland, will conduct similar investigation at the time of the Baltimore meeting, May 22, 1944.

CINCINNATI FIELD OFFICE

At Greenville, Ohio, will conduct appropriate investigation at the time of the AMERICA FIRST rally in Greenville on June 4, 1944.

CLEVELAND FIELD OFFICE

At Cleveland, Ohio, will conduct similar investigation at the time of the SMITH meeting in this city on May 15, 1944.

At Toledo, Ohio, will conduct similar investigation at the time of the SMITH meeting in Toledo on June 2, 1944, at the Hotel Secor.

PHILADELPHIA FIELD OFFICE

At Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, will conduct similar investigation in this city at the meeting held on May 25, 1944.

PITTSBURGH FIELD OFFICE

At Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, will conduct similar investigation at the time of the SMITH meeting in this city on May 18, 1944.

MILWAUKEE FIELD OFFICE

At Milwaukee, Wisconsin, will conduct similar investigation in that city with reference to the contemplated meeting of the SMITH group in the first week of June, 1944.

DETROIT FIELD OFFICE

At Detroit, Michigan, will maintain contact with confidential informants mentioned in the body of the instant report with reference to further activities of Subject.

LETTERS HAVE BEEN FORWARDED TO THE RESPECTIVE OFFICES RELATIVE TO MEETINGS TO BE HELD BY THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY IN THEIR PARTICULAR CITIES.

- PENDING -

De 62-1126

IDENTITY OF INFORMANTS

The identity of confidential informants mentioned in the report of Special Agent [redacted] are as follows: b7c

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. b7D

INDEX GUIDE

TITLE: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY

CASE: INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

S. A. : [redacted] b7c

DATE: JUNE 9, 1944

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FBI/DOJ

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your further information in your consideration of this case there is attached a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on June 9, 1944.

b7c

Also attached are photostatic copies of the following enclosures which are described or otherwise mentioned in the body of the report:

1. The April, 1944, issue of "The Cross and the Flag."

2. A statement prepared by subject Smith and headed, "Personal Message Concerning Desperate Opposition and Other Matters."

3. A circular headed, "Petition."

4. A statement prepared by subject Smith dated at Detroit, Michigan, and headed, "Special Message for April, 1944."

5. Releases purportedly prepared by subject Smith for release on the following dates: May 10, May 16, March 25, and March 27, 1944.

6. A message headed, "The 30," purportedly prepared by Smith in the form of a press release.

Enclosure

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DATE 10/2/92 BY

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/25/97
4

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED MAILING
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 12 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 30

PAGES REVIEWED: 73

PAGES RELEASED: 57

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : J. EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: June 21, 1944

FROM : D. A. BRYCE, SAC, El Paso Field Division

SUBJECT: GERALD LYMAN SMITH
SECURITY MATTER - G, SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/82 BY SP3B/mlc

Reference is made to Bureau memorandum dated March 20, 1944 advising that one [redacted] who arrived as a passenger from Mexico at El Paso, Texas, via American Air Lines on March 9, 1944, may be identical with one [redacted] who is an active supporter of the above captioned individual and subject of a pending case in the Detroit Field Division. This memorandum further reported that information was also received that subject was a supporter of Fritz Kuhn and his various activities in connection with the German American Bund.

[redacted]

Height
Weight
Eyes
Hair
Marital status
Finger printed
Complexion

[redacted]

ALL b7c

It is to be noted that this passenger, when given his travel questionnaire enroute from Mexico City, would not fill it out and return it to the hostess; however, upon his arrival an interview indicated that he had failed to make out a questionnaire and after being assured

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JUN 24 1944

50 JUL 10 1944

by the Army offical on the panel that the presentation of such information would expedite his being handled by the panel, he became very cooperative and after learning also that the FBI was participating in the panel, stated that if the information was for the FBI, it was okey as he would "do anything for the FBI."

The above information is being furnished to the Bureau, Detroit, and New York Field Divisions as being information of possible value in this case.

[redacted] b7c

100-3501
cc - Detroit
New York

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 21, 1944

FROM : JOHN B. LITTLE, SAC, Buffalo
Federal Bureau of Investigation

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH, w.a.
INTERNAL SECURITY - G. (Bureau File #62-43818).

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated June 15, 1944. Your attention is respectfully directed to my letter of June 14, 1944, in the above-captioned matter, advising that the temporary microphone surveillance on the subject's rooms, Numbers 606 and 608, at the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, New York, was maintained from 12:17 A.M. to midnight, May 17, 1944, and has been assigned [redacted] The plant on this surveillance was located in Room Number 506 in the same hotel.

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APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) ON DATE

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ON 8-11-77

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EX-7

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58 JUL 18 1944

JPHa:WM

62-43818

SAC, Detroit

June 27, 1944

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C; SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION.

In the various reports submitted in this case (as well as letters received from your office) it is noted that occasionally mention has been made of one [redacted] who apparently resides at Washington, D. C. You will recall that [redacted] has been in touch with Smith from time to time and that the report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, on June 9, 1944, shows that according to the latest information received, [redacted] is apparently attending the Joseph E. McWilliams, et al, sedition trial at Washington and is keeping Smith "continuously advised" as to the progress of the trial. You will further remember that some time ago [redacted] called on an official of the Ford Motor Company, advancing a "proposition" relative to the so-called Tyler Kent espionage case in England. On that occasion there was some indication that Smith might have arranged or sought to have arranged for [redacted] interview at the Ford Company.

In view of this individual's recurrent association with subject Smith as well as the fact that he reportedly has somewhat of a mysterious background, the Bureau desires that you furnish the Washington Field Division all pertinent information in your files as to [redacted] and that thereafter the Washington Field Division conduct a very discreet investigation for the limited purpose (at present at least) of developing pertinent data as to [redacted] background, previous activities, employment, current efforts, etc.

cc - Washington

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62-43818-503

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 1 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 1
JUN 28 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED MAILING ROOM
JUN 28 5 55 PM

JUL 3 1944

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 28, 1944

FROM : SAC, Saint Louis

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with alias; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY; INTERNAL SECURITY - G; SECURITY MATTER: SEDITION (Bureau File No. 62-43818)

61790

Bureau letter dated June 19, 1944, requested the Saint Louis Field Division to advise regarding the source of information concerning the presence of Communists in front of the meeting hall at the time SMITH gave his recent talk in Saint Louis on June 6, 1944.

Special Agent [redacted] of the Saint Louis Field Division, who knows several members of the Communist Party on sight, observed [redacted] and [redacted] in front of the hall distributing a leaflet entitled, "Back the Battle of Liberation". This leaflet dealt with the opening of the Second Front and was signed by the "State Committee, Missouri Communist Party".

All of the above named individuals are members of the Communist Party.

Several copies of the above mentioned leaflets are being retained in the files of the Saint Louis Field Office.

Very truly yours,

G. B. Norris

G. B. NORRIS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted]
100-6013

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41 JUN 30 1944

AUG 5 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-7463

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Cleveland, Ohio	6/15/44	6/2/44	[redacted] mam

b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, wa Gerald L. K. Schmidt The Committee of 1,000,000	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Meeting held 6/2/44, Secor Hotel Ballroom, Toledo, Ohio. Approximately 350 persons in attendance. SMITH alleged committee has become a pressure group to make labor party cater to will of people. SMITH denounced New Deal, Communist Party and any international affiliation following the war. Guest speaker was CHARLES G. BINDERUP, former U.S. Congressman from Nebraska.

appropriate clipped on all copies Dept. he left to Cleveland 6/27/44 JPH

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Bureau File No. 62-43818.

Letter from the Detroit Field Division dated May 23, 1944.

~~DEFERRED ACTION~~

DETAILS: At 8:30 p.m., June 2, 1944 GERALD L.K. SMITH, National Director of the American First Party addressed an audience of approximately 350 persons in the Ballroom of the Secor Hotel at Toledo, Ohio. To gain admission to the hall it was necessary to present a card of admission which is described as follows:

"This card will admit bearer and friends to American First Rally". Place and date also set forth. "Speakers: Congressman CHARLES G. BINDERUP of Nebraska, subject: International Conspirators; GERALD L.K. SMITH, just returned from nation-wide tour." Among many topics to be discussed were the following:

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DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES: 62-43818-505

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2 - Cleveland

JUN 11 5 PM '44
CC clerk 6/26/44 JPH

30 JUN 29 1944

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DATE 10/7/82 BY SP4 [illegible]

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CV F.O.
100-7463

"The "No Election" Conspiracy - Slave Act 666 - Bureaucratic Tyrants - New Deal Communists - The Farm Crisis - The Internationalists - Treason in Washington - World Government - The Fourth Term Plot - Dynamic issues - Fat Bureaucrats and Hungary Veterans - International Bankers - International Politicians

Admission Free"

Also circulated prior to the meeting was a pamphlet entitled "America First Principles" and is summarized as follows:

"SMITH sets forth that America must be put first at all times

2. No compromise of National Sovereignty.
3. Repeal Bureaucratic Fascism.
4. Fight New Deal Communism.
5. Less Money For Foreign Politics and More For Discharged Veterans.
6. No Labor Draft.
7. Restoration of the System of Private Enterprise."

Also set forth as emergency issues on the same pamphlet are:

"A. Fight the Slave Act--Senate Resolution No. 666.
B. Fight All Attempts To Call Off the Election.
C. Expose Conspiracy To Steal the Soldiers' Vote.

The meeting was opened with the singing of the first and last stanza of "America" following which SMITH summed up the advances made by The Committee of 1,000,000. He stated that the numbers in the organization were increasing daily and that the power of the group was being recognized by politicians and the newspapers. He further said that because of his personal contacts WENDELL WILLKIE had been defeated in his attempt to gain the Republican nomination for president. He further stated that the organization has become a pressure group and that pressure has been and is being applied upon Republican leaders to force them to follow certain policies of the committee. He said that a mammoth rally was arranged in Chicago, Illinois to be held the night preceding the Republican National Convention at which time the committee's demands will be formulated and presented to the Republican leaders.

He stated that some of the noteworthy accomplishments are:

1. WILLKIE out of the presidential picture,
2. Republican National Convention being held out of New York City in the East and
3. Making the Republican Party recognize the strength of his group.

In connection with WILLKIE's failure to gain backing in Wisconsin, SMITH said that he personally was in Wisconsin and spoke against WILLKIE because following the last presidential election he had sold out to the New Deal Bureaucrats. He said also that as a result of the power of the group and his personal speeches the Republican National Convention was being held in the Midwest at Chicago, Illinois. He explained that this was desirous inasmuch as the galleries could not be packed by New Dealers to applaud someone to their liking into the Republican nomination.

Following this, he stated that various articles have been written by newspapers over the country which recognize the power of his group. He alleged that an article had been written in the Cleveland Plain Dealer, which set forth that in the political editor's opinion GERALD L.K. SMITH's party held the balance of power between Republicans and Democrats in Ohio.

Following his attack on WILLKIE and the New Deal, he presented five aims for which the "Crusade" is presently fighting:

1. "$1,000 to every Veteran of this War when mustered out. (Less money for foreign politics—more money for American Veterans.)

In a discussion of this item SMITH alleged that in South America alone approximately 6 million dollars was spent in trying to buy control and in attempts to control the political issues in those countries. He stated that if this money had been kept at home it would be sufficient to give 6,000,000 men $1,000 when mustered out of the Armed Forces. He stated that after the last war the Veterans had no money to go back into private enterprise or organize a small business and as a result they were on the country's bread line in a short time following the country's war. He alleged that the spending of the above mentioned money in South America could have no lasting beneficial value inasmuch as friendship between countries or individuals could never be bought.

SMITH criticized at length the lack of organization and the incompetent measures being taken by the Government at present to care for wounded and discharged soldiers of this war. According to SMITH the "25¢ flop houses" in Detroit, Michigan are presently filled with wounded and disabled veterans of this war who have not been cared for following their discharge from the Armed Service. SMITH played upon the sympathy of his audience by suggesting that their sons would be treated likewise when they were discharged from the Army.

2. "$10. - $15. - $20. plus per day for workers by instituting profit sharing as practiced by the Jack & Heintz Co. and Lincoln Electric Co. of Cleveland, Ohio."

SMITH elaborated on the systems used by these two companies by saying that articles produced are purchased by the Government for less money than they can be purchased from other companies and that production in these plants per item is approximately 4 times as great as in other plants producing the same materials. He said that last year the Lincoln Electric Company in addition to paying an average scale of almost $20 per day to its employees, give cash bonuses at the end of the fiscal year of over $5,000 to each employee. He stated that he was much in favor of the profit paying system in plants where the workers and management were in harmony. At the same time he criticized the labor barons who pitted the workers against the employers for their own personal gain. He stated that in this type of system there could never be mutual understanding between the workers and the employers and that as a result the wages were lower, the employers made too much profit, and the unscrupulous labor leaders took the balance.

3. "Cash bonus to farmers for production rather than for destruction. Increased prices for farm commodities, to be maintained by distribution reform and a clean-up in our money system. Would produce an abundance of butter, milk, meat, etc."

SMITH, inasmuch as many of his audience were farmers dwelt heavily on this point, and reiterated time and again the shortcomings of farm legislation under the A.A.A. He criticized the plowing under of crops and the payments to farmers for cutting down on production on their farms. In SMITH's opinion the distribution system should be drastically changed so that the farmers could produce as much as their lands would give up. He pointed out that

when production on farms was curtailed and crops were plowed under through the A.A.A. program, that persons were on relief and starving throughout the country.

In relation to cleaning up the money system in the country as was set forth in Item #3 he informed that he would leave this to be discussed by Congressman BINDERUP.

4. "Restore private enterprise by outlawing monopoly and eliminating bureaucratic interference with business."

At this time SMITH stated that approximately 80 per cent of the income of this country was being received by approximately 10 per cent of the population and he alleged this to be true because the Government has allowed monopolies to flourish throughout the country. He further pointed out that 90 per cent of all the war contracts in the country have been let to approximately 80 or 90 large industrial concerns and as a result small businessmen have been forced "against the wall". He talked at length on the fact that the country as well as our constitutional Government was originally founded on the basis of small business and individual enterprise and that under the present system, small business could not exist.

5. " Foreign policy. No world government. No international bank. A strong national defense. Trade with all nations--permanent alliances with none."

In a discussion at this point SMITH followed his usual trend by saying that tariffs should be reduced to allow free world trade. He attacked strongly any postwar allowance with foreign nations and stated that the future of America depended on maintaining a strong defense setup and maintaining the national integrity of this country. He stated that he did not want to see STALIN give us a form of government or CHURCHILL dictating our foreign policies.

Following the discussions of the five points for which the committee stands, he again discussed the political situation in the country. He said that if the Republicans failed to put up an individual who would enforce legislation backed by his party, that the voting support of the group would be put behind some other individual who would enforce his ideals. He said that at present the membership of the group is approximately 3,000,000 nationally and that it is growing rapidly.

He said further that nothing should be spent on Russia, China or anybody else following the war until our own soldiers are cared for. He pointed out that CHURCHILL had said that it would be a catastrophe if ROOSEVELT was not elected. He continued by saying that CHURCHILL wants America to pay for the war and further alleged that presently approximately $2,000,000 per hour is being given to Great Britain under the ROOSEVELT Government.

SMITH and his guest speaker Congressman CHARLES G. BINDERUP were the only persons who appeared on the stage during the meeting and following his talk, SMITH introduced BINDERUP.

BINDERUP said that he had been in Congress for several years having been defeated for re-election in the 1930's because he tried to force the banking issue in Congress. He stated that under the constitution of the United States the power to coin money and issue currency was vested to the Congress of the United States but that following the initiating of the Federal Reserve System this power has been usurp.

According to BINDERUP, since the day of JOHN HAMILTON, the influence of the bank of England on the monetary system of this country has been a controlling factor. He said that MONTIGUE NORMAN, head of the Bank of England personally controls the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and that through this method has controlled the money system of this country. He pointed out that the power to issue and recall currency, which is presently vested to the Board of Governors in the Federal Reserve System, has been the cause of depression cycles in the economic history of this country.

At this time, he discussed the depression of 1920 which was caused, according to BINDERUP, by the Federal Reserve System recalling outstanding loans throughout the country. He said that the minutes of the meeting which was held by the Board on June 29, 1920 was subpoenaed by the Congress of the United States, and that these minutes reflected that orders were issued to banks on that day to call in loans by banks to private individuals.

He said that at that time and at the present time about 90 per cent of the currency in this country is paper money which is created by banks whenever they choose to do so. He alleged that the depression started on the same day at which the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System met on June 29, 1920 and pointed out that it was on that day that the stock market crashed. He said further that the minutes of this meeting reflected that the Board of Governors came to a decision that there was too much money in the country in the hands of individuals, that they were spending too freely on

unnecessary articles, and that although drastic, the only way to curb the situation was to cause a scarcity of money.

BINDERUP told the group that this was brought home to him by the fact that when he went into the bank in his home town in Nebraska to pay an installment on a note which he had with the bank, that his banker told him that he would have to pay up. He said that he questioned his banker concerning the reason for this sudden change in policy and was shown at the time a letter which is banker had received from the Federal Reserve Bank in Kansas City to the effect that if the banker did not have at least 50 per cent of all outstanding notes cleared within 6 months time that his re-discount rate would be raised to an exorbitant rate. BINDERUP explained that the banker was helpless because if he did not follow the dictates of a Federal Reserve Bank, his bank would fold. He explained that this was the clearest example that manipulation of currency and our money system is directly responsible for all depressions. He said that our currency system would have to be stabilized in order to avoid depressions and that this could only be done by placing the power to issue money back in the hands of Congress where it belonged.

At this point, he advised that although the public generally assumes that the banks were very patriotic in purchasing large quantities of war bonds, it was nothing more than a creation of money at the time the purchase was made and that the banks in reality paid nothing for the bonds. He explained that when war bonds were issued to a bank or were purchased by a bank, the bank in turn merely set up credit to the Federal Government in the amount of the cost of the bonds, and that this was nothing more than putting more money in circulation which right belongs, under the Constitution, in the hands of Congress.

He further pointed out that since the Federal Reserve System was in existence that both parties, the Republicans and the Democrats, have from time to time placed on their campaign platforms promises to stabilize our system of money and currency and to give back to Congress the power to issue currency. He alleged, however, that nothing has ever been done about it because of the powerful money block which controls Congress.

He explained that he was not re-elected to Congress because he had attempted to get legislation into the House of Representative which would curtail the activities of the bankers in issuing currency. He said that the power of the group was well demonstrated by a conversation he had with Congressman STEAGALL, deceased, who was for many years in charge of the Money and Banking Committee in the House of Representatives. He alleged that once in a discussion with STEAGALL concerning the bill which he proposed STEAGALL told him that if he

ever allowed such a bill to reach the Floor of the House of Representatives, that he could not expect to be re-elected, that it would be political suicide for him.

BINDERUP informed that STEAGALL told him that four banks run all politics in the State of Alabama and that it was impossible for any person to attempt to buck this group and be re-elected to Congress.

BINDERUP ended his speech by saying that it was his idea that reforms in our banking system could only be initiated by a new powerful party.

Following BINDERUP's speech SMITH again took the floor and explained that the cost of holding the meeting and traveling expenses were approximately $800 and requested that his audience give money to aid him in defraying his expenses and to carry on the "Crusade". He said that there were some "Doubting Thomases" in the audience who always wanted to know how much money was made and how much he personally made on each speech. SMITH stated that the collections which he took up at the meetings never quite paid for the expenses of the meeting, and that it was only through donations from loyal supporters who were unable to attend the meeting at all that the work could be carried on.

The meeting was closed following the taking of the collection, after which a prayer was said by SMITH.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JPHa:WMJ

62-13018 — 505

SAC, Cleveland

June 27, 1944

RECORDED

EX-3

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

Reference is made to the report submitted in this case at Cleveland, Ohio, on June 15, 1944, by Special Agent [redacted] b2c

The Bureau desires that a comma be placed between the words, "Deal" and "Communist," in the fourth sentence of the synopsis of reference report in order that the sentence will read, "Smith denounced New Deal, Communist Party and any international affiliation following the war." The omission of the comma leaves the sentence subject to an entirely different construction and, as indicated, this punctuation should be placed on all of the copies of the report maintained by the Detroit and Cleveland Field Divisions.

cc - Detroit

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/18/82 BY SP-8STJ/mca

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
☆ JUN 28 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED READING ROOM
JUN 28 12 05 PM '44
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tols
Mr. E. Amm
Mr. Cles
Mr. Coff
Mr. Glav
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nich
Mr. Rose
Mr. Trac
Mr. Vohr
Mr. Cars
Mr. Hend
Mr. Mumfd
Mr. Jone
Mr. Quin Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gany

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

TO : Director, FBI, ~~Buffalo~~

DATE: June 14, 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM : JOHN B. LITTLE, SAC, Buffalo
Federal Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT:

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

~~APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ARE HEREBY ADVISED OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS (3) DATE~~ 4/11/83 Eag

Reference is made to [redacted] from the Buffalo Field Division to the Bureau dated [redacted] and to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 14, 1944 at Buffalo in the captioned case of Detroit origin.

Please be advised that the temporary microphone surveillance on the subject's rooms Nos. 606 and 608 at the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, New York, maintained from 12:17 A.M. to midnight, May 17, 1944 has been assigned [redacted] for the purpose of the above referenced report.

The use of this informant having been terminated, as stated, the symbol [redacted] will not be used in the future, and the informant's index card is being marked "Cancelled" in the Buffalo Field Division.

DECLASSIFIED BY 6 3860/LEDW ON 8-1-77

~~DECLASSIFIED AFTER 20 YEARS~~

[redacted] b7d

14-7

~~APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ARE HEREBY ADVISED OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS (3) DATE~~ 4/11/83 jedlab

Classified by BSP 8657/MLW
Declassify on: OADR 4/11/83

HANDLED BY STOP DESK

RECORDED & INDEXED

162-43818-50

F B I

37 JUN 29 1944

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/82 BY BSP 8657/MLW

CONFIDENTIAL

55 AUG 7 1944

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
June 23, 1944

Director, FBI

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH was
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION
(Bureau file 62-43818)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated June 19, 1944, in the above-captioned matter. In our letter to you dated June 12, 1944, there was mentioned the fact that SMITH was being sued for $100,000 in New York City for using the name "America First."

For your information an article appeared in the Detroit "Times" on June 7, 1944, stating an action had been filed in the Federal Court by CARL C. COUNTRYMAN of New York, a professional lecturer, who alleged that he originated the term "America First" several years ago and charged that SMITH had used the slogan "falsely, slanderously, and barbarously" and because of SMITH's usurpation of the term COUNTRYMAN's reputation had been "wantonly and cruelly damaged, his earning power reduced, and his financial resources drained." Any further information developed relative to the above suit will be forwarded to the Bureau promptly.

For your further information an article appeared in the Detroit "News," Detroit "Times," and Detroit "Free Press" on June 22, 1944, reflecting the fact that a federal tax lien had been filed against the subject for the amount of $398.00, which amount was due on the 1942 income of SMITH.

~~RED RECORDING~~

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]

62-1126

HANDLED BY STOP DESK

162-43818-507
F B I

RECORDED
36 JUN 29 1944

EX-9

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

55 AUG 7 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/pkh

DECLASSIFIED BY ... ON 8-11-82

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 14-7 FLA

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	6-14-44	5/11,15,18; 5/20/44	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

SMITH and MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN addressed "America First Rally" sponsored by Economics League of Buffalo at Kleinhans Music Hall, Buffalo, N.Y., 5/17/44. Attendance approximately 650; no servicemen in audience. CHARLES A. MADDEN, American Legionnaire, Pittsburgh, Pa., did not make appearance although advertised as speaker. SMITH outlined Five Point Platform of America First Party, condemned wasteful spending in South America, assailed HILLMAN, the C.I.O. and the administration. SMITH stated mustered out veterans who cannot pass physical examinations for employment filled the flop houses of Detroit. MRS. LUNDEEN declared herself against the "Myth of Internationalism", assailed PEARSON and WINCHELL and asked: "Why are healthy refugee men living in comfort in the U.S. while our sons are sent to fight on foreign soil?" Excerpts of speeches set out. Distribution of "Peace Now" literature outside Hall after meeting apparently without connection with subject's Rally and program. SMITH and wife; Secretary, [redacted] b7c and MRS. LUNDEEN departed for Pittsburgh, Pa., 5/18/44. A.M.

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 12/1/82 BY [illegible]

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated April 14, 1944 at Buffalo. b7c

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: John P. Little, SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

HANDLED BY STOP DESK

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-508

RECORDED & INDEXED

22 JUN 29 1944

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3 - Buffalo

cc clerk 6/27/44

(5)

BU 14-7

DETAILS: AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK

[redacted] of Kleinhans Music Hall Management, Inc., The Circle and 14th Street, advised that JOSEPH H. STOFFEL, 98 Comstock Avenue, had engaged the Mary Seaton Room at the Music Hall for 7:30 P.M., May 17, 1944, at which time, according to STOFFEL'S letter, GERALD L. K. SMITH, MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN and CHARLES A. MADDEN would make addresses. [redacted] said that the STOFFEL request was on the letterhead of the Economics League of Buffalo and that arrangements were completed for the Hall at the agreed rental of $75 plus $10 for use of the public address system.

b7c
b7D

[redacted] advised that prior to the meeting there was a rumor that there would be demonstrations and trouble at the meeting presumably by Communists and C.I.O. demonstrators and that in order to avoid any difficulty she had made arrangements with the Buffalo Police Department to have additional officers on hand at the time of the meeting.

[redacted] at the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, Lackawanna, New York, advised that he had received notice of the meeting and had obtained a number of tickets for the meeting, which he made available to the Buffalo Field Division. The invitation or ticket reads as follows:

This card will admit bearer and friends to:

"AMERICA FIRST RALLY
KLEINHANS MUSIC HALL

(Mary Seaton Room) The Circle and 14th, Buffalo, New York

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 1944-8 pm

Principal Speaker: GERALD L. K. SMITH Nat'l Director

THEME "MAKE WAY FOR LIBERTY"

Among the many topics with which Mr. Smith will deal in his address will be the following:

The "No Election" Conspiracy
Slave Act 666
Bureaucratic Tyrants
New Deal Communists
The Internationalists
Treason in Washington
World Government
The Fourth Term Plot
Fat Bureaucrats and Hungry Veterans

Other Speakers:
Mrs. Ernest Lundeen (Widow of the United States Senator)
Mr. Charles A. Madden (Commander of American Legion, Post No. 715, Pittsburgh)"
Admission Free

[redacted] of the Americanism Committee of the American Legion, 281 Hartwell Road, advised that although the above ticksts had apparently been furnished in numbers to Buffalo residents, they were not necessary in order to obtain admission to the meeting, that the meeting was open to the public and was characterized as an "America First Party Rally". b7c b7D

[redacted] advised that GERALD L. K. SMITH had made reservations at the Hotel Statler for two double rooms for May 16, 1944. He advised that Mr. SMITH and his wife checked into room 606 of the Statler Hotel at 12:17 A.M., May 17, 1944 and that SMITH furnished on the Hotel register the address 1753 Seyburn Avenue, Detroit, Michigan. b7D

[redacted] advised that in SMITH'S party were [redacted] of [redacted] Detroit, Michigan and MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN, 320 Essex Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota, and that these individuals checked in at the same time, 12:17 A.M., May 17, 1944, taking room 608 adjoining the SMITHS'. [redacted] that CHARLES A. MADDEN of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania had not made reservations at the Hotel and had not subsequently registered at the Hotel during subject SMITH'S stay there. He said that SMITH and his party checked out of the Statler Hotel at midnight, May 17, 1944. b7c b7D

[redacted] stated that MRS. SMITH advised him that she had contacted JOSEPH H. STOFFEL, Chairman of the Economics League of Buffalo on the morning of May 17, 1944 relative to publicity on the meeting that evening, that STOFFEL had advised her the Buffalo Evening News had carried a small stick under City Briefs, but that otherwise the meeting had been accorded little publicity. b7D

STOFFEL further advised MRS. SMITH that there were reports that the C.I.O. was going to gang up on the meeting and that SMITH should expect trouble at the Hall, although he, STOFFEL, had asked for extra police protection.

[redacted] said that SMITH received this information from his wife with the comment that it would be the Jews who were ganging up. [redacted] said that SMITH regarded the Jews on this and other occasions in very disparaging terms. b7D

[redacted] stated that subject SMITH had told him he had been in contact with BERNIE (BERNARD DOMAN) in Detroit

on May 17, 1944 with regard to the Philadelphia mail and that he had instructed BERNIE, who is subject's business manager, to send 100 of the best duplications to Mrs. BROWN (Mrs. CATHERINE BROWN, head of the Blue Star Mothers of America). He said that he had further instructed BERNIE to send 1,000 units to Pittsburgh but had decided that 1,000 would not be enough and that he should send an additional 500 so that they would be there for him when he arrived in Pittsburgh on May 18, 1944. SMITH said that he did not expect a full house at Kleinhans but just his own people, about 500.

[redacted] advised that SMITH made arrangements to meet STOFFEL at 2:30 P.M., May 17, 1944, and that they met in the lobby of the Statler Hotel and believed that they then went together to Kleinhans Music Hall where they looked over the Hall and discussed further the arrangements for the meeting that evening.

[redacted] advised that MRS. SMITH had told him that when her husband returned from Kleinhans Music Hall he had observed: There wasn't anything wild about her (Mrs. COREY). We met the old gentleman, the President of the Board of Directors, who was very nice. They all get meek when they come up against the hard facts. They expect to see horns and everything else."

Special Agent [redacted] of the Buffalo Field Division advised that the meeting at Kleinhans Music Hall started shortly after 8:00 P.M., May 17, 1944. He stated that he made notes on the addresses as he received them over the public address system in the sound booth at the Hall, and excerpts of the speeches are set out below.

Special Agent [redacted] stated that Mr. STOFFEL opened the meeting and referred to it as an "America First Party Meeting" sponsored by the Economics League. He described Mr. SMITH as the founder of the Party and wished him every success.

SMITH in his introductory remarks alluded to the fact that the Communist Party had used the same HALL three times, and he referred to conversations had with Mrs. COREY, Manager of the Hall and Mr. LETCHWORTH, President of the Board of Directors of the Hall, when he had made arrangements for his meeting there that night. He said that these persons had told him that they trusted the F.B.I. and the Internal Revenue and that until those agencies told them that SMITH was wrong, he, SMITH, could enjoy the rights of free speech.

b7c

Special Agent [redacted] stated from this opening SMITH discussed for a time free speech and stated that it was sometimes limited here, although the declaration of the Four Freedoms are that it is to be established all over the earth. SMITH referred to the fact that he has a son in the Army in India and that Mrs. LUNDEEN'S son was about to go abroad in the service. SMITH stated: "We are all in this thing, but the war is not the issue." He stated that "when these boys come back after we have wiped Hitler and the pagan treachery of Japan, we don't want little Hitlers in America, we want them to come back to the country that has free speech", etc.

SMITH stated that as one of the leaders of the Nationalistic movement he wants the Republicans to nominate a Nationalist, wants the Democrats to nominate Roosevelt and let the candidates debate the issue of Nationalism versus Internationalism, inthe campaign. He stated that the Republicans thought they had a candidate in 1940, but as it turned out the Republicans had no candidate and the Democrats had two candidates, Roosevelt and Wilkie.

SMITH condemned the wasteful spending of the administration in South America and stated that six billion dollars had been spend on this venture. SMITH declared: "We are anti-New Deal. We are Nationalists. We believe in private enterprise." He said that the Hillman machine is the Left Wing Branch of Labor and that it is out to prove that the Republicans are Fascists.

He spoke of the difficulty he had in obtaining halls in Buffalo and Minneapolis and referred to the suit which he had instituted in Minneapolis when he had been denied the auditorium. He said that he had conducted a survey or investigation of the witnesses who had appeared against him in that instance and found they were all Fourth Termers and former Commies.

SMITH stated that he has a friend who heads a C.I.O. Union of seven thousand men and that this friend is anti-Communist. He said, however, when Hillman gave the order to collect fromthe workers a fund to nominate and elect Roosevelt, $44,000 was collected from this friend's local. SMITH said: "Hillman makes the old manufacturers' associations look like tin cup men in collecting funds." He further stated that not one worker in the C.I.O. has a right to say whether money is to be deducted from his pay and that Hillman can force the enemies of the Fourth Term to contribute to the Fourth Term candidacy.

SMITH then outlined his philosophy of Americanism and traced the origin of the freedom seeking people. He spoke of the Constitution and its system of checks and balances and remarked: "If any branch of the Government goes haywire, we still have the other two branches." , but in this connection he stated that he was against three terms because it enables the President to appoint too many of his own persuasion, etc. and that the system of checks and balances is thus destroyed. He indicated favor for the filabuster, stating that it gives the minority an opportunity to warnthe populace what the majority is really trying to do. He stated that he and his followers propose to offer a Constitutional amendment to prohibit any chief executive from serving morethan eight years.

SMITH referred to EARL BROWDER as the man who for the last twenty-five years has been trying to put the Red flag above the American flag, and referred to Hillman as the person who was not born in the United States, who contributed $3,000 through his wife's name to support a failing Communist newspaper and who ten or fifteen years ago wanted to raise money for the support of Russia. He stated that these are the men who are telling us who is to run for President and forcing the workers to contribute to that cause. He observed further that these same men are the ones who are opposing him, SMITH.

He said that STALIN does not need a "little smelly"Communist Party here when he has Vice President Wallace talking for him, that is why they are committing harri-kari. SMITH quoted Wallace as saying: "If the U.S.S.R. continues its progress for the next twenty or twenty-five years, it will surpass the United States" and then SMITH suggested that WALLACE run for Vice President of Russia.

SMITH told a story about Secretary of Agriculture WICKARD, who he stated had a large farm and that on one occasion in WICKARD'S absence his father, who is an honest old Hoosier who would not know better than to tell the truth, was present on the farm when a caller inquired as to how meat rationing affected them, the WICKARDS. He reported WICKARD'S father as stating: "We are ready for it.", and that thereupon the elder WICKARD showed the caller a large cooler of 800 pounds of meat. SMITH observed that WICKARD should be in the penitentiary for this.

SMITH then related a story allegedly appearing in the Washington, D.C. Times Herald relative to HARRY HOPKINS and his wife. He stated that HOPKINS was the man who advised us that we must all tighten our belts, draft men and women and go without food and that MRS. HOPKINS suggested to Bernard Baruch that the latter give a party honoring their, the HOPKINS'S,

marriage. BARUCH allegedly gave a dinner for forty people at $110 a plate and that on that occasion champagne at $20 a bottle was given away and the guests were served seven kinds of meat, twenty-two kinds of food, and all in honor of the man who said, "We will have to go hungry".

The subject asked himself the question what could be done about helping the morale of the armed forces. He replied to himself that it was too late to improve it by having the ROOSEVELT boys line up before a Conscription Board and take it from Buck Private up like the rest of our boys are doing. He suggested that there should be no dynasty in the United States and that the ROOSEVELTS should be retired from public life by the vote of the people, that WILKIE be sent to Moscow and that HENRY WALLACE be made a milkman in China.

SMITH declared that about four months ago he organized the America First Party and stated that it opposed the threats of aliens conspiring to bring pressure on our Congress to under-write the bills of the whole world. He stated that he is against a super-central government and any flag above our own. He then quoted from George Washington's comments relative to entangling alliances. SMITH stated that he was against lend-lease in his testimony before the Senate Committee when that bill was being proposed, not because it would help Great Britain but because it would give one man too much money to spend.

The subject referred to a speech printed in the Cross and Flag by Sir WALTER BENNING (phonetic), which address was allegedly made before the Press Club in Washington relative to expedite lend-lease contracts and in which BENNING supposedly announced that Britain did not keep accounts on lend-lease contracts to determine how much this country was the creditor or debtor of the other. SMITH thereupon condemned any policy of foreigners meddling in American politics.

He stated that there is a tendency toward collective state management in Washington and the threat of bureaucratic tyranny demonstrated with the Attorney General dumping a respectable businessman into the street.

SMITH outlined the Five Point Program of the America First Party as it appears on literature which was distributed at the meeting, a copy of which is set out below:

"AMERICA FIRST PARTY

"stands for the following;

"1. $1,000 to every Veteran of this War when mustered out. (Less money for foreign politics--more money for American Veterans.)

2. $10 - $15 - $20 per day for workers by instituting profit sharing as practiced by the Jack & Heintz Co. and Lincoln Electric Co. of Cleveland, Ohio.

3. Cash bonus to farmers for production rather than for destruction. Increased prices for farm commodities, to be maintained by distribution reform and a clean-up in our money system. Would produce an abundance of butter, meat, milk, etc.

4. Restore private enterprise by outlawing monopoly and eliminating bureaucratic interference with business.

5. Foreign policy. No world government, no international bank, a strong national defense. Trade with all nations. Permanent alliances with none.

* * * * * * *

"For free literature and information explaining the above points in detail, write the AMERICA FIRST PARTY, GERALD L. K. SMITH, DIRECTOR, P.O. Box 459, Detroit 31, Michigan.

"Note: Keep this with your Social Security card."

At the close of the meeting the subject told again the story of J. EDWARD JONES in his book "So They Indicted Me", which is reported in reference report of Special Agent [redacted] offered to send the book to any person subscribing $1. He then asked all in the audience who approved of what he had said at this meeting to stand. b7c

SMITH introduced MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN, widow of the former United States Senator, who spoke at length concerning the "Myth of Internationalism" and stated that "George Washington was the first isolationist." She declared herself for isolationism but preferred to call it Nationalism.

Mrs. LUNDEEN spoke disparagingly of the Burton-Ball-Hatch Hill resolution as "pussy footing". She referred to the terrific cost of war and declared: "We cannot be the commissary for all Allied nations after the war."

Mrs. LUNDEEN assailed PEARSON and WINCHELL and recommended for reading DIES' expose of JOHN CARLSON, author of "Under Cover". She asked the question, "Why are healthy refugee men living in comfort in the United States while our sons are sent to fight on foreign soil?" She then declared that we invited the Jap attack by a virtual ultimatum in our note of November 26, 1941 and stated that this was a criminal offense against the men on Bataan who were left without means of defending themselves because (by implication) we had sent all our equipment to England under lend-lease.

At the conclusion of the meeting subject SMITH introduced Attorney JAY BARNSDALL of Buffalo, attorney for the Civil Liberties Union, but no address was made.

[redacted], stated that he took shorthand notes verbatim on SMITH'S address. He said, however, that he was not transcribing his notes but would maintain them in his file since his primary interest in covering the meeting was in behalf of the American Legion of Buffalo who had expected CHARLES A. MADDEN of the American Legion of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to address the meeting; that inasmuch as MADDEN had not appeared and SMITH made no comments which were of concern to the Legion in its interest in the MADDEN case, he, for the present, would not transcribe his notes.

b7c b7d

Special Agent [redacted] notes on the address of subject SMITH and [redacted] are being maintained in the 1-A serial of instant file.

b7c

[redacted] advised that SMITH had commented to him after the meeting indicating that he, the subject, was pleased with the attendance and response and noted that [redacted] of the Erie County American Legion and another Legionnaire present in the audience were the only ones who had not stood when he, SMITH, had requested the audience to rise if they were in agreement with what he had said on old fashioned Americanism.

b7d

When it was called to his attention that [redacted] had a picture of MADDEN attending his, SMITH'S, private meeting at the

Hotel Statler on March 31, 1944 SMITH said: "They are paid to do that." He stated that everyone figured that MADDEN would be at the meeting and that he had purposely publicized MADDEN but did not bring him. He said: "Madden didn't even know his name was on the program, but they (the people) weren't cheated."

[redacted] stated that after this discussion the subject, his wife, his secretary [redacted] and Mrs. LUNDEEN went to the New York Central Terminal to catch the 1:40 A.M. train for Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

[redacted] of the Americanism Committee of the American Legion of Buffalo, advised that he was in attendance together with [redacted] of the American Legion at the Rally. He said that he and [redacted] alone did not stand when SMITH called for a response from the audience. He stated that the audience consisted of approximately 650 persons, for the most part elderly, middle class persons and that there were no servicemen or servicewomen in the group. He said there were no disturbances whatsoever at the meeting and that the crowd was fairly enthusiastic, although this enthusiasm may not have been entirely sincere inasmuch as it is SMITH'S manner to frequently interrupt himself with a command to the audience, "Now give that a hand."

[redacted] advised that although scheduled to appear, according to his information, CHARLES A. MADDEN of Pittsburgh was not present at the meeting. He stated that the persons on the platform were the subject SMITH, his wife, MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN, Attorney JAY BARNSDALL and JOSEPH H. STOFFEL.

[redacted] advised that after the meeting and outside the Kleinhans Music Hall, apparently without any connection and without being part of SMITH'S Rally and program, a man was distributing "Peace Now" literature. He stated that he himself did not see this individual but understood him to be an elderly man, that he, [redacted] had obtained a copy of the literature and furnished it to the reporting agent.

Although a review of instant file indicates no connection between the America First Party and the Peace Now Movement and there is no evidence that it was part of SMITH'S program on this occasion, the literature is set out below because it purports to be an appeal from the Peace Now group to the America First Party to join forces:

BU 14-7

"PEACE NOW! HOW TO GET IT!

"POPE PIOUS XII, Says:-
"Nothing can be lost by peace, All may be lost by war. Do not shatter or smother the peoples yearning for peace."

"24,000,000 Catholics must help His Holiness to make his prayers come true. First, send a letter or post card to your Congressmen and Senators. Then get five of your friends to do the same-have all to get five more to do the same-thus keep it going out to fives on fives till we have tons of mail on our Congressmen'e desks.

"Tell them YOU WANT PEACE, NOW! and to have a committee appointed at once to meet with a similar one from the Axis to arrive at peace terms. The Axis are ready to sign on the QUAKER PLAN NOW. To which has been added a paragraph by the "We the People."

"Japan can be treated later.

"24,000,000 Catholics can't be wrong.

"The News-Week of February 28th, on page 15, says: The Methodists are flooding Congress with petitions to get peace now."

"11,000 ,000 Methodists can't be wrong.

"12,000,000 Baptists are showing signs of calling for peace now.

"22,000,000 Mothers and Fathers of our soldiers must also send word to your Congressmen and Senators, and canvass for others, to also notify Congrees WE WANT PEACE NOW.

"NEW YORK - We must defeat Senator Robert F. Wagner (D) Congressmen: 40th Dis., Walter G. Andrews (R); 41st Dis., Joseph Mruk (R); 42nd Dis., John C. Butler (R). All above Congressmen are in Buffalo, N.Y.

"We also invite the 3,000,000 AMERICAN FIRST to help win the war by negociation, rather than by killing a million or so of good American boys.

"All who wish to help push this plan to an early conclusion, may contribute what they care to, to

"PEACE NOW MOVEMENT
20 BERKLEY STREET, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

"We the People, extend our hands to the 200,000 Quakers- and say: "God Bless You."

"We must defeat all in Congress, now, who fail to make an effort for peace - NOW."

It was ascertained that the New York Central P. & L.E. train departed from Buffalo at 1:40 A.M., May 18, 1944 and arrived at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania at 7:50 A.M., May 18, 1944 and that that was the only train subject SMITH could have traveled at that hour.

The Pittsburgh Field Division and the office of origin were accordingly advised by teletype of subject's departure from Buffalo and his contemplated arrival at Pittsburgh at 7:50 A.M., May 18, 1944.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

BU 14-7

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

b7c
b7D

[redacted] work entitled "GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases, THE AMERICA[redacted] PARTY, INTERNAL SECURI[redacted] - G, [redacted]

[redacted]

b7c
b7D

JPHa:WMJ
6-27-44
62-43818

RECORDED
62-43818-508
EX-35

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information in your consideration of the above-captioned case, there is attached a copy of an additional report prepared by Special Agent [redacted] at Buffalo, New York, on June 14, 1944. b7c

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/2/92 BY SP-PBTJ/MC

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
JUN 28 1944 P.M.
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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Mr. Coffey
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Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
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Mr. Carson
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Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

78 AUG 5 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 26 1944

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Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nease
Mr. Rosen
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Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
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Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
[redacted]

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DATE 10/7/82 BY SP8B80/MLW

WASH FROM CHICAGO 11 26 6-34 P

CONF TO DIRECTOR AD SAC DETROIT ROUTINE

b7c

WANT. GERALD L. K. SMITH WAS, AMERICA FIRST PARTY, INTERNAL SECURITY G, SECURITY MATER, SEDITION. AT ABOUT TWO THIRTY PM JUNE TWENTY FIFTH, FORTY FOUR, SEVEN HUNDRED WOMEN WEARING BRICKER FOR PRESIDENT BUTTONS ENTERED THE GRAND BALLROOM OF THE STEVENS HOTEL, CHICAGO WHERE AN N B C ORCHESTRA WAS PLAYING. AT ABOUT TWO FORTY PM SMITH ENTERED THE BALLROOM AND STATED THE REPUBLICAN PARTY LEADERS HAD FORCED THE HOTEL TO BREAK A CONTRACT FOR THE THE USE OF THE BALLROOM BUT THAT HE WAS [redacted] ESTABLISHING A BEACHHEAD FOR FREE SPEECH AND TOOK OVER THE BALLROOM. ABOUT ONE THOUSAND ADDITIONAL PEOPLE ENTERED THE BALLROOM IN SUPPORT OF SMITH. THE HOTEL MANAGEMNT DID NOT ATTEMPT TO STOP THE MEETING AS THEY DID NOT DESIRE TO [redacted] CAUSE A DISTURBANCE. SMITH SPOKE FOR TWO HOURS CONDEMNING THE JEWS, PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, WILKE AND GOVERNOR DEWEY. SMITH SUPPORTED COL. CHARLES LINDBERG FOR REPUBLICAN NOMINATION FOR PRESIDENT. SMITH HAD A TENATIVE ARRANGEMENT FOR USE OF THE BALL ROOM BUT IT WAS CANCELLED JUNE TWENTY SECOND, FORTY FOUR.

DRAYTON

ACK PL

HANDLED BY STOP DESK

62-43818-509

RECORDED & INDEXED

F B I
36 JUL. 4 1944

memo for clerk 6/30/44

cc: Ladd

(5)

JPHa:WMJ
6-30-44

62-43818-509

RECORDED

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

The following data which has been received from the Bureau's Chicago Field Division is being set forth for your information in connection with your consideration of the activities of subject Smith:

At approximately 2:30 P. M., June 25, 1944, about 700 women wearing "Bricker For President" buttons entered the Grand Ballroom of the Stevens Hotel in Chicago where, at the time, certain musical renditions were being given by an NBC orchestra. These women waited in the Grand Ballroom until about 2:40 P. M., when subject Smith made his appearance and publicly announced "that the Republican Party leaders had forced the Hotel to break a contract for the use of the Ballroom but that he was establishing a beachhead for free speech."

At that time approximately 1000 additional Smith supporters appeared at the Ballroom and Smith, together with his following, took over the Ballroom. Smith delivered a speech, said to be of about two hours' duration, in which he reportedly condemned the Jews, President Roosevelt, Mr. Willkie, and Governor Dewey. He allegedly stated that he and his followers were supporting Colonel Charles Lindbergh for the Republican nomination for President.

According to information available to the Bureau, Smith had a tentative arrangement with the Stevens Hotel for the use of the Grand Ballroom but this tentative arrangement or agreement was cancelled on June 22, 1944. The Hotel management reportedly did not attempt to block Smith's taking over the Ballroom as described above as it was felt that such an endeavor might have given rise to a disturbance or other melee.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8075/MC

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JUL 3 1944
P. M.
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Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
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Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Rumford
Jones
Tamm

JUL 3 1944

JUN 30 1944

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Clavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Accrs
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Candy

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
June 23, 1944

Director, FBI

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH was
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

DECLASSIFIED BY 6680 LED/L
ON 8-11-77

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8BTJ/MG

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth the substance of information obtained from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, for the period June 8 to June 22, 1944, inclusive.

b7D

The informant advised that the suit started against SMITH in New York for $100,000 involved the use of the name "America First" and was started by a resident of New York. Informant stated the controversy with the Board of Education of the city of Detroit over the use of the public schools by the subject for his meetings had been postponed from June 6 to June 13, 1944, to permit subject to appear and state his contentions. Subject failed to appear on June 13, advising the Board of Education he was speaking in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on that date, and the time for his appearance was postponed to June 20, at which time subject was again out of town. The Board of Education proposed the resolution requiring SMITH to apply directly to the Board before he would be issued any permit for the use of a public auditorium in Detroit, Michigan. The informant stated the Board considered subject had violated their rule with respect to commercializing the use of school buildings in conducting his meetings.

The informant said [redacted] and an attorney by the name of [redacted] as well as Communist and labor organizations, were active in objecting to the use of school auditoriums by the subject.

The informant advised the Reverend L. L. MARION of the Regular Republicans had ordered pamphlets on the Lincoln "profit-sharing plan" from Cleveland, Ohio. The informant also stated Reverend MARION had been requested by subject to be present in Chicago, Illinois, on June 25 to preside at subject's rally for the Independent Republicans held at the grand ballroom of the Stevens Hotel, Chicago on that date.

RECORDED & INDEXED 162-43818-510

The informant advised [redacted] had received a telegram from [redacted], requesting [redacted] to furnish information to him for Mrs. DILLING for use in her sedition trial. The information concerned a meeting in New York in October 1938 arranged by

HANDLED BY STOP DESK

Memo & clerk 7/4/44 W. Jos. E. McWilliams

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF
DATE

EX-50

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Letter to the Director
June 23, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH was et al
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

[redacted] and informant stated [redacted] said Dr. EDWARD LODGE CURRAN, International Catholic Truth Society, Reverend NORMAN VINCENT PEALE (who delivered the invocation), and Major General BYRNES were on the platform at this meeting.

The informant advised that subject had two wonderful meetings at St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minnesota, but that they were forced to change buildings in St. Paul when a crowd threatened to blow up the first one, but subject had a good crowd at the second building. The informant also advised subject has made extensive plans for his preconvention rally at the grand ballroom of the Stevens Hotel, Chicago, scheduled for Sunday afternoon, June 25. Informant said 2,500 invitations had been mailed.

The informant also advised the Stevens Hotel had cancelled subject's contract for the use of the grand ballroom on June 25, since their agreement with the Republican National Committee required the Committee's approval before letting public space to a private group during the period June 23 to June 30. Informant said subject intends to have the meeting regardless, stating, "We are fighting; anything that happens will do us good."

Informant advised subject is mailing a second notice to all persons receiving invitations, advising them not to believe the false report put out by Internationalists that their meeting for the grand ballroom of the Stevens Hotel had been cancelled, and requesting them and their friends to be present. Informant also advised the Farmers Guild of Indiana has requested subject to plan a meeting for them in the near future, and JOSEPH H. STOFFEL of Buffalo, New York, has requested the subject to conduct a meeting in Buffalo sometime during August, and to have either Senator REYNOLDS or ex-Congressman BINDERUP speak at this meeting. Informant stated subject plans a meeting in Detroit, Michigan, probably in July of 1944.

The informant advised a [redacted] of a Detroit newspaper has requested subject to give him a running general story on the racial issue. Informant also stated [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company has requested subject to place a congratulatory message in his Legion post's publication in honor of HENRY FORD's eighty-first birthday.

The informant advised subject intends to offer as a premium to his followers a book, "Forty Years of Roosevelt."

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]
62-1126

AVL
bpc

JPHa:WLJ
7-1-44

65-1-818-510

RECORDED

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark
Attention: Mr. O. John Rogge
J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

UNITED STATES vs. JOSEPH E. McWILLIAMS, ET AL;
SEDITION.

A confidential source of information, the identity of which cannot be revealed, has informed the Bureau that one [redacted] 61[redacted], recently sent a telegram to [redacted] (presumably at Detroit, Michigan), requesting [redacted] to furnish "information for Mrs. Dilling for use in her sedition trial." Although the exact nature of the information desired was not clear, it reportedly related to an alleged meeting in New York in October, 1938. It was further stated that Dr. Edward Lodge Curran, Reverend Norman Vincent Peale, and "Major General Byrnes" were present on the platform at this meeting.

b7c

Although the data set forth above as received from the confidential source of information is incomplete, I thought it should be brought to your attention for informative purposes. Should further information be received, it, of course, will be referred to you.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8BTJ/MC

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Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
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Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
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Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
JUL 6 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

74 AUG 18 1944

RECEIVED READING ROOM
JUL 6 10 43 AM '44
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

ST. PAUL FILE NO. 100-4156

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA	6/24/44	6/6,13/44	[redacted] CMO

b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with alias THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Scheduled America First meeting on 6/12/44 at American House, St. Paul, Minnesota, cancelled by SMITH when C.I.O. labor union representatives challenged the manager of the hall to boycott further use by unions of the hall. Participated in dedication program of the Truth and Liberty Temple, Minneapolis on 6/11/44 where Reverend CARL O. STADSKLEV, ardent American Firster, is pastor. He spoke to an over flow crowd estimated at 1200 on 6/13/44 at the Truth and Liberty Temple, Minneapolis; stated that SIDNEY HILLMAN, Chairman National C.I.O. Political Action Committee, dominated Minneapolis City Council in refusing his use of the Minneapolis Auditorium; that Roosevelt had Communist EARL BROWDER released to campaign for Roosevelt's Fourth Term. He expressed hope of speaking in the Minneapolis Auditorium by having Senator ROBERT R. REYNOLDS (NC) Chairman of the Military Affairs Committee speak on same program; also stated "New Deal will become out and out Communist Party;" that candidates of the America First Party will win in elections of 1946 and become power in proceeding election, 1948, with subject as presidential nominee.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8 80/mc

REFERENCE: Bureau File Number 62-43818.
Reference letter, dated June 2, 1944 from the Detroit Field Division.

DETAILS: Reporting Agent, obtained from a highly confidential source, admittance cards to subject's scheduled speeches in the Twin

HANDLED BY

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-143818-511

RECORDED & INDEXED

22 JUL 11 1944

EX-50

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2 - St. Paul

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Cities area and it was ascertained that the subject spoke on Sunday, June 11, 1944 on the dedication program of the Truth and Liberty Temple, 2601 Second Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota, of which Reverend CARL O. STADSKLEV, ardent America Firster, is pastor. SMITH spoke at 3 o'clock in the afternoon and 8 o'clock in the evening on this date on the theme, "Christ First in America."

It was ascertained by the Reporting Agent that this building was originally the property of the Northwestern Bell Telephone Company and had been used as a telephone exchange for many years after which it was used by the Christian Radio Mission until recently Reverend STADSKLEV took option on the building which has been recently repainted and a sound proof ceiling installed in the interior of the building.

In an article of the St. Paul Pioneer Press, dated June 10, 1944 entitled "G. L. K. SMITH cancelled talk;" says "Terrorists run St. Paul," in which GERALD L. K. SMITH of the America First Party said in Chicago on 6/9/44 that he would not address the people of St. Paul because "the left wing terrorists are in command of that city.

A decision to cancel the meeting scheduled for the American House, 444 Rice Street, was made SMITH today after the manager had been threatened "in many ways, both physically and otherwise."

IGNAZ WERNER, Manager of the hall, the article continues, said on 6/9/44 he cancelled an agreement for the use of the hall after representatives of six unions, who regularly held meetings in the auditorium, had called on him and advised that they would no longer use the hall for meetings if he allowed SMITH to speak there. WERNER said he returned the $20.00 deposit which he had received in a letter from Reverend CARL O. STADSKLEV of the Truth and Liberty Temple, Minneapolis because he did not want to lose the union patronage. WERNER denied any threats of violence.

Reporting Agent attended the closed meeting of the America First Party on June 13, 1944 at the Truth and Liberty Temple, 2601 Second Avenue South, Minneapolis. At approximately 7:45 P.M., the entire seating capacity of the Truth and Liberty Temple Building was filled to over flow. Through a loud speaker address system, sympathizers were directed into two rooms in the basement of the church and a loud speaker was in a position so that people on the outside of the church could hear his talk. It is estimated that there were approximately 1200 sympathizers who attended this meeting. The meeting was opened at approximately 8:15 P.M. with a prayer delivered by Reverend HENRY J. SOLTAU. It is noted that SMITH did not arrive until approximately 8:30 P.M. when he took the platform and immediately began a lengthy repetitious two and one half hour speech which is being set out as follows:

The Truth & Liberty Temple was formerly the Christian Radio Mission, and originally the property of the telephone company.

The entire structure had been repainted and a soundproof ceiling installed. Reverend CARL O. STADSKLEV is to be the pastor, and future speakers include the Reverend HENRY J. SOLTAU, who was present at the Smith meetings Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights.

Sunday night, June 11th dedicatory services were held for the new temple, SMITH was guest speaker. STADSKLEV announced they would have Bible teachers who not only could teach the Scriptures; but also the nationalistic message in the Bible. He declared that a picture of the Truth & Liberty Temple might some day be found in the pages of every history book in the land.

SMITH talked for several hours, principally on a religious theme, among other things likened the Twin Cities to Sodom & Gomorrah in relation to the opposition he has had from the C.I.O. and Communistic elements. He claimed the C.I.O. brought pressure to bear on the Manager of the American House in St. Paul, which resulted in his refusing the use of this building to Smith, and the subsequent cancellation of SMITH's St. Paul meeting. SMITH said that when the Manager called MRS. LUNDEEN she could almost hear his bones rattle, so thoroughly had he been intimidated. The management stated that they had threatened to "blow the place up."

SMITH declared America was a constitutional republic; not a democracy. He mentioned the Jews several times, and stated he was sorry to say that they had opposed him on almost every hand, and that if anybody should be for America First the Jews should, as they had been chased out of every country in the world except America; furthermore, 500,000 Jewish refugees had entered the United States since the start of this war.

Tuesday night SMITH's address was scheduled for 8:00 p.m.; we arrived at 7:30 p.m., at which time the entire first floor of the building was full. We found a seat in the basement, where two rooms had been fitted up with loudspeakers. By 8:00 p.m. the entire building was filled to capacity, and an overflow sitting in the yard. The crowd numbered approximately 1,000. Reverend SOLTAU started the meeting with a prayer.

SMITH's speech followed his usual pattern:

"There is one man responsible for the Council refusing us the use of the Auditorium, and that man is SIDNEY HILLMAN, and his Political Action Committee. The local C.I.O. brought pressure on your City Council, which resulted in that refusal. Seventeen Communists - and everyone a fourth termite - bore false witness against me in the council chambers. Councilman HENRY BANKS was afraid to ask me questions, so he kept feeding his questions to a fellow that lives right in this ward: a man by the name of MURPHY. Now, I have nothing against the Irish, personally I like the name of Murphy; but I don't like this Murphy. These two men Alderman MURPHY and Alderman

BANKS engineered the scheme which kept me from having the Auditorium. So those of you who have to stand, blame these two gentlemen for your discomfort. MRS. FISS (phonetic) is organizing a committee to campaign against everyone of the aldermen that opposed my use of the Auditorium. I would like to know what you think about having MRS. LUNDEEN, MRS.FISS and a committee go down to the public Auditorium tomorrow and again apply for the use of that building; this time for an address by Senator ROBERT R. REYNOLDS,D. (NC), Chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, and GERALD L. K. SMITH! All in favor of that say "I" ("I!"). MR. REYNOLDS has assured me that he will not speak here if they deny me the use of the Auditorium. I just love to put these little council members on the spot; let's see if they dare to deny the right of free speech to a United States Congressman - and a Democrat at that.

"When I was refused the use of the Auditorium a few weeks ago, I sent a telegram to Governor STASSEN, and one to Senator BALL, asking them: "Do you favor free speech for us?"; and do you know, they didn't even give me the courtesy of a reply! Senator BALL, you might just as well press your pants and comb your hair, because you don't look like Abraham Lincoln anyway.

"How many favor the idea of polling the City Council and forcing them to show how they stand on this matter in writing? Is there any St. Paul people here? Raise your hands! Yes, I see there are a lot of you.

"There is a great dynamic movement developing in the hearts of the American people that is not to be trampled down. We made and built America, and by the grace of God, we are going to run America! The man who presided at the Council Meeting was judicious, fair and impartial, that man is Councilman JENS CHRISTENSEN, and he is here tonight. Stand up Alderman CHRISTENSEN. Alderman ROBB was impolite, short and mean to anybody who called on him to answer a question. He was very discourteous; and he is supposed to be a conservative. It's a shame that he should be "taken-in" so completely by a book like "Under Cover." A book which lists DR. W. B. RILEY, Pastor Emeritus of the First Baptist Church of your city, as a member of the political underworld. Anyone who will believe an alien with six aliases, who assassinates the character of the pastor of the biggest Baptist Church in Minneapolis is not to be trusted.

"Among the people this book lists as members of the political underworld are HIRAM JOHNSON, Senator ROBERT LA FOLLETTE, GERALD NYE, BURTON WHEELER, FATHER COUGHLIN, CHARLES LINDBERG, and--GERALD L. K. SMITH, along with Reverend RILEY. If these men are members of the political underworld, I count it an honor to be listed with them. HIRAM JOHNSON was elected to office on the Republican ticket, the Democratic ticket and the Progressive ticket - all in one year.

"You may not agree with HENRY FORD's policies, but he IS a great American. This man CARLSON (author of "Under Cover") stood up in Detroit, and in answer to the question, "Do you think you are a better American than HENRY FORD?", this alien, this man with six aliases said, "Yes"!

"EARL BROWDER spoke in the city of Detroit, and said, "They ought to take GERALD SMITH and lock him up in the same prison I was in at Atlanta, Georgia." ROOSEVELT had the communist, EARL BROWDER released from this penitentiary so that BROWDER could back ROOSEVELT for the Fourth Term. You notice that the communists and BROWDER speak for the ROOSEVELT Fourth Term. That is why he was released.

"We are the balance of power in Ohio. There are 90,00 New Deal job holders in Ohio alone, on the public tit, and you folks who have lived on a farm know how hard it is to pull a young pig off the tit; but we are going to do it. We are going to do it and you will sure hear them squeal; the big pigs and the little pigs. I was scheduled to speak at Greenville, Ohio; farmers from 200 miles around came to hear me, the last minute they cancelled my contract for use of the fairgrounds, but that night 100 farm lads took over the fairgrounds and the next afternoon when I arrived, there sat 7,000 farmers waiting to hear me. And that's what would happen here in Minneapolis if you had that kind of "guts".

"Every Jewish organization in Minneapolis has tried to keep me out of the Auditorium. Whenever you mention America First to a Jew he starts having hysterics. He is scared, and when a Jew is scared, well, he's scared! They intimidated the council in Buffalo by threatening to foreclose the mortgages they held on council members, and by threatening to contribute to the campaign funds of the incumbents' opponents. This thing went to the courts in Buffalo, and we licked them. The city of Buffalo said to us, "Let us save our face, and we'll give you another auditorium, better than the city auditorium, better than you asked for." And so they gave us the use of the Kleinheinz Music Hall, one of the most beautiful auditoriums in the country.

"Some of you wonder how I have the strength to continue this fight. I am 6' tall, weigh 220 pounds and I don't know what the word "fatigue" means. Sometimes I speak 12 times a day as hard as I am talking right now. I am completely dedicated to this thing, and I will fight as hard for your liberty as the men who fought for theirs back in 1776.

"The speech made by ROOSEVELT on D-Day contained not one word of Christ in it and at the end of the day, ROOSEVELT went to bed with liquor on his breath, having had two liquor cocktail while our boys were giving their lives at the time.

"Tonight my boy is in India, he was with a task force on the Burma Battle Front, and as I speak to you he lies sick on a hospital bed. He weighed 170 pounds when he was dropped behind Japanese lines; when he came out he weighed 130. He wasn't wounded, but they shot holes through his canteen.

"I am going to come back, and keep coming back until I have whipped the Communists. I was meeting in Chicago with 500 Republican leaders to prepare for a meeting prior to the Republican Convention. When I arrived there was a big crowd outside, and as I walked up I saw a photographer, "What's going on here?" I asked. He said, "Somebody is supposed to get shot here tonight." "Who?" He answered, "The main speaker." He didn't know that I was the main speaker. But I am not afraid, if there is some Communist that wants to shoot me, let him shoot. I won't go until my time comes. I told those independent Republicans that the only candidate acceptable to us is a man who is for America First, and if they don't put one up, we will elect our own candidate.

"There was a time when anybody against anything New Deal, was going to be put in a concentration camp. WALTER WINCHELL said I was going to be put in jail. But it took GERALD SMITH to beat the New Deal candidates in an off-year election. We have three million followers in the most strategic states in the union.

"Collier's Magazine spent $25,000 to see if Wall Street or other big interests were financing me. WALTER DAVENPORT came back from this investigation and said, "No, this man is supported by the great rank and file of Americans; he has been investigated by the F.B.I., Internal Revenue, G-2, and other government agencies; and they can't get anything on him. You may not believe in his policies; but he IS sincere!"

"You know, it used to be that when I went to Washington my friends wouldn't ask me to come out on the Hill and see them; they'd phone me and ask, "What room are you in, Gerald? We'll come up and see you." But on my next visit to Washington, I wasn't Mae West anymore. They asked me to come out on the Hill, and most of them slapped me on the back, shook hands with me; a few walked by and kind of winked as much as to say, "We are for you Gerald, but you are still a little too hot to handle."

"A Long Island newspaper publisher, a Jew, said that men like GERALD SMITH should be liquidated like they do in Russia; brand us as traitors because we are against ROOSEVELT and the New Deal; not because we have done anything contrary to our country in time of war. Well, I've got some good news: the Supreme Court has just ruled that we can even criticize FRANKLIN during time of war. That's something, when his own court says that - remember he put most of them in there.

"We had trouble in St. Louis, but they finally gave me the public auditorium. The St. Louis Post Dispatch, a paper opposed to me politically said, "We are for free speech 100%; SMITH should have the use of the auditorium. At that meeting we were picketed by the Communists and Jews, and they threatened physical violence. They put out a pamphlet with

Hitler's picture on the front with the caption: "ADOLF HITLER congratulates his American voice - SMITH." Inside this pamphlet was pictures of MRS. LUNDEEN, LINDBERG and others, who were referred to as Nazis. SENATOR ROYAL WOODRUFF of Michigan is a statesman if there ever was one, and they even had his picture in there. That's the trouble, they always overdo it so folks can't believe what they say.

"In St. Louis we had 3-1/2 times as many people attend our meeting than WILLKIE did. And, he had favorable publicity, and a brass band; we had unfavorable publicity - and no brass band. We defeated WILLKIE in Wisconsin, and people wondered - wondered how a great big respectable man like WILLKIE could be beaten by a great big disreputable man like SMITH.

"JOHN COWLES, the man who runs your press here, went to Moscow with WILLKIE, and also went through Wisconsin with him. He advised WILLKIE: "Smith is your big enemy, play it up, that's the way to get votes." WILLKIE had all the gas he wanted, he had 12 cars and drove each car 1,600 miles on his campaign tour.

"In ELEANOR's trip to the South Seas she burned enough gas for 5,000 automobiles to travel from Los Angeles to New York and back. Now I know why they reduced the value of our gas coupons, it's so ELEANOR could go through the Caribbean, and WILLKIE through Wisconsin.

"WILLKIE stopped in Sheboygan, and said, "I am against SMITH and all he stands for." As he passed the cemetery a hearse drove out and followed his 12 cars; not only that but it made the 13th car.

"SENATOR BALL is a big internationalist; he works for COWLES, and COWLES works for LAMONT, senior member of the House of Morgan.

"Our movement is like a young bulldog straining at the leash. You tie him to the woodshed, and he strains and pulls, and you think he will never get away; but all of a sudden he breaks the leash, and away he goes down the street, biting everybody in sight between the house and the post office. There is a lot of Americans thinking just the way I am talking, and some day the lid is going to pop off the teakettle. Just give us the radio and public auditoriums - then watch us go! They are afraid to give me two hours in your public auditorium, because they know if they do I'll retire all the councilmen who denied me free speech.

"I challenged SENATOR BALL to a debate, and he said, "I wouldn't sit on the same platform with him, he is HITLER's man." WILLKIE admitted we sent him to the showers; when he reported back to LAMONT, he said, "The country is all shot to hell, the America Firsters beat us."

"Nationalism is growing so fast that I look for ROOSEVELT to come out for it. He is the greatest band-wagon-jumper-oner there ever was - he will do anything to get elected.

"We don't want internationalism, our boys are on 64 battle fronts, and when this war is over we want them to come home. I recently made the statement: "We do not want anything that will compromise the sovereignty of our nation." MR. ROOSEVELT came out the other day with this: "Following this war, although we want free relationships with all nations of the world, we will do nothing that will compromise the sovereignty of our nation." One of the reporters present asked, "Do you really mean that? Where did you get that idea?" And ROOSEVELT said, "I take ideas wherever I can get them, even if I have to go to the lunatic-fringe." In other words, I am the lunatic-fringe, and you the lunatics. I am going to have to push him off my band-wagon. That man would do anything to get votes. He would endorse EARL BROWDER, GERALD SMITH, and CHIANG-KAI-SHAIK if need be.

"The public auditorium in Denver seats 3,300 people; we spent $900 on railroad transportation, $400 on rent, and the Monday night before the Tuesday we were going to speak, the city council had a sneak meeting and voted to cancel the use of the auditorium. The pressure, as usual, was brought by the Jews and Communists. The Scripps-Howard paper there published the facts, and people began to call up the Mayor, who stated, "We are going to keep our contract." One hundred Communists started a riot; they called out a riot squad of 300 policemen; they took care of the Communists, and MRS. SMITH and I walked in.

"My wife just handed me a note, it says: "Don't worry about being heard, they can hear you a block away." In the next five to eight years we will see great political changes in this country. The New Deal will become an out-and-out Communist Party. There will be another party; which will be known, perhaps, as the Nationalist Party, or the America First Party - but it will be a nationalist party. It will elect a few senators in 1946, and will name the president in 1948.

"These two parties will be lined up, one against the other, and it will be nip and tuck; there will be fighting in the streets and bloodshed, but we will win.

"Before this war is over there will be one million American boys dead, two million wounded, shell-shocked, and nervous wrecks. The boys who have been discharged can't get jobs. They can't go in defense industries, because most of them couldn't pass the physical examination.

"The St. Louis Star-Times had some of the first assault pictures of the second front. It said that the first troops were mowed down,

but others climbed over their bodies and pushed on. HANSON BALDWIN comments on the same page that the word "rejoice" should not be used in relation to the opening of the Second Front. On the back page of this very same paper was a portrait of the President, leaning back in his shirt-sleeves laughing, not the day before, but the very hour of the invasion, and the caption read: "The President laughing on "D" day after learning that the invasion was going well and up to schedule." The word "rejoice" shows a lack of comprehension of what our boys are going through. Do we want such a president in 1945? He wrote a prayer for the world, and left out the word "Christ" for a Christian nation; he laughed when our boys were over there dying; and from what we know of his habits, he went to bed with two stiff drinks under his belt.

"The C.I.O. can't promise any more. They have to jump on SMITH to collect union dues. Well, the Lincoln Electric Company of Cleveland, Ohio saw this thing coming, and they have solved this problem by the use of a profit sharing system. The Lincoln Electric Company is not a war baby, it's an old established firm. They employ over 2,000 people, and on a profit sharing basis they paid their workers - those who work with their hands - an average of $5,400 each last year. This is four times as much as their competitors were able to pay operating under the union scale. And, they could do it because it was on an incentive basis and their profits rose accordingly.

"If we are to get the votes in coming elections there are four groups which we must serve: veterans, manufacturers, workers, and farmers. I propose the farmers be paid a bonus for production not destruction. That's Americanism, that's Christianity. There never was an overproduction; but rather an under-consumption. Would there have ever been too much cotton if they had distributed two extra curtains for every window, four suits of underwear for every person, two new shirts for every man, etc. It works that same way right down the line. If people have the purchasing power there won't be any overproduction.

"ROOSEVELT said he was going to drive the money-changers out of the temple - he drove them out of Wall Street, and then invited them into the White House. I know a small businessman that had to quit because of the bureaucratic red tape he had to go through each month. In the space of a year he had to make out 233 reports to the Government. He said he had to spend all his profits hiring lawyers. About 244 thousand little businessmen have gone to the wall because of monopoly and bureaucratic interference. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, lover of the little man, has given two thirds of the war contracts, totaling 150 billion dollars, to 82 big corporations. The little businessman is being crucified by the two thieves: monopoly on one hand, and bureaucracy on the other. Our plans for the little businessman is to outlaw monopoly.

"These men who have been in the South Seas for four years need $1,000 when they come back to give them a breathing spell, a chance to adjust themselves. We believe that every service man should have $1,000 when he comes back. When you teach thirteen million men to kill and hate, it takes time for them to readjust themselves. We may have built up a Frankenstein which no man can estimate.

"If one of these boys comes back and wants to open up a little store, and is informed that he has to see the inspector of the inspector of something or other, and that inspector refers him to the inspector of the inspector of the inspector's inspector, and then he finds out the chain store across the street will undersell him at a loss just to get the business. It's going to be bad.

"After the last war we had something to go on; this time we haven't a cent in the bank. Somebody asked me if I thought the Townsend Plan would ever go through. I said that I didn't, but Britain has it, We are sending her two million dollars an hour in goods, etc.

"I propose the following: An emergency bonus for the soldiers, profit sharing for the workers, production inducements for the farmers, the outlawing of bureaucracy and monopoly for the benefit of the small businessman, and a nationalistic government in Washington, D. C."

SMITH employed the same technique which he has used in the past with signal success. He has from time to time come out with a platform for the America First Party - a platform which has varied in its objectives; but in his speeches he concentrates on five main themes, which he dins away at incessantly. They are, in the order of their prominence:

(1) Bureaucracy
(2) Communism
(3) "I love the Jews, but--"
(4) Internationalism
(5) "Give me that old-time religion"

Two martyrs to the "Cause": HUEY LONG, SENATOR LUNDEEN.

The meeting was over at approximately 10:45 P.M. and at approximately 10:50 P.M., SMITH was seen to leave the side entrance of the church and proceed to Second Avenue South, and from there, he got into a 1942 Chrysler, Four-door sedan bearing 1944 Minnesota License Number 1321. Reporting Agent ascertained from [redacted] Minnesota State Automobile Registration Bureau, State Capitol, St. Paul, Minnesota, that this license was in the name of NORMA WARD LUNDEEN, 820 Essex Street South East, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

b7c
b7D

A small card was obtained by the reporting agent at this meeting, entitled "America First Program" which is being set out as follows:

"AMERICA FIRST PROGRAM

"For free literature explaining the program in detail, write the
"AMERICA FIRST PARTY
"GERALD L. K. SMITH, DIRECTOR
P. O. Box 459 Detroit 31, Michigan

1. "$1,000 to every Veteran of this War when mustered out. (Less money for foreign politics - more money for American Veterans).
2. $10, $15, $20, per day for workers by instituting profit sharing as practiced by the Jack & Heintz Co. and Lincoln Electric Co. of Cleveland, Ohio.
3. Cash bonus to farmers for production rather than for destruction. Increased prices for farm commodities, to be maintained by distribution reform and a clean-up in our money system. Would produce an abundance of butter, meat, milk, etc.
4. Restore private enterprise by outlawing monopoly and eliminating bureaucratic interference with business.
5. Foreign policy. No world government. No international bank. A strong national defense. Trade with all nations - permanent alliances with none."

This meeting was altogether orderly and there was no distribution of Communist literature, either preceeding or following the meeting.

A small blue colored through sheet, advertising a speech by Reverend HENRY J. SOLTAU on Sunday, June 25, 1944 at the Truth and Liberty Temple was obtained and on the back of this through sheet is set out a pledge of allegiance and support to Minnesota Good Government League, Inc., 2022 Park Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota, in voting for honest officials, better law enforcement and the preservation of Constitutional Government.

All of the above exhibits obtained by the reporting agent at this meeting are being retained in instant case in the St. Paul Field Division.

Reporting Agent obtained a copy of "The Cross and the Flag", Volume 3, Number 2, 1944 which is being sent to the Bureau as an enclosure.

St. P 100-4156

E N C L O S U R E

TO THE BUREAU:

One copy of "The Cross and the Flag", Volume 3, Number 2, 1944.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JPHa:WM
7-6-44

12-43818-511

RECORDED

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your information there is attached a copy of a report submitted in the above-entitled matter by Special Agent [redacted] at St. Paul, Minnesota, on June 24, 1944. Also attached is a photostatic copy of the May, 1944, issue of subject's publication, "The Cross and the Flag."

Enclosure

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8BTJ/ma

Nolson
L. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Mohr
Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
JUL 7 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

55 AUG 18 1944
288

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
July 6 - 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/9/80 BY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

CONFIDENTIAL

Director, FBI

CLASS. & EXT. BY
REASON-FCIM 2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

Information has been received from confidential sources indicating that Subject SMITH is to sponsor a rally at the LaSalle Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, July 17, 1944. A hall has been rented in the name of the AMERICAN NATIONALISTS COMMITTEE FOR INDEPENDENT VOTERS and it is expected that Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS may appear on the program.

DEFERRED RECORDING

[redacted], whose identities are known to the Bureau, advise Subject SMITH is planning to organize a third party and is contemplating a national convention for the America First Party to be held at St. Louis, Missouri, sometime in August.

[redacted]

[redacted] advised that Subject is considering changing his headquarters to Chicago, Illinois.

b7D

For the information of the Bureau and the Chicago Field Division, SMITH left Detroit, Michigan, June 2, 1944, for meetings at Toledo and Greenville, Ohio, and St. Louis, Missouri, arriving in Chicago June 8 and spending his time since June 8 either in Chicago or Delavan, Wisconsin, with the exception of June 12 and 13 on which dates Subject held meetings in St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minnesota. It is noted that Subject's mother resides in Delavan, Wisconsin.

For the information of the Chicago Field Division, Subject travels with his wife, and employs [redacted] as a personal and confidential secretary; [redacted] as his general helper; DON LOHBECK, who assists in arranging and conducting meetings, and BERNIE DOMAN, as his Detroit office manager.

HANDLED BY SPECIAL DESK

[redacted]

62-43818-512

78 AUG 27 1944

EX-64

INDEXED 19

20 JUL 13 1944

FBI

CONFIDENTIAL

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

Letter to the Director
July 6, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, et al.
INTERNAL SECURITY - G, et al

CONFIDENTIAL

Informants advise SMITH has been staying at the Blackstone Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, and has made numerous contacts and telephone calls both from Chicago and Delavan.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]mam
62-1126
cc: Chicago

b2c

CONFIDENTIAL

America Firsters Want Wheeler on Ticket

By the Associated Press. A-2

CHICAGO, July 10.—Gerald L. K. Smith, leader of the America First party, said yesterday his group would meet here July 17 and call on the Democrats to nominate Senator Wheeler of Montana for President.

He also said he would ask his party leaders to approve a resolution urging Gov. Thomas E. Dewey to resign Republican presidential nomination "in order that Gov. Bricker, whom the people love and want, may be given the right of way to become the victorious presidential candidate."

"If the Democrats go internationalist and nominate Mr. Roosevelt," he added, "we shall call a national convention of America First people and nominate our own candidate for President unless Dewey resigns, as he should. If we call our own convention I am convinced that our people will attempt to draft Charles A. Lindbergh for President."

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease

File

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/92 BY SP4 [illegible]

This is a clipping from page A-2 of the Washington Star for

JUL 10 1948

Clipped at the Seat of Government.

ENCLOSURE

62-43818-512

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JHHa:MJ 62-43818
100-327230

TO : ~~The Director~~ Mr. E. A. Tamm

DATE: July 11, 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/4/80 BY [illegible]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Early in June, 1944, local newspapers carried announcements that Senator Robert R. Reynolds had formed an American Nationalists' Committee of Independent Voters. These announcements were to the effect that he was interested in forming a nucleus of public expression against the present Administration and in favor of the "nationalist" theory of government. Several weeks ago Mr. Walter Winchell mentioned this matter on his Sunday evening broadcast.

The Bureau has now received information through a technical surveillance (in the Smith case) that Smith has rented the ballroom at the LaSalle Hotel in Chicago for a meeting on July 17, 1944. This, of course, will be coincidental with the beginning of the Democratic convention, and the reservation was reportedly made in the name of the American Nationalists' Committee of Independent Voters. The confidential source of information previously mentioned reported that Smith plans to have Senator Reynolds speak on this occasion and from several late newspaper comments, it appears that Smith will attempt to launch a new "nationalist" party in the event the Democrats renominate President Roosevelt. You will recall, of course, that Smith, with several hundred of his followers, staged a sit-down strike in the ballroom of the Stevens Hotel during the time of the Republican convention. Apparently this action was occasioned by Smith's disapproval of Mr. Dewey and the further fact that the hotel was reluctant to allow the meeting to go on while the convention was in progress.

Although it is known that Senator Reynolds has been very friendly with Smith in the past, this report of a meeting to be held in Chicago featuring Smith and Senator Reynolds as speakers is the first definite indication that Smith and the Senator may be collaborating and that Smith has an interest in the American Nationalists' Committee of Independent Voters.

CLASS. & EXT. BY [illegible]
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 2/7/70

ACTION:

The Detroit Field Division has advised the Chicago Office of this contemplated meeting and has made arrangements for the Chicago Office to cover the meeting. In this connection you will recall that for the past year the Bureau has been covering all of Smith's speeches and has been conducting its investigation of this individual at the request of the Department.

However, in this particular instance it is felt inasmuch as the meeting is being held in the name of the American Nationalists' Committee of Independent Voters (which is Senator Reynolds' organization) it would not be wise to have the Chicago Office cover the meeting. It is further pointed out that the meeting will take place amid the preparation for the beginning of the Democratic convention and unquestionably Smith will seek to gain a lot of publicity in his attacks on the President and Mr. Dewey.

RECORDED 62-43818-513
EX-54
INDEXED
20 JUL 13 1944
F B I

As it would seem that the entire matter has a definite political aspect, a teletype is attached for your approval to the Chicago Office advising them not to cover the meeting but to report any information of pertinence which may come to their attention.

Enclosure

78 AUG 2 1944

Initialed and Sent

CONFIDENTIAL

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

CC-150

JPH:EW

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FULLY ENCODE

ROUTINE

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

JULY 10, 1944

Transmit the following message to
CHICAGO

0-13

GERALD L. K. SMITH, THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY, INTERNAL SECURITY, SEDITION. REFERENCE DETROIT LETTER JULY SIX LAST CONCERNING SMITH'S PLAN TO SPONSOR RALLY AT LASALLE HOTEL JULY SEVENTEEN NEXT UNDER NAME AMERICAN NATIONALISTS' COMMITTEE OF INDEPENDENT VOTERS. DO NOT COVER THIS RALLY OR ANY ALLIED GATHERINGS OF THE COMMITTEE WHICH IS REPORTEDLY A POLITICAL ORGANIZATION SPONSORED BY SENATOR REYNOLDS. HOWEVER, REPORT ANY PERTINENT DATA CONCERNING SMITH'S ACTIVITIES IN CONNECTION WITH THE COMMITTEE WHICH MAY COME TO YOUR ATTENTION.

HOOVER

CC - DETROIT (BY MAIL)

ENC. BMB

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/2/82 BY SP8B3/MC

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

RECORDED & INDEXED

162-43818-514

29 JUL 19 1944

CODED AND SENT

109

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
JUL 12 1944

TELEMETER

SENT VIA 7/12/44 7:52 P.M. Per

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JPHa:MMJ

TO : Mr. E. A. Tamm

DATE: June 19, 1944

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

61789

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Miss Holmes

I thought you would like to know that according to a report submitted in this case at St. Louis, Missouri, on June 10, 1944, by Special Agent [redacted] subject Smith, while addressing a public meeting of his constituents in that city on June 7, 1944, stated that in the late summer or early fall United States Senator Robert R. Reynolds "will speak with him (Smith) in St. Louis under America First sponsorship." Smith stated that Senator Reynolds has already agreed to appear with him as a speaker and further, Smith observed that Senator Reynolds will cooperate "in endorsing and helping to elect America Firsters to the United States Senate and House of Representatives."

b7c

It is noted, of course, that previous reports submitted in the Smith case have shown that on a number of occasions in the past, dating back several years, Smith has corresponded frequently with Senator Reynolds and has otherwise indicated that the latter is sympathetic to him. Smith has publicly stated that he visited Senator Reynolds about a year ago in Washington, D. C., and at the time was warmly received and otherwise well entertained.

Although no prosecutive action has been authorized, the Department has from time to time requested that the Smith investigation be continued and, accordingly, this is being done and all of Smith's important speeches are being covered by Bureau Agents as was this particular speech at St. Louis. All information of pertinence which is developed will, of course, be referred to the Department.

recorded

RECORDED

37

SE 19

HANDLED BY STOP DESK

62-43818-51

F B I

30 JUL 19 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/82 BY SE-8815/MC

57 AUG 37 1 1944

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

12 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7C, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

_____

_____

☐ For your information: _____

_____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-516

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

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FBI/DOJ

b7C

[redacted] WHJ
62-43818 -516
~~[illegible]~~
7-20-44

RECORDED
INDEXED
7-19

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~BY SPECIAL MESSENGER~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/2/82 BY SP-8075/mk

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

On March 21, 1944, I sent you a letter with an enclosed memorandum captioned, [redacted]" setting out certain information which had come to the Bureau's attention indicating that [redacted] and others were soliciting sums of money for the purpose of securing copies of cablegrams alleged to have been exchanged between the President and Mr. Churchill. These alleged cablegrams purportedly related to the so-called Tyler Kent espionage case in England. b7C

In addition, you will recall that on June 7, 1944, I furnished you in a memorandum headed, [redacted]," information relative to [redacted] reported contact with certain persons in New England in an attempt to solicit financial support for the securing of the alleged cablegrams pertaining to the Tyler Kent case. b7C

b7C, b7D

[redacted] In this connection it has been noted that an article captioned, "Mysterious Death of Owen Linked to Tyler Kent Jailing," appeared in the July 18, 1944, issue of the Washington "Times Herald," stating that Upton Close had asked whether the "mysterious" death of John Bryan Owen, free-lance journalist in Greenwich Village, New York, last January 2 was connected with the imprisonment of Tyler Kent, American Embassy Clerk in England. This newspaper article, a copy of which is attached, contains a few statements relative to the so-called Kent case.

No action is being taken by this Bureau with reference to this matter. However, I thought it should be brought to your attention as of possible interest to the President. In the event this Bureau receives further information in this matter, it will be promptly made available to you.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Rumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
JUL 21 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-MAIL SECTION
JUL 28 AM '44

DECLASSIFIED BY [illegible] ON 5-16-77

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Detroit - Michigan
July 28, 1944

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. 62-1126

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP8 ~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
DATE

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G.
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION.

[redacted]

Dear Sir:

b7D

There is being set out below the pertinent information obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau for the period July 7 through July 25, 1944. Informant advised that SMITH had informed one of his close associates [redacted] that he had been approached by responsible persons in the Republican Party but that he had no business with them because it was their intention to trade off this country to the British. SMITH said that the Republican Party is in the complete control of Governor DEWEY and that DEWEY is in the hands of a bunch of "obnoxious Jews."

b7C

Furthermore, DEWEY had called for SMITH'S liquidation and had referred to SMITH as a "rat." SMITH said that he was going to have to build a good, strong Nationalist ticket and would probably run [redacted] for Congress on the AMERICA FIRST ticket. Referring to DEWEY once more, SMITH said that he belonged to CHURCHILL and that the British Empire was to write his speeches.

b7C

[redacted] also advised that SMITH had had a conversation with Captain SOUTHARD of Chicago wherein SOUTHARD revealed that he had been embarrassed by a faction of his group under the leadership of GERTRUDE KRUGER who accused him of giving the membership list of his organization to SMITH. At this time SMITH told SOUTHARD that a person from Washington, D. C. who had written a book which had never been published, had been conferring with him and had given him some very interesting data. SMITH also asked SOUTHARD if he had heard anything from [redacted] or [redacted] to which SOUTHARD replied, "No."

b7D

b7C

The Informant stated that SMITH had been in contact with Mrs. BILLINGS, Secretary of the "We, The Mothers" of Chicago, and had discussed with her the possibilities of merging with her and various

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EX-38

27 JUL 31 1944

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other organizations. SMITH stated that there was a great deal of work for them to do and said that he favored a program that would give every organization freedom of expression. He didn't think the organizations should be federated because it weakens their usefulness.

Informant advised that certain members of SMITHS following are quite perturbed at the stand he has taken against the Republican Party. One of these followers in particular, Mrs. KNOWLES, head of one of the mothers' clubs in Detroit, thought that SMITH should make a compromise with the Republican Party. When advised of this stand SMITH stated that he had no other course of action to take inasmuch as Governor DEWEY of New York had practically called him and his people "rats."

The Informant stated that SMITH had his office manager, BERNIE DOMAN, contact various groups such as the Detroit Temperance, the Prohibition Party, and Michigan Commonwealth Federation and inquire of these people where and when they were going to hold their state conventions and who their candidates would be.

The Informant also advised that SMITH was in contact both personally and by letter with [redacted] that SMITH'S 'phone number might possibly be listed under the name of [redacted] that he had received a communication from a person named [redacted] from Missouri; that the Post Office in Detroit was holding up the delivery of the latest issue of SMITH'S magazine until he sent a letter of explanation to the Post Office as to why he had combined two months in one issue.

Other persons in contact with SMITH during this period were HARRY ROMER; Senator ROBERT RAYNOLDS of North Carolina; [redacted] phonetic - probably Pfc [redacted] who is hospitalized in the Army Hospital at Battle Creek, Michigan.) The Informant also advised that SMITH'S office manager, BERNIE DOMAN, had reserved the Jade Room at the Detroit-Leland Hotel on July 31, 1944 for a state convention of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY of Michigan.

Very truly yours,

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]dmk
62-1126

ALL
b7C

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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FBI/DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 13 OF 18

FILE NUMBER : 62-43818

SUBJECT GERALD L. K. Smith

PART 7

FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
REQUEST

SUBJECT Gerald L. K. Smith

PAGES REVIEWED: 3994

PAGES RELEASED: 2979

NOTES: Sections 37-42

NO DUPLICATION FEES FOR THIS PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 37

PAGES REVIEWED: 66

PAGES RELEASED: 60

NOTES: _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-8577

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Baltimore, Maryland	12/12/44	10/3/44	[redacted] b7c ICMC

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G; SECURITY MATTER - G; SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

America First Party committee meeting held in Alcazar Hotel, Balto. Md. 10/3/44, attended by approximately 200 members of the Party and the press. Speakers were GERALD L. K. SMITH, GEORGE WOSE, World War No. 2 disabled veteran, and Mrs. HOWARD KLEIN, of Balto. Md. Guests of honor were ERIC ARLT and Rev. Dr. WALTER M. HAUSHALTER. On speakers' platform was RALPH BAERMAN. Assemblage predominantly middle-aged men and women. No servicemen in uniform present. It was announced that Mrs. KLEIN was offered post of National Committeewoman of America First Party for state of Md. At close of meeting, upon suggestion of SMITH, Mrs. KLEIN proposed organizing a women's club in Balto. to be composed of America First Party members for the purpose of working for the best interests of returning servicemen. Proposal only half-heartedly accepted. SMITH announced that 1000 veterans committees would be organized by America First Party by March 1945. In his speech SMITH berated the alleged Communist controlled New Deal, both ROOSEVELT and DEWEY, WALTER WINCHELL, Anti-Defamation League, ROY CARLSON, BROWDER and HILLMAN, and others opposed to him. He accused ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL of plotting to rule the world before U.S. entry into the war and demanded better treatment for returning servicemen. He attacked U.S. censorship policy, British imperialism, lend-lease, Russian post-war plans in Europe, the entrance of U.S. into

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2 - Baltimore

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100-8577

secret parleys with allies, and alleged Jewish control of presidential elections. GEORGE VOSE, appearing in uniform, attacked the treatment of disabled veterans of both world wars and told of his personal persecution by U.S. Army because of membership in the America First Party.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, dated September 27, 1944.

b7c

DETAILS:

The following is a joint report of Special Agent [redacted] and the writer, who were both present and can corroborate the following information:

b

[redacted] and other highly confidential sources advised that the America First Party held a meeting in the Blue Room of the Alcazar Hotel, Cathedral and Madison Streets, Baltimore, Maryland, on October 3, 1944. The meeting was supposed to be a committee meeting of the members of the Party in Baltimore and admission was by card only. There were approximately 200 people present, of which about 65% were women, and the crowd was predominantly of the middle-aged group with a sprinkle here and there of younger people. Honored Baltimore guests of the evening were ERIC ARLT and Rev. Dr. WALTER M. HAUSHALTE Speakers of the evening were Mrs. HOWARD KLEIN, Chairlady, of 1348 James Street Baltimore, GERALD L. K. SMITH, Detroit, Michigan, and GEORGE VOSE, of Kalamazoo Michigan. VOSE is a veteran of World War No. 2, having been honorably discharged for injuries sustained in maneuvers while in the service, and who has been talking recently with GERALD L. K. SMITH.

It was announced in theearly stages of Mr. SMITH's speech that Mrs. HOWARD KLEIN had been offered the appointment of National Committeewoman for the America First Party for the state of Maryland. Mrs. KLEIN did not at that time announce her acceptance, but at the close of the meeting, at the suggestion of Mr. SMITH, she announced that she would form a women's committee or club, the purpose of which was to further the best interests of returning servicemen in the state of Maryland and the District of Columbia; that the club

would be composed of female members of the America First Party in Baltimore. This proposal was met with very little enthusiasm in that but a few women volunteered their services in connection with the organization of the club.

In his speech GERALD L. K. SMITH attacked and berated WALTER WINCHELL, ROY CARLSON, and the Anti-Defamation League, and accused them of endeavoring to prosecute real Americans, having reference, of course, to members of the America First Party, and that at their recommendation he had been investigated by the Washington "Gestapo", the FBI, and that today, that is October 3, 1944, he had appeared before a Congressional Investigation Committee who inquired into the sources of revenue of the America First Party. He stated that he was pleased that he was given this opportunity to explain to members of Congress, through this committee, the real purposesof the members of the America First Party, and he enjoyed noting the looks of surprise on the faces of these Congressmen when they learned that the real purposesof the America First Party were those purposes which had been publicly announced.

Mr. SMITH charged that the New Deal Administration was controlled by SIDNEY HILLMAN and that ROOSEVELT had made the statement that everything in connection with the present political campaign should be cleared through SIDNEY.

Mr. SMITH stated that while in Washington he had been visited by Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS and that the Senator wished he, SMITH, to inform the members of the Party who were meeting tonight that he had visited with SMITH in his hotel room in Washington.

With respect to ROY CARLSON, the author of "Undercover", SMITH referred to him as an individual who had come out of the scum of life and that he had printed deliberate, wilful lies about great Americans, such as Father COUGHLIN and himself.

SMITH stated that he had a very important message to bring to the meeting and that was the story of TYLER KENT, a heretofore obscure decoding clerk attached to the United States Embassy in Moscow. While in this capacity, young KENT, according to SMITH, had come into contact with personal communications in code between CHURCHILL and ROOSEVELT, which KENT believed constituted a conspiracy between ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL to drag the United States in the then growing conflict in Europe and by this means conspired to rule the world. Accordingly, he made copies of certain of these messages and attempted to return to the United States to put them in the hands of the proper authorities. He was transferred to the Embassy in London and the

American "Gestapo" in London determined what he had done and he was discharged. He was arrested on the steps of the Embassy by the British Police, given a secret trial and imprisoned on the Isle of White for a period of seven years. Mrs. KENT, his mother, attempted to ascertain the true story behind the arrest and gave a friend $5,000 to make a trip to England and conduct some investigation. This the friend did and got the story announced by SMITH. On his return to the United States he and a friend remained in a hotel room in New York and apparently because of a confusion of identities his friend was mysteriously murdered. This, according to SMITH, sealed the lips of the man making the investigation. Mrs. KENT is now endeavoring to secure the information in another way and publish the information before the public of the United States. This, according to SMITH, is evidence of the secret treaties and pacts and agreements entered into between ROOSEVELT and foreign powers, and that the public of the United States was not aware of what was going on.

According to SMITH, the Ogpu, the Russian Secret Police, having obtained this information, STALIN consequently holds the "lash" over the heads of both CHURCHILL and ROOSEVELT and by this means is able to accomplish whatever purposes he desires in Europe after the war.

SMITH stated that this information is public talk in England but because of unnecessary American censorship of news relatively few people in the United States have ever heard of TYLER KENT. He stated, however, that he knew what was going on and that he had learned that the Chinese forces have been defeated by the Japs, the American Air Forces in China have been defeated by the Japs, that Madam CHIANG KAISHEK is a refugee in the United States, inferring that thewar in China has already been lost, but this news has been kept from the American public and we get only news of victories.

With respect to lend-lease SMITH stated that whereas American veterans were unable to get a satisfactory bonus, our money was being forwarded to the Russians and the British for whatever purposes they wish to put the money and that frequently these purposes were against the best interests of the United States. For example, he stated that the British had used some of this money for the purpose of purchasing nylon stockings in the United States and selling them at a profit in South America, while our women were forced to go without stockings.

SMITH attacked the entrance of the United States into secret parleys such as Dumbarton Oaks wherein even members of the press were not permitted. He

charged that DEWEY was not meeting these issues squarely in the present campaign and that both DEWEY and ROOSEVELT were covering up for each other. He accused DEWEY of being an Anglophile and cited the fact that he had nominally appointed Attorney DULLES as a representative and consultant on foreign affairs. SMITH pointed out that DEWEY is Chief Attorney for the British Purchasing Commission in the United States and inferred that DEWEY would hold British interests above American interests.

With respect to the presidential campaign SMITH stated that he intended to wipe out the Jewish control of presidential elections. He stated that whenever the two major political parties conferred to choose a nominee they had always to consider what would the Jewish city of New York do with respect to the nominee. He stated that the qualifications for President of the United States should be determined by ability and not by the wishes of any minority pressure group.

With respect to the United States participation in the present war SMITH stated that the American boys and girls were fighting and dying to further the interests of British imperialism. As an example of this he stated that at Tarawa, after the American Marines had landed at great costs and had rid the island of the enemy, the union jack was hoisted. At this point SMITH vehemently stated "I will never consent that one drop of American blood should be spilled to advance or maintain the boundaries of the British Empire."

Throughout his speech SMITH frequently referred to the great personal danger that he was subjecting himself to in campaigning for real Americans and a return of the control of the American Government to Americans.

GEORGE VOSE was introduced by Mr. SMITH and appearing in uniform gave a heated speech attacking the treatment of disabled veterans of both world wars. VOSE did not attack the medical treatment given but rather the amount of the pensions, stating that Jap internees were paid more than American soldiers who had lost eyes and limbs fighting for their country. He announced that this was the beginning of his fight to see that veterans in the United States would be given ample funds out of the Treasury of the United States to maintain them and their families, and that this money would be made up from a discontinuance of the payment of lend-lease money to our Allies.

VOSE also told of his personal persecution by the United States Army, brought

about because of his membership in the America First Party. He stated that they had gone so far as to try to give him a dishonorable discharge in spite of the fact that he was wounded on manmuvers, but this had been overcome and he had character references and an honorable discharge from his Commanding Officer. These documents were on file in Mr. SMITH's personal file and would be made available to anyone who wanted to see them.

At the close of the meeting pamphlets containing the platform of the America First Party and copies of the official organ of the America First Party "The Cross and The Flag" were offered for sale to anyone caring to purchase them. It was noted that quite a few of those present purchased these publications.

One copy of each of the above publications, as well as a newspaper account of the meeting which appeared in the Baltimore Sun on Wednesday Morning October 4, 1944, are being forwarded to the office of origin as enclosures to this report.

ENCLOSURE: TO THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION——Copy of each of the above.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE
- OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

INFORMANTS

[redacted]

b7C, b7D

JEH:WMJ

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark — December 23, 19

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your further information in your consideration of the instant c there are attached copies of the following two additional reports which have been received:

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Baltimore, Maryland, on December 12, 1944.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, on December 9, 1944.

As a matter of possible further interest, there are also attached c of the following enclosures which are listed and discussed in Special Agent [redacted] report:

1. A leaflet headed, "The Story of: Tyler Kent."
2. A booklet entitled, "Vote CIO and get a Soviet America."
3. A copy of subject Smith's testimony before the House Committee Investigating Campaign Expenditures.
4. A leaflet headed, "Stalin's Men Win the Election."
5. Editions of subject's publication, "The Cross and the Flag," issued for September, October, and November, 1944.

With reference to our previous correspondence concerning the filing requirements imposed upon Smith, as a candidate for public office, by the Fed Corrupt Practices Act, your attention is particularly invited to the enclosed of Smith's testimony before the House Investigating Committee as well as cert information relative to this phase of the matter appearing on pages 10 and 11 Special Agent [redacted] report.

In the event you are desirous of having any investigation conducted to this particular phase of the matter please advise me.

Enclosure

MCB

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DEC 28 1944

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DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8 BKJ/MC

JPHa:WEJ

SAC, Detroit

December 23, 1944

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, was; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C; SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION.

Reference is made to the report submitted in the instant case by Specia
Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on December 9, 1944.

The synopsis in the copies of this report designated for the Bureau has been altered to the extent of making the fifth sentence read, "Smith has been in contact recently with numerous nationalist leaders, and with Senators Gerald Nye Robert Reynolds, and Congressman Clare Hoffman," instead of "Smith has been in co recently with numerous nationalist leaders, including Senators Gerald Nye and Bob Reynolds, and Congressman Clare Hoffman."

Please similarly alter the copies of the report which you have retained in your file.

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DEC 23 1944

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★ DEC 23 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

74 JAN 6 1945
172

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: December 26, 1944

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH; AMERICA FIRST PARTY; INTERNAL SECURITY SEDITION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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During the period from December 6 to December 19, 1944 the following information was received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, concerning the activities of the Subject SMITH:

SMITH attended a lecture given by the Columnist DREW PEARSON in Detroit on December 5, 1944 but was apparently not embarrassed by questions directed from the audience concerning SMITH. PEARSON stated in substance that SMITH had the right of free speech and his statements and writings might be so justified. SMITH has not been particularly active during the past two weeks and has held no meetings, although he is now planning a meeting which will be held in the English Room of the Book Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, on December 28, 1944 at 8:00 p.m. Evidently fearing to rent the room at the hotel in his own name, he has taken the reservation under the name of "The Subscription Committee."

SMITH has had some dealings with Congressman CLINTON ANDERSON of the Congressional Committee investigating campaign expenditures. There has been a discrepancy noted in the reports filed by SMITH with the Senate and the House. In the Senate report he listed receipts of $41,000.00 and expenditures of $38,000.00 while in the report furnished to the House Committee, he listed receipts of $10,000.00 and expenditures of $10,000.00. SMITH tried to explain this discrepancy to ANDERSON on the grounds that the report to the House Committee was really a report to the Clerk of the House and called for this information. ANDERSON then requested that the expenditures be broken down for his committee and SMITH stated that while he would not be willing to do this under the Corrupt Practices Act, he would be willing to do it for ANDERSON's committee and would secure the information as soon as possible.

SMITH has also been in contact with Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS and in answer to SMITH's request for some reliable means of keeping in touch with the situation in Washington, REYNOLDS suggested that SMITH get in touch with "The Capitol Gist Co." and that he also subscribe to the Congressional Record. SMITH's close connection with REYNOLDS is indicated by many references in a recent letter from REYNOLDS to "My Dear GERALD" and it is noted that the letter is signed "BOB".

SMITH continues to distribute literature. He [redacted] copies of his October magazine "The Cross and The Flag" to CARL [redacted] of Indianapolis and has sent large numbers of the magazine on order to other people. He

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advised ELIZABETH DILLING at Chicago that her first order arrived okay. This obviously referred to a shipment of DILLING's book "The Octopus," a large number of which SMITH had previously ordered from her. The details of this transaction are set out in Detroit Field Division letter to the Bureau dated December 8, 1944.

Dr. LELAND MARION, who was Candidate for Governor of Michigan on the AMERICA FIRST PARTY Ticket, is trying to get the cooperation of various minority parties in Michigan, including the Prohibition Party and the Michigan Commonwealth Federation to demand a United States Senate investigation of the recent election in Michigan. This investigation is to be on the grounds that the minority parties were not actually credited with the votes which they received. SMITH does not seem too enthusiastic about this plan since he has said he does not want to raise the hopes of his people only to find they will get nowhere. In the course of a recent conversation MARION also advised that he had been in contact with GERALD WINROD who had described to MARION his experiences in court, evidently referring to the Washington Sedition Trial.

DON LOHBECK, who in November took over the job of BERNARD BOMAN as Secretary to SMITH, has been drafted although a Conscientious Objector and reported for duty at [redacted] b7c

SMITH contends that LOHBECK was drafted principally because of his connection with him, SMITH.

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Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

January 3, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

A confidential source of information, whose identity cannot be disclosed, has informed us that there apparently were some discrepancies in the reports filed by Smith, as to his recent campaign, with the House and Senate Committees Investigating Campaign Expenditures. In his report to the Senate Committee Smith allegedly listed receipts of approximately $41,000 and expenditures of about $38,000. However, according to our source of information, in the report he furnished to the House Committee, Smith claimed that he had received $10,000 and expended an identical sum.

We have further been advised that Congressman Anderson, of the House Committee, has requested Smith to break down his list of expenditures, this in contrast to merely listing them in a lump sum. According to our source of information, Smith does not feel that he is required to do this by law but he has indicated to Congressman Anderson that he will break down his expenditures and furnish this information to the House Committee as soon as possible.

In order that the concealment of the identity of our source of information may be assured, I shall appreciate your considering this data as being most confidential and your utilizing this information, if at all, in a most circumspect manner.

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DATE 10/21/92 BY SP-8075

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
JAN 3 - 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

4-750 (2-7-79)

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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RECORDED 62-43818

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information in your consideration of this case, there is transmitted herewith a photostatic copy of an article dated "January - 1945" and entitled, "A Call to the Brave — This is our Opportune Moment." As you will observe, the article is signed by subject Smith.

It would appear that Smith has possibly mailed this article to various people throughout the country as this particular copy was furnished us by a correspondent in Harbor Springs, Michigan, who received it in the mails.

Enc.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/MC

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
JUN 1 - 1945 P.M.
1945 BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JPH

A CALL TO THE BRAVE -- THIS IS OUR OPPORTUNE MOMENT

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DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-1BTI/[illegible]

January - 1945

Dear Fellow American:

To date, 745,000 of our American boys have been killed, wounded, captured in this war. The casualty list could easily pass the one mil mark within the next 30 days.

If you are interested in the boys who are still alive, as well as grief-stricken loved ones of the wounded, dead, and missing, you will every line of this important letter.

If we Nationalists fail to act now on the opportunity that is our America is doomed. In the past 30 days tremendous things have happene (1) Roosevelt, after returning from his month's vacation, in a press c ference confessed that the Atlantic Charter never existed. We had bee made to believe that it was a written document, signed by Churchill [illegible] Roosevelt. The President now admits, after three years of war, [illegible] such document exists. (2) Churchill reveals that he and Stalin [illegible] some sort of deal to divide Europe into zones of influence. For [illegible] British boy fighting in Europe, there are three American boys. [illegible], while we suffer the rate of 50,000 casualties per week in Europe, Stal and Churchill are dickering and trading for political power. (3) Sta now refuses to recognize the exiled government of Poland, made up of Christians, and insists that Poland be ruled by his Communist puppets. Without consulting at least openly with us, Stalin is organizing his puppet governments in Eastern Europe.

When Churchill was pressed for an explanation of his power-politi he revealed that what he was doing and what Stalin was doing had been agreed to by Mr. Roosevelt in Teheran. Thus, we find that Mr. Rooseve without the approval of the Senate, has evidently entered into secret deals with Imperialistic Britain and Communistic Russia. We furnish blood and the money, and they bargain with each other over our blood a our money.

You and I must do something immediately. There is plenty to do, it must be done quickly. Will you help?

Here is the situation: I have contacted some of my friends in Wa ington who are in both Houses of Congress. There is a willingness on part of certain members of the Senate to demand of Mr. Roosevelt an ex planation of his conduct.

Two months ago the Internationalists were bragging that Nationali was a dead proposition. Today, Nationalism is stronger than it has ev been before. People who insisted that we, through Dumbarton Oaks and other schemes hatched by the International Bankers, were about to be l into a Super State, now admit that Nationalism and those who have been its ridiculed leaders are in the strongest position they have been in since Pearl Harbor.

Even members of Congress who were elected on a lukewarm basis, or leaned toward Internationalism, are now in a mood to question the wisc of our joining a Super State, such as was outlined in the Dumbarton Oa Conference. The Internationalists are desperate. They realize that Churchill, Stalin, and Roosevelt have all blundered. They know what c argument will be; namely--if the Atlantic Charter was a fake, then how can we trust any sort of an agreement entered into by the same parties having to do with a World Government.

The situation is desperate, and unless I can count on you to help together with others like you, we will lose our opportunity to defeat the Super State plan, which will be presented within the next few days in Washington.

62-43814-634

Should this Super State plan be approved and adopted, it would mean that our boys could be kept indefinitely in foreign countries to carry out the will of the Super State, which would be dominated by Stalin and Churchill They would not hesitate to send our boys into battle to die for the preservation of their Imperial and Communist schemes when the war was over.

Today we are doing most of the fighting and furnishing most of the blood. Russia was supposed to have opened a second front on the Polish border. The British have virtually deserted Italy. Outside of a little help from the Australians, we are carrying the load in the Pacific Unless something is done about it, one million more boys will be killed, wounded, and captured within the next eight months.

I have been in conversation with a member of the United States Senat who believes that we should demand of our President and our State Department a complete definition of war aims and peace aims. We are rapidly becoming the most hated people on earth. Even news dispatches out of London reveal that the British (although we have given them billions and billions and billions) hate us almost as much as our military enemies.

Just as I write this letter the news dispatches reveal that the British newspapers are demanding that our bleeding and fighting armies be put under the command of a British General, on the grounds that our Generals are incompetent.

Since I wrote to you last time I have contacted important Nationalists all over the United States, in and out of Congress. They are willin to cooperate with me in a strategic program demanding that. . .

THE REAL PURPOSE OF THIS WAR BE EXPLAINED SATISFACTORILY.

If the President, the State Department, in cooperation with the Senate, cannot give a satisfactory explanation of the purpose and aims of this war, then our boys should be brought home alive, immediately.

Yes, I know these are strong words, but they are made necessary by the fact that we have just been told that the Atlantic Charter, which for three years has been a definition of war aims, has been a fake. The Nation has never known such fakery and deceit. For instance, the OWI printed thousands of copies of the so-called Atlantic Charter, bearing th signatures of Roosevelt and Churchill. These copies were hung in school houses, newspaper offices, public libraries, and army camps.

If we swallow this fakery, then there is no hope. But I have encour agement for you. The pot is boiling in Washington as it has not boiled i years. Men like United States Senator Burton K. Wheeler are prepared to blow off the lid and demand a show-down.

Furthermore, let me encourage you by saying that people who were almost spitting on me sixty days ago now are in a mood to listen. I know a Congressman who was elected as an Internationalist who now is talking and writing like Smith, Nye, and Fish.

I am not interested in hearing from weaklings and cowards, but I say to you, if my best friends will stand with me now, we can win within the next 60 to 90 days, a Nationalist victory, which may last for 25 years. I I can raise the money to finance the modest plans I have in mind we can bring pressure to bear on every important Congressional Committee involve in this fight, and we can accomplish the following victories:

1. Defeat the Dumbarton Oaks conspiracy as pre-digested and handed to us by the British and the Russians.
2. Defeat the plan for an International Police Force.

3. Defeat the scheme of the British to continue Lend Lease after the war and make us the tax-slaves of their Empire.
4. Defeat the scheme to get us into a sort of Super State, equivalent to rejoining the British Empire.
5. Obtain a satisfactory outline of peace aims from the United States Senate which will put America First.
6. Result: If we accomplish the above, and I believe we can, it will save our country 100 billion dollars and the lives of a million of our boys.

Here's my plan:

1. I want to call a conference immediately of leading Nationalists from all over the United States to meet in some central point for the purpose of planning the fight.
2. We will form an emergency committee.
3. I will visit the proper members of both Houses of Congress, while at the same time we will place literature and enlightenin information in their hands.
4. We will inspire radio programs.
5. We will inspire Nationalists to write their Congressmen and Senators.
6. We will urge that meetings be held all over the United States.

We can win! We can stop this international conspiracy. We can hel see to it that the war is not prolonged one unnecessary day. We can sav your son and loved one from the risk of being in an international conscripted army 10 years from now. This is the most serious thing I have ever written you about. It is more serious than the election because Dewey and Roosevelt had committed themselves to the same Internationalis behind the scenes.

I receive all the leading newspapers of the Nation. One thing has stood out: The Internationalists admit that we Nationalists are in the best position we have been in. They confess that the behavior of Stalin and Churchill has been a serious blow to Internationalism, World Governm Super Stateism, etc.

As you know, our organization is the only one in the United States organized on a national basis which has kept the torch of Nationalism bu ing. But for the help of you and others we could not have carried on. contributions in response to our monthly letters have just been barely enough to maintain our headquarters, meet our payroll and postage bills, and to maintain our routine activities.

Although our enemies prophesied our complete finish a few weeks ago we are now in a position to accomplish our greatest victory. It will re quire, beyond the regular contributions necessary to keep our routine an publishing activities going, at least $5000 to finance the formation of this emergency committee, call a National Conference, and make the neces sary contacts in Washington in person and by correspondence. I am not o asking you to help, but I am asking you to help more generously in this particular thing than you have ever helped before.

Please reach down deep into your purse this time. I am not bashful about asking you to do this. It isn't for me any more than it is for yo It is the most important thing to which you could give money. It may sa the lives of a million men. Ours is the only organization preparing to carry on this fight on a nationwide scale. If we fail now to fulfill ou responsibility, God will not bless us in the future. This is one call

which involves your whole future life and the future destiny of America.

I am not going to promise you a premium because we cannot afford it All who respond to this letter, using the attached coupon, will be kept formed concerning the activities of the emergency committee. We will ke you informed concerning the progress of legislation and committee hearir in Washington. Among the other things which will be done, if you help, will be my appearance before the United States Senate Foreign Affairs Committee. If you have an idea, do not hesitate to give it to me.

All who respond to this letter will be given information as to how they can qualify for credentials to attend the National Emergency Confer ence and other important gatherings, one of which will be held in Washin ton. Please give until it hurts -- and then give some more. If your limit is $1.00, God bless you. It will do its part. If you can give $1 or $5.00 or $20.00 or $50.00, or whatever is your limit, please, I beg o you, make it as generous as possible, this time above all times.

Help! Help! Help! and we will never let you down. I will lead you this fight as long as there is pulse in my wrist and beat in my heart, dare not slacken. To slow down or turn back now would betray innocent blood, and saddle upon our children and their children's children the ill burdens and the money burdens of the world.

Fill out the attached coupon and rush it to me. If you are some di tance removed, use an air mail stamp. Read the coupon very carefully and fill it out accordingly.

Sincerely yours for Christ and Americ

Gerald L. K. Smith

GERALD L. K. SMITH

Post Office Box 459
Detroit 31, Michigan

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - COUPON - TEAR OFF HERE - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST CRUSADE
POST OFFICE BOX 459
DETROIT 31, MICHIGAN

Yes, I want all the information concerning the emergency fight to save our country, our sons, and our future. My prayers are with you as you set up the National Conference, the regional conferences, and the fighting and crusading activities in Washington, D. C. I will stand by you as you prepare to appear before the committees of both Houses of Congress.

I enclose my contribution of $_____ to help bear the financial burden involved in this undertaking.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ Zone_____ State_____

GLKS:L
January - 1945

JPHa:WMJ
62-43818

January 13, 1945

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

b7c

This will acknowledge receipt of the material which you and [redacted] forwarded to this Bureau under date of January 8, 1945.

Your interest in bringing this matter to our attention is much appreci and it is suggested that should you in the future receive additional data you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, you may desire to communicate directly with the Special Agent in Charge of our Grand Rapids Field Division which is located at 715 Grand Rapids National Bank Building, Grand Rapids 2, Michigan.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/17/82 BY SP-1 BTP/pc

RECEIVED-MAIL
JAN 13 1945
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7C, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information:

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-635

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: December 26, 1944

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/2/92 BY [illegible]

In accordance with Bureau letter of December 2, 1944 indicating interest in information about a certain [redacted] of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Field Division is being requested herewith to make a discreet investigation of [redacted] to determine his identity and background, the extent of his connection with the Subject SMITH, and the progress, if any, which [redacted] is making in his plan to upset the results of the recent Presidential Election by filing a mandamus suit. The Los Angeles Field Division is requested to be most discreet in its investigation of [redacted] and to report its findings at an early date. No copies of this report should be sent to any outside agency.

For the information of the Los Angeles Field Division, [redacted] plan which seeks to upset the Presidential Election by claiming that twenty-one of the states failed to list the names of their Presidential electors on their ballots in the recent election. [redacted] that this is a violation of the 12th and 14th Amendments to the United States Constitution and he allegedly contemplates filing a mandamus suit in one of these twenty-one states to test the validity of such election. [redacted] the Subject SMITH, [redacted] These people are believed to be providing financial support for his plan. He may also be receiving support from various "mothers groups" and women's organizations in other sections of the country.

The records of the Detroit Field Division indicate that [redacted] was at one time connected with [redacted]

It is requested that Los Angeles expedite this inquiry since it is considered likely that if [redacted] plans to file this suit, he will do so within the very near future.

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62-1126 V.15
cc - Los Angeles

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b7c

JPHa:WMJ

SAC, Detroit

RECORDED 62-43818-636

January 9, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

Reference is made to your letter of December 26, 1944, requesting that the Los Angeles Office conduct a discreet investigation of [redacted], who, you will recall, has figured in this investigation on several occasions. More specifically, [redacted] is known to have been in contact with subject Smith and others relative to an alleged plan to upset the results of the Presidential Election by filing a mandamus suit.

The Bureau feels that it is of pertinence to the instant case to know something additional as to [redacted] background and activities and, accordingly, the Los Angeles Office should proceed with the investigation you have requested. However, the Bureau desires to caution the Los Angeles Office that this inquiry should be of a most discreet nature and should relate primarily to the assembling of pertinent data as to [redacted] background, activities, inclinations, contacts, etc. [redacted], and we are interested in him primarily because of the fact that he has on several occasions been mentioned in connection with the activities of subject Smith.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/12/82 BY SP. [illegible]

cc - Los Angeles

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JAN 10 1945
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JAN 9 6 PM

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

JAN 18 1945

ALL 67C

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
January 9, 1945

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
AIR MAIL

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 LEDCB
ON 8/18/77

Dear Sir:

During the period from December 19, 1944, to January 7, 1945, inclusive, the following information concerning the activities of the subject SMITH was received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

b7D

SMITH is evidently still having difficulty in satisfying the demands of the House Committee on Campaign Expenditures headed by Congressman CLINTON ANDERSON, having recently received a wire requesting that a statement of expenditures be filed. SMITH states he has now reached a satisfactory agreement, however, with Congressman ANDERSON.

SMITH is still concerned about the activities of HOMER MAERZ of Chicago, who has been in Detroit for several weeks in an effort to contact SMITH. [redacted] says that MAERZ's correct name is GUSTAVE MAERZ and not HOMER, that he is tied up with the Ku Klux Klan in some way and works strictly under cover. CARL MOTE is frequently mentioned by MAERZ as the next United States Senator from Indiana. MOTE has told SMITH he thinks MAERZ is sincere but "the lady in Chicago" (probably Mrs. DILLING) told SMITH she did not feel secure when he was around. SMITH still feels that MAERZ may be an "operative" and said there was a bonus of $5,000 out for anyone who could "do a job on him." [redacted] has been in Detroit during the past few weeks and MAERZ is said to have invited him to come to Chicago and offered to pay his railroad fare.

b7C

CARL MOTE spoke at a meeting of SMITH's America First Party held on December 28, 1944, at the English Room of the Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit. Evidently fearing that the hotel might not rent the room to the America First Party, the reservation for the meeting at the hotel was made in another name, although informant did not know what other name had been used.

SMITH recently sent a check for a subscription to "The Jewish Sentinel," a weekly magazine published in Chicago. This publication is said to have been making attacks upon SMITH recently. The publication, however, refused to accept the subscription and returned his check to him.

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DATE 11/12/82 BY SP-8 BTS/Jah

79 JAN 20 1945

Within the past few days a certain [redacted], who told SMITH that he was a friend of his from New York and had formerly been a member of the old America First Committee, warned SMITH that he should be very careful in his dealing with Jews since they were out to "get him."

An unknown divinity student who has been studying under Dr. WALTER MAIER at the Concordia Seminary of the Lutheran Church in Saint Louis, Missouri, was advised by SMITH to contact [redacted] secretary to Mr. BENNETT of the Ford Motor Company. The student should request [redacted] permission to contact a Mr. KNOWELL who can help the student in an article he is writing on Communism.

The procedure for the recount of the America First Party votes in Oakland County, Michigan, has been proceeding and SMITH was advised by Dr. LELAND MARION of Pontiac, the Party's candidate for Governor in the recent election, that affidavits obtained by MARION indicate a great many America First votes in Oakland County were not counted and that there is at least a fifty per cent error in the tabulation. SMITH believes this is sensational and is sending out a letter to his followers giving the details. SMITH told informant that Senator REYNOLDS upon his retirement from Congress had become associated with West and Donald, a Washington law firm and that SMITH as a consequence now has a good lawyer in Washington.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]
62-1126

ALL
b7c

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation DATE: January 19, 1945

FROM : Tom C. Clark, Assistant Attorney General TCC:SPM:esw 146-28-43

SUBJECT: Gerald L. K. Smith, The America First Party; Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925.

Reference is made to the Department's memorandum of January 6, 1945, requesting an investigation in the above captioned matter. Yesterday, Special Agent [redacted] conferred with members of the Civil Rights Section and suggested that a memorandum be forwarded setting forth more in detail the scope of the investigation desired.

1. The original request laid particular stress upon the report which should have been filed with the Clerk of the House on January 1, 1945, by the America First Party, pursuant to Section 305 of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act. This Section also requires the filing of a report with the Clerk of the House between the 1st and 10th days of March, June, and September, and also between the 10th and 15th days and on the 5th day next preceding the date of the general election.

It is requested that the records of the Clerk of the House be checked to determine whether or not the America First Party filed any reports in March, June, September, between October 23 and 28 and on November 2, 1944. In the event any reports were filed the pertinent information therein contained should be noted in the investigative report.

2. Section 305 requires the filing of a report by the treasurer of a political committee. The term "political committee" is defined in Section 302(c) of the Act to include any committee or organization which accepts contributions or makes expenditures for the purpose of influencing or attempting to influence the election of candidates or presidential and vice presidential electors in two or more states. Mr. Smith testified before the Anderson Committee that he was the official candidate for President of the America First Party and that he was on the ballot in Michigan and in Texas. It is believed advisable to have the investigation determine specifically whether or not Mr. Smith was a recognized candidate in these two states, so that there will be no question but that the America First Party was a political committee within the purview of the Act.

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3. In Congressman Anderson's letter, a copy of which was transmitted with the memorandum of January 6, he pointed out that the America First Party filed with his committee a memorandum covering the period from September 1 to November 7, showing certain

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JAN 20 1945
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receipts and expenditures. However, the America First Party filed with the Green Committee of the Senate a report of expenditures from January 1, 1944, to September 1, 1944, showing much larger contributions and expenditures than those shown in the report filed with the Anderson Committee. It is suggested that the agents contact Robert T. Murphy, Esq., General Counsel for the Green Committee, and obtain from him such information as the records of that Committee may contain.

4. It is also requested that the agents contact the General Counsel of the Anderson Committee and obtain such information as the records of that Committee may contain.

5. Section 305 of the Act requires that the reports be filed by the treasurer of the political committee. In his testimony before the Anderson Committee Mr. Smith testified that he assumes full responsibility for the America First Party. It will be necessary to determine the name and address of the treasurer of this Party. It will be noted that the Party did file certain reports with the Clerk of the House on October 19 and November 6. These reports will probably contain the necessary information concerning the identity of the treasurer of the America First Party.

6. It is noted that in the December 9, 1944, investigative report by Special agent [redacted] Detroit File No. 62-1126, that Bernard Doman, Smith's Secretary, testified before the Dies Committee on October 18 and left Smith's employ on November 3, 1944. It is suggested that Mr. Doman be interviewed for such information as he may have relevant to this investigation. b7c

7. It is noted that in your memorandum of January 3, 1945, entitled, "Gerald L. K. Smith, The America First Party; Internal Security, Sedition", you requested that the information therein set forth concerning the reports filed by Smith with the House and Senate Investigating Committees be considered as most confidential. Accordingly, you may not desire to have Mr. Smith interviewed in the course of the investigation requested by my memorandum of January 6. The information necessary to determine whether the failure to file the report on January 1 was wilful may conceivably be obtained without interviewing Mr. Smith. It is suggested therefore that the reports be made available to the Criminal Division without any interview of Mr. Smith, so that we may determine whether or not it will be absolutely necessary to interview him in the course of this investigation.

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: January 6, 1945

FROM : Tom C. Clark, Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division.

TCC: SPM:rk
146-28-43

SUBJECT: Gerald L. K. Smith, The America First Party, Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925.

The Honorable Clinton P. Anderson, Chairman of the Special Committee to Investigate Campaign Expenditures for the House of Representatives, 1944, has written to the Attorney General, calling attention to the fact that the America First Party had not filed with the Clerk of the House the final financial statement required by Section 305 of the Corrupt Practices Act of 1925, 2 U.S.C. 244. A copy of Congressman Anderson's letter is transmitted herewith.

The Clerk of the House of Representatives indicates that the America First Party filed on October 19, 1944, a report under the Federal Corrupt Practices Act and that on November 6th, the America First Party filed a second report to which Gerald L. K. Smith's name had been added. However, neither the America First Party nor Gerald L. K. Smith have filed, as of today, the report required by Section 305(c).

You will note that in his letter Congressman Anderson refers to a memorandum filed with his Committee by the America First Party covering the period for September 1 to November 7, 1944. This memorandum showed receipts of $10,978.10 and expenditures of $10,953.91. However, the America First Party supplied the Anderson Committee with a report which was a copy of the report filed with the Senate Campaign Expenditures Committee, listing expenditures from January 1, 1944, to September 1, 1944, in the amount of $39,370.65, with contributions during that same period of $41,300.85. Congressman Anderson indicates that he cannot tell whether the America First Party is a different organization from the America First Political Party; whether one is the successor to the other or whether the two reports should have been consolidated, because in the report covering the period from September 1 to November 7th, Mr. Smith refers in his letter of transmittal to "The America First Political Party" but in the body of his report refers to receipts of the "America First Party".

In his appearance before the Anderson Committee on October 3, 1944, Mr. Smith testified that the America First Party, which was a continuity between the America First Committee and the Party which war organized, was established as a state party in Michigan about August 1st and became a national party about September 1st. However, in his testimony Mr. Smith discussed a national convention of the America First Party held at Detroit, February 7, 1943. A convention was held in Detroit, Michigan, on August 29th and 30th, 1944, and Mr. Smith became the Party's presidential candidate. There is no

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question but that the America First Party was a political committee within the definition of that term in the Federal Corrupt Practices Act and that the Treasurer of such Committee was required to file with the Clerk of the House on January 1, 1945, the statement required by Section 305 of the Act.

Congressman Anderson states that his Committee tried repeatedly to get satisfactory information from the America First Party but has failed. Your attention is directed to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated December 9, 1944, titled "Gerald L. K. Smith, with aliases, The America First Party", and designated as Detroit File No. 62-1126. At page 10 of this report it is indicated that on November 27, 1944, Congressman Anderson advised Mr. Smith that a complete record of the campaign expenditures had not been furnished to his Committee, and that a copy of the report sent by Smith to the Senate Committee, was not properly itemized as required by law. It is further stated that Mr. Smith indicated that he thought this request routine and would take care of it at some time in the future. b7c

Section 314 (a) of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act, 2 U.S.C. 252 (a) provides for a fine of not more than $1,000 or imprisonment for not more than 1 year or both for a violation of Section 305. Where the violation of this Section is wilful, penalty is increased by Section 314(b) to a fine of not more than $10,000 or imprisonment for not more than 2 years. It is requested, therefore, that a complete investigation be immediately instituted in the premises to determine the reasons for the failure of the America First Party to file the report required by Section 305 as of January 1, 1945. This investigation should seek to determine whether or not the failure to file the required report was wilful so that the Department may determine whether the alleged violation falls within Section 314(a) or 314(b).

//

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C O P Y

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

House of Representatives

Special Committee to Investigate
Campaign Expenditures for the
House of Representatives, 1944

January 3, 1945

The Honorable Francis Biddle
Attorney General of the United States
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Biddle:

Before the House Committee to Investigate Campaign Expenditures expires today under the terms of the resolution creating it, I feel I should call your attention to the fact that the America First Political Party had not, as of 11 A.M. on January 3 filed with the Clerk of the House, the final financial statement required by Section 305 of the Corrupt Practices Act.

Our Committee has tried repeatedly to get satisfactory information from the America First Political Party but has failed and as Chairman I was extremely anxious to see the report which the Party would file and which under subsection C of Section 305 would have covered the calendar year of 1944. I wanted this because the America First Party claims to have come into existence August 31, 1944 and did file a memorandum covering the period from September 1 through November 7, 1944. That memorandum showed receipts of $10,978.10 and expenditures of $10,953.91. However, the America First Party supplied our Committee with a report which was a copy of a report filed with the Senate Campaign Expenditures Committee and it listed expenditures from January 1, 1944 to September 1, 1944 in the amount of $39,370.65 with contributions during that same period of $41,300.85. I cannot tell whether the America First Party is a different organization from the America First Political Party; whether one is a successor to the other or whether the two reports should have been consolidated, because in the report covering the period from September 1 to November 7, Mr. Smith refers in his letter of transmittal to the "America First Political Party" but in the body of his report refers to the receipts of the "America First Party."

Since the Corrupt Practices Act does not seem to say whose responsibility it shall be to see that a statement is filed by a political party or to enforce the proper sections of the law, I thought this matter might properly be called to your attention.

Sincerely yours,

/S/ Clinton P. Anderson

Clinton P. Anderson
Chairman

ENCLOSURE

CPA:d

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EPB:WMJ

SAC, Washington

January 30, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1925

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/3/82 BY 5080

Reference is made to the current investigation of subject Smith in Detroit, Michigan, under the caption, "Gerald L. K. Smith; The America First Party; Internal Security; Sedition." Under date of January 6, 1945, we received a memorandum from the Criminal Division of the Department bearing on the filing requirements of the America First Party (in connection with its efforts in the recent campaign) as set forth in the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925, Sections 241-256, Title 2, United States Code. Pertinent portions of this memorandum which requested an investigation to ascertain Smith's intent (particularly whether it was wilful) in failing to file a final statement with the Clerk of the House of Representatives on January 1, 1945, are set forth below:

"The Honorable Clinton P. Anderson, Chairman of the Special Committee to Investigate Campaign Expenditures for the House of Representatives, 1944, has written to the Attorney General, calling attention to the fact that the America First Party had not filed with the Clerk of the House the final financial statement required by Section 305 of the Corrupt Practices Act of 1925, 2 U.S.C. 244. A copy of Congressman Anderson's letter is transmitted herewith.

"The Clerk of the House of Representatives indicates that the America First Party filed on October 19, 1944, a report under the Federal Corrupt Practices Act and that on November 6th, the America First Party filed a second report to which Gerald L. K. Smith's name had been added. However, neither the America First Party nor Gerald L. K. Smith have filed, as of today, the report required by Section 305(c).

"You will note that in his letter Congressman Anderson refers to a memorandum filed with his Committee by the America First Party covering the period for September 1 to November 7, 1944. This memorandum showed receipts of $10,976.10 and expenditures of $10,953.91. However, the America First Party supplied the Anderson Committee with a report which was a copy of the report filed with the Senate Campaign Expenditures Committee, listing expenditures from January 1, 1944, to September 1, 1944, in the amount of $39,370.65, with contributions during that same period of $43,300.85. Congressman Anderson indicates that he cannot tell whether the America First Party is a different organization from the America First Political Party; whether one is the successor to the other or whether the two reports should have been consolidated, because in the report covering the period from September 1 to November 7th, Mr. Smith refers in his letter of transmittal to 'The America First Political Party' but in the body of his report refers to receipts of the 'America First Party.'

"In his appearance before the Anderson Committee on October 3, 1944, Mr. Smith testified that the America First Party, which was a

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

62-43818-639

continuity between the America First Committee and the Party which was organized, was established as a state party in Michigan about August 1st and became a national party about September 1st. However, in his testimony Mr. Smith discussed a national convention of the America First Party held at Detroit, February 7, 1943. A convention was held in Detroit, Michigan, on August 29th and 30th, 1944, and Mr. Smith became the Party's presidential candidate. There is no question but that the America First Party was a political committee within the definition of that term in the Federal Corrupt Practices Act and that the Treasurer of such Committee was required to file with the Clerk of the House on January 1, 1945, the statement required by Section 305 of the Act.

"Congressman Anderson states that his Committee tried repeatedly to get satisfactory information from the America First Party but has failed. Your attention is directed to the report of Special Agent [redacted], dated December 9, 1944, titled 'Gerald L. K. Smith, With aliases, The America First Party', and designated as Detroit File No. 62-1126. At page 10 of this report it is indicated that on November 27, 1944, Congressman Anderson advised Mr. Smith that a complete record of the campaign expenditures had not been furnished to his Committee, and that a copy of the report sent by Smith to the Senate Committee, was not properly itemized as required by law. It is further stated that Mr. Smith indicated that he thought this request routine and would take care of it at some time in the future.

b7c

"Section 314 (a) of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act, 2 U.S.C. 252 (a) provides for a fine of not more than $1,000 or imprisonment for not more than 1 year or both for a violation of Section 305. Where the violation of this Section is wilful, penalty is increased by Section 314 (b) to a fine of not more than $10,000 or imprisonment for not more than 2 years. It is requested, therefore, that a complete investigation be immediately instituted in the premises to determine the reasons for the failure of the America First Party to file the report required by Section 305 as of January 1, 1945. This investigation should seek to determine whether or not the failure to file the required report was wilful so that the Department may determine whether the alleged violation falls within Section 314 (a) or 314 (b).

There are also attached copies of the letter from Congressman Anderson to the Attorney General. You will note that considerable mention is made of this letter in the Criminal Division's memorandum.

Inasmuch as it appeared from available information that the America First Party had failed to file other statements required by the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925 and thereby were possibly guilty of other violations, a requ was made for clarification of the extent of the investigation desired by the Criminal Division. The pertinent portions of a recent memorandum from the Criminal Division setting forth more in detail the scope of the investigation desired is quoted below:

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"1. The original request laid particular stress upon the report which should have been filed with the Clerk of the House on January 1, 1945, by the America First Party, pursuant to Section 305 of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act. This Section also requires the filing of a report with the Clerk of the House between the 1st and 10th days of March, June, and September, and also between the 10th and 15th days and on the 5th day next preceding the date of the general election.

"It is requested that the records of the Clerk of the House be checked to determine whether or not the America First Party filed any reports in March, June, September, between October 23 and 28 and on November 2, 1944. In the event any reports were filed the pertinent information therein contained should be noted in the investigative report.

"2. Section 305 requires the filing of a report by the treasurer of a political committee. The term 'Political Committee' is defined in Section 302 (c) of the Act to include any committee or organization which accepts contributions or makes expenditures for the purpose of influencing or attempting to influence the election of candidates or presidential and vice presidential electors in two or more states. Mr. Smith testified before the Anderson Committee that he was the official candidate for President of the America First Party and that he was on the ballot in Michigan and in Texas. It is believed advisable to have the investigation determine specifically whether or not Mr. Smith was a recognized candidate in these two states, so that there will be no question but that the America First Party was a political committee within the purview of the Act.

"3. In Congressman Anderson's letter, a copy of which was transmitted with the memorandum of January 6, he pointed out that the America First Party filed with his committee a memorandum covering the period from September 1 to November 7, showing certain receipts and expenditures. However, the America First Party filed with the Green Committee of the Senate a report of expenditures from January 1, 1944, to September 1, 1944, showing much larger contributions and expenditures than those shown in the report filed with the Anderson Committee. It is suggested that the agents contact Robert T. Murphy, Esq., General Counsel for the Green Committee, and obtain from him such information as the records of that Committee may contain.

"4. It is also requested that the agents contact the General Counsel of the Anderson Committee and obtain such information as the records of that Committee may contain.

"5. Section 305 of the Act requires that the reports be filed by the treasurer of the political committee. In his testimony before the Anderson Committee Mr. Smith testified that he assumes full responsibility for the America First Party. It will be necessary

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to determine the name and address of the treasurer of this Party. It will be noted that the Party did file certain reports with the Clerk of the House on October 19 and November 6. These reports will probably contain the necessary information concerning the identity of the treasurer of the America First Party.

"6. It is noted that in the December 9, 1944, investigative report by Special Agent [redacted], Detroit File No. 62-1126, that Bernard Doman, Smith's Secretary, testified before the Dies Committee on October 18 and left Smith's employ on November 3, 1944. It is suggested that Mr. Doman be interviewed for such information as he may have relevant to this investigation.

"7. It is noted that in your memorandum of January 3, 1945, entitled, 'Gerald L. K. Smith, The America First Party; Internal Security, Sedition', you requested that the information therein set forth concerning the reports filed by Smith with the House and Senate Investigating Committees be considered as most confidential. Accordingly, you may not desire to have Mr. Smith interviewed in the course of the investigation requested by my memorandum of January 6. The information necessary to determine whether the failure to file the report on January 1 was wilful may conceivably be obtained without interviewing Mr. Smith. It is suggested therefore that the reports be made available to the Criminal Division without any interview of Mr. Smith, so that we may determine whether or not it will be absolutely necessary to interview him in the course of this investigation."

From an examination of the Criminal Division's latest memorandum you will note a request has been made for the Bureau to determine whether the America First Party filed any of the statements required by the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925. It has been suggested that the records of the Clerk of the House be checked. However, before this is done, it is desired that you have two well-qualified Agents contact Congressman Anderson, explaining to him that we have been furnished a copy of his letter to the Attorney General and that an inquiry is being instituted at the specific request of Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark, in charge of the Criminal Division of the Department. Congressman Anderson (or the General Counsel for the Anderson Committee in the event you are referred to him by Anderson) should be requested to furnish copies of correspondence between Anderson and Smith, copies of Smith's testimony before the Anderson Committee, and copies of any other material pertinent to this matter that may be possessed. Thereafter, contact should be made with the Clerk of the House for any additional information or documents of pertinence in his possession. Robert T. Murphy, Esq., General Counsel for the Green Committee of the Senate, should also be contacted in order to secure such information as the records of that Committee may contain relative to this matter. A report appropriately summarizing the data you secure should be submitted accompanied by copies of pertinent enclosures both for the Bureau and the Detroit Office.

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The Detroit Office will be considered origin in this investigation but for the time being, the only investigation desired of that office is a check with the Secretary of State or other appropriate official to definitely establish that Smith was the official candidate of the America First Party in that state. A similar check should also be made by the San Antonio Office in the State of Texas to ascertain whether the names of the America First Party candidates appeared on the official ballot in that state in the recent election.

In view of the obvious importance of this matter, it is necessary that the investigation requested of your office be handled at the earliest possible date you can conveniently contact Congressman Anderson. Immediately thereafter, the Detroit Office should proceed with the interview of Bernard Doman and the other investigation requested by the Criminal Division. Smith should not be interviewed without Bureau instructions.

cc - Detroit
San Antonio

Enclosure

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JPHa:WMJ

TO : Mr. E. A. Tamm

DATE: January 13, 1945

FROM : D. M. Ladd

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/82 BY

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1925

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A.
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffe
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichol
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumfor
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahn
Miss Gandy

You will recall that we are in receipt of a memorandum from Mr. Tom C. Clark of the Criminal Division requesting that we investigate subject Smith under the above-captioned Act. Specifically, it is asked that we determine whether his failure to file a final statement with the Clerk of the House of Representatives (on January 1, 1945, as required by the Federal Corrupt Practices Act) was "wilful" or otherwise. If the failure was wilful the penalty may be as much as two years in prison or a fine up to $10,000. Where not wilful, the punishment permits a fine of not more than $1,000 or imprisonment for nor more than one year.

Although this request is simple enough upon its face, the Federal Corrup Practices Act is very involved and upon a more careful reading of the memorandum (particularly with a background of a complete understanding of the Act) the memorandum is not entirely clear and may need some clarification for the most effective results. I believe you might think it well to have someone in the Burea talk over the contemplated investigation with the Criminal Division and with that thought in mind, the following points, which have a bearing on the investigation and are suggested by the memorandum, are set forth:

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1. Section 244, Title 8, United States Code (a part of the Act) is inclusive of the requirement mentioned by the Criminal Division that the Treasurer of a political committee must file a statement with the Clerk of the House on January 1, including a detailed citation of the committee's expenditures and receipts and in some instances, the names of the persons who have made contributions and to whom moneys have been expended. This, of course, is the statement Smith has not filed and the one the Department is apparently primarily interested in. However, this Section also requires that statements be filed with the Clerk between the first and tenth days of March, June and September, and between the tenth and fifteenth days and on the fifth day next preceding the date of the general election. The Criminal Division attached for our information a copy of a letter addressed to the Attorney General by Congressman Clinton Anderson and from this letter it appears that at some time or other Smith did file a statement concerning his collections and expenditures between September 1 and November 1944. Mr. Anderson pointed out that there was some confusion as to this statement as he knows that Smith also filed a statement with the Secretary of the Senate listing expenditures and collections between January 1, 1944, and September 1, 194 To add to the confusion Smith uses in one statement the name "America First Political Party" and in the other the name, "America First Party." Mr. Anderson points out that there is no definite showing of exactly how long Smith's organizat has been a political party and he does not know whether the House and Senate reports or statements are to be considered in conjunction or separately. In short

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although the Department talks primarily of an investigation with reference to the statement which should have been filed on January 1, 1945, Congressman Anderson mentioned, indirectly at least, these other statements which should have been properly filed under the Act, and it is not quite clear whether the Bureau is to confine its investigation to the January 1, 1945, statement or is to look into Smith's compliance with reference to all of the statements required of him.

2. It is further observed that under the Act it is necessary that the political committee in question have candidates entered in two or more states — this being a prerequisite to the necessity of filing the statement in question. To date, our official information shows only that Smith's party had candidates entered in the State of Michigan. We have some uncorroborated data suggesting that the party's candidates were also entered in Texas but it would be pertinent for us to know whether the Department now wants us to establish, by evidentiary data, that candidates were actually entered in two or more states. Such investigation would, of course, require formal inquiry with the Secretary of State for Texas and perhaps with other Secretaries of State.

3. From the Department's memorandum it is apparent that they want us to determine Smith's intent (that is, whether or not it was wilful) in connection with his having failed to file the January 1 statement. Obviously, this could be proved in one or the other, or perhaps a combination, of three ways. We could show intent by documentary evidence. In other words, there might be something among Smith's books and records which would have a bearing on the question. Again, we might show it through testimonial evidence. Smith may have remarked to some of his confidants as to the reason he has seen fit not to file the statement. Finally, and perhaps the best way, we could show his intent by his own statements — in other words, interview him. In view of Smith's well-knit organization, the prospects are that we will not be able to get very helpful testimonial evidence and, therefore, it looks like we are going to have to rely on documentary evidence as well as Smith's own statements. You are, of course, well aware of his background and his volatile disposition and I, therefore, think it well to discuss with the Department the desirability of interviewing him, examining his records, etc., and if he is recalcitrant, their desires as to the possibility of subpoenaing his records.

4. As indicated previously, the Federal Corrupt Practices Act is quite involved and is inclusive of many detailed requirements having reference to the activities of a candidate for public office. I think that before going into the investigation, we ought to have some understanding with the Department as to whether they want us to look into the one thing that they have set forth in their memorandum (that is, intent concerning failure to file the January 1 statement) or whether they desire that in our investigation we be on the outlook for one or the other of the numerous other violations which Smith may have fallen into in connection with the conduct of his campaign and in connection with the filing of his previous statements with the House and the Senate. These

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violations are not easily recognized and it would, therefore, be well to have a specific list of things that we should be on the outlook for in the event the Department wants to make this a general investigation and not confine it to the one purpose they have indicated. It is, of course, apparent that the Department i well capable of making its own requests and that we might rely on the memorandum as it is written but it is pointed out that we have previously had difficulty in the investigation of this case centering around requests from the Department which initially have not been fully explanatory and sufficiently detailed. In some instances they have asked us to look for certain things and after we have completed rather lengthy investigation they have turned around and mentioned other ramifications which have necessitated our doing the work over again. The investigation of an election inquiry is, of course, not at all suitable to re-hashing and, therefore, I think that we ought to have a definite understanding of all phases of the matter before the inquiry is commenced.

5. It is obvious that no matter what the scope of this investigation may be, we should first of all secure the pertinent information on the matter which is in the files of Congressman Anderson. We know that he has a copy of Smith's testimony before the committee, copies of the preliminary statements filed by Smith, and as well it would appear that as he has tried to get Smith to file the final statement, there must have been considerable correspondence between him and Smith. All of this would have considerable bearing on the question of intent, particularly any correspondence between the Congressman and subject.

Although the Department's memorandum does not state that the Congressman has furnished them anything other than the letter they attached for our informatior it would appear from reading their memorandum that they probably already have a good bit of the information (if not all) that Congressman Anderson has. For example, they speak of correspondence with the Clerk of the House and, additionally they comment on the nature of Smith's testimony before the committee. It might be a source of embarrassment should we have our Agents go to the Congressman and ask him for all information in the event he has already furnished this data to the Department of Justice which, of course, he would associate with the FBI. It would appear definitely preferable to determine from the Department exactly what they have, to secure such information (as it will be absolutely necessary to an intellig investigation) and then go to the Congressman for whatever data he may not have already furnished to the Department. Any other procedure might give Mr. Anderson the impression of rather obvious duplication of effort.

RECOMMENDATION:

If you approve, I shall designate an appropriate representative of the Bureau to contact the Criminal Division and take up the matter along the lines indicated. In short, our purpose will be that of finding out whether the investigation is to be limited to the single purpose indicated to date by the Department or whether it is to be of a more general nature. In the latter event, we will ask the Criminal Division to tell us specifically what they want. We will also learn what they have secured from Congressman Anderson and we will get copies of th necessary data to a successful handling of the case.

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

EPB:WMJ

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/17/82 BY 4280 PWC

TO : Mr. E. A. Tamm DATE: January 18, 1945

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY; FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1925

Mr. Tol
Mr. S.
Mr. Cle
Mr. Coi
Mr. Gla
Mr. Lac
Mr. Nic
Mr. Ros
Mr. Tra
Mr. Mo
Mr. Car
Mr. Her
Mr. Mum
Mr. Jon
Mr. Qui
Tele. R
Mr. Nea
Miss Be
Miss Ga

In accordance with the suggestion in my memorandum to you on January 13, 1945, with which you agreed, the investigation of this case was discussed on January 17, 1945, by Supervisor E. P. Brown with Sylvester P. Meyers in the Civil Rights Section of the Criminal Division of the Department who is handling the case.

It was pointed out to Mr. Meyers that while the Criminal Division's memorandum of January 6, 1945, which requested an investigation of Smith and the America First Party under the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925, only requested inquiry relative to Smith's failure to comply with that section of the Act requiring the filing of a report on January 1, 1945, we desired to know whet they also wished the Bureau to check on any other possible violations Smith or t America First Party may have committed. In response to this question, Mr. Meyer stated that the Criminal Division also desired that the Bureau look into any oth violations that had been committed. After being requested to do so, Mr. Meyers stated he would prepare a memorandum for the Bureau specifically setting forth t other violations he desired the Bureau to be on the lookout for and the ones he desired the Bureau to investigate. In connection with the America First Party's possible violation of other sections of the Act, it is to be recalled that the A requires the filing of several reports by Political Committees and available information only indicates two of these reports have actually been filed. Mr. Meyers stated in addition that he would suggest in his memorandum that we contac Robert T. Murphy, counsel for the Senate Investigating Committee before which Sm appeared and testified, inasmuch as he was of the opinion that Murphy would be possession of considerable evidence which might be of value to the Bureau's investigation.

Mr. Meyers' attention was directed to the portion of the Act which states that candidates must be entered in two or more states before a Political Committee is required to file the statements called for by the Act and he was advised that we do not officially know that the America First Party entered candidates in any state other than Michigan. Mr. Meyers said he believed it wou advisable to check with the Secretary of State or other appropriate officials in Texas and perhaps a few other states where the America First Party was alleged t have had candidates entered in order that we may be absolutely sure that the sec of the Act which requires candidates to be entered in two or more states will be satisfied.

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Concerning the Criminal Division's request for the Bureau to determine whether the failure to file the required statement of January 1, 1945, was wilfu it was pointed out to Mr. Meyers that this could possibly be accomplished in one or more of three ways, namely, through interview of Smith's associates, by subpo his records, or by personally interviewing him. Mr. Meyers stated in this regar that he believed Smith should be interviewed but that this interview should be conducted as one of the last steps in the investigation. He said he believed th best approach would be to contact Smith's associates and he mentioned particular

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Bernard Doman, Smith's former secretary who was stated by Mr. Meyers to have indicated when he testified before the Anderson Committee on October 3, 1944, that he would in all probability be willing to furnish information that would be of assistance to this investigation.

Inquiry was made of Mr. Meyers as to whether he had received from Congressman Anderson copies of any of the latter's correspondence or any other documentary evidence which Anderson may have secured from Smith. In this connection, Mr. Meyers advised that the only thing he had secured from Congressman Anderson was his letter of January 3, 1945, in which he requested the Department of Justice to investigate the America First Party's failure to file a statement on January 1, 1945. In this connection it was Mr. Meyers' suggestion that contact be made with the Clerk of the House of Representatives as well as with the attorney for the House Investigating Committee before which Smith appeared for any information or documentary material they may have on this matter.

By way of summary it is stated that a memorandum will be forthcoming from the Criminal Division within a few days outlining the investigation desired as set forth briefly above.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that active investigation be held in abeyance pending receipt of the Criminal Division's memorandum which will further clarify exactly what investigation is desired.

TELETYPE

JAN 23 1945

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

FBI DETROIT 1-23-45 1-17 PM EWT MCM

DIRECTOR URGENT

DARK

GERALD L. K. SMITH ET AL, IS-G. [redacted] b7D

STATES SUBJECT HAS INDICATED TODAY THAT HE WILL LEAVE FOR WASHINGTON, D.C. THIS AFTERNOON AND EXPECTS TO ARRIVE SOMETIME JANUARY TWENTY-FOURTH. METHOD OF TRAVEL NOT KNOWN. SUBJECT EXPECTED TO CONTACT RALPH BAERMAN IN WASHINGTON AND OTHER UNKNOWN INDIVIDUALS. PURPOSE OF TRIP AND LENGTH OF STAY IN WASHINGTON NOT KNOWN TO INFORMANT.

GUERIN

END

1-19 PM OK FBI WASH DC CND

O

cc: Mr. Ladd

62-43818-648

RECORDED & INDEXED

78 FEB 5 1945

1/21/45

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8B5/mlm

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

[redacted] b7c

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: January 31, 1945

FROM : SAC, Buffalo

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 8/12/82 BY SP-8000/mca

Reference is made to Bureau files numbered 61-7055 and 62-43818.

There has recently come to the attention of this office literature purportedly put out by subject, GERALD L. K. SMITH, under date of January 1945, and captioned "A Call To The Brave -- This Is Our Opportune Moment".

The same is being furnished to the Detroit Field Division, office of origin in instant case, for inclusion in its files in the event that office is not already in receipt of the described literature.

RECORDED 162-43818-643

INDEXED 21

cc - Detroit, Enc. (1)

55 FEB

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8B3/mlm

TO : Director, FBI DATE: January 22, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH; AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION
(61-7055; 62-43818)

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~
AIR MAIL

During the period from January 8, 1945, to January 18, 1945, inclusive, the following information concerning the activities of Subject SMITH was received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

SMITH, in outlining his program of future activities, has stated that he is now forming a National Emergency Committee, and that within the near future he would have regional conferences in Detroit, St. Louis, and several other large cities of the country to complete the formation of such a committee. He indicated that this committee will be something unique and that an unnamed individual was coming to Detroit from Washington within a few days to confer with SMITH on this matter. Subsequently on January 14, 1945, this unnamed individual, whose identity SMITH would not disclose to informant, visited SMITH in Detroit, supposedly for the purpose of discussing this project.

SMITH also indicated that Ex-United States Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS was organizing a new Nationalist Party and that he was working with REYNOLDS on this matter. He indicated that the nationalists had a great many more subterranea friends in Washington at the present time than they had sixty days ago. The cost of setting up the four or five conferences above-mentioned will be about $5,000.00 according to informant.

SMITH claims that certain Jewish organizations in Chicago are promoting a "reign of terror" in an effort to prevent him from holding any further meetings in Chicago. A newspaper in that city, "The Jewish Sentinel," has condemned SMITH in a recent editorial. According to SMITH this editorial stated, "We intend to make it impossible for SMITH and his ilk to meet in Chicago .... We will press for national legislation making anti-Semitism of this kind a crime against the state, punishable by imprisonment." The editorial is also said to have requested that Jewish organizations everywhere write or wire Attorney General Biddle, requesting that SMITH be imprisoned for the duration of the war.

SMITH claims that GEORGE SOKOLSKY, the newspaper columnist, told him that there had been a split between the Jewish organizations in Chicago and those in New York, and that the Chicago group was now organized to do violence and had brought in some "killers" who would carry out their program. SMITH states that a Jewish Action Committee has been organized with headquarters at 33 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois.

In a recent contact with ELIZABETH DILLING, SMITH stated he would not be intimidated by any Jewish attempts to prevent him from meeting in Chicago, and that he thought he would come over there about the middle of February. DILLING stated that "this is the time to take their hats right off them." SMITH has had printed several thousand copies of the editorial in "The Jewish

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Sentinel," above referred to, and is distributing them to his followers with appropriate comment. He has sent several hundred copies to Mrs. DILLING, and she will send one out with every letter that leaves her office.

Both DILLING and SMITH appear to be worried about the activities of HOMER MAERTZ of Chicago, and SMITH thinks that MAERTZ'S activities should be checked since he is working for the enemy, either wilfully or through stupidity. In a recent issue of GEORGE SELDES' weekly periodical, "In Fact," there was a special feature article on MAERTZ, and he is said to have given a story to the "St. Louis Star Times," claiming that he was the liaison man for all the nationalists in the country. In this story MAERTZ claims that he was in contact with SMITH, DILLING, and all other important nationalists and personalities in the movement, and arranged contacts with persons of nationalist sympathies who did not want their names to be known. MAERTZ claimed that he was booking speeches for SMITH and other nationalist leaders. SMITH told DILLING that this was a complete falsehood; that she should advise her followers to this effect; and that MAERTZ'S lack of connections with SMITH and other nationalist leaders should be spread widely among nationalists.

DILLING told SMITH she has not seen JOE McWILLIAMS recently but that she heard he was drunk most of the time and has not been doing anything. DENNIS, one of the sedition trial defendants who was paid $250.00 by ARTHUR GARFIELD HAYES for a recent article in the "American Mercury," making fun of the sedition trial, is said by SMITH to be slipping away from the nationalist fold.

SMITH has been attempting to defend GEORGE VOSE, a prominent member of the America First Party who is in charge of the veterans' groups to be organized by the Party. VOSE has been under attack by various radio commentators and newspaper columnists recently due to his having been court-martialed while in the United States Army last year and required to serve six months at hard labor. SMITH explains VOSE'S predicament by claiming that a Jewish officer "railroaded" VOSE to the guard-house because VOSE was a member of the America First Party. As a result of his Army duty, in the course of which SMITH claims he got ulcers on his leg from digging ditches, this combined with his court-martial has made VOSE very bitter against the Army, and according to SMITH, a good man to organize the veterans.

SMITH condemns all persons who have attacked him and his followers by stating that his attackers built fabrication upon fabrication. As a sample of this he has pointed out that although the FBI and the Prosecuting Attorney both clear him of any connection with the Detroit race riots of June, 1943, still these people try to place the blame for the riots on him and his followers. SMITH states that this is typical of the whole program of intelligence and propaganda in the United States, which is based upon the complete fabrication, and it is this sort of system which was responsible for the fact that the United States Army did not know Von Rundstedt had three hundred thousand men

hidden and waiting to start the recent attack on the Western Front.

SMITH has been in close contact recently with [redacted] and obtained from [redacted] certain figures relative to the employment situation in the Detroit area. These figures were obtained by [redacted] from the headquarters of the UAW-CIO. SMITH intends to use them in a campaign against any "Work or Fight" Bill or labor draft legislation.

The recount of America First Party votes in Oakland County, Michigan, (the county seat of which is Pontiac, Michigan, home of Doctor LELAND MARION, SMITH'S candidate for Governor) has shown that there was a short count in two-thirds of the precincts checked of from ten to ninety per cent. SMITH believes this is sensational and Doctor MARION has told him it is creating an uproar in Pontiac. SMITH has given the facts to Representative CLARE HOFFMAN and has printed a circular, setting out his version of the facts on this recount and sent a copy of the circular to every member of Congress. However, SMITH has also indicated that he is not too anxious at present to emphasize local political issues in this regard since he wants to keep the nationalist cause on an idealistic plane and national in scope. He feels that the nationalist cause is not ready for popular expansion at present and that all he can do now is to "stake out the claims and keep the banners waving."

In addition to sending all members of Congress a copy of the statement on the recount, SMITH is also circularizing them with various other pieces of literature, including a circular on the threatened communizing of Europe, and marked copies of his monthly magazine, "The Cross and Flag." He is actively engaged in distributing a great deal of literature at present, including the above items, the Tyler Kent Story and "The Octopus," a book written by ELIZABETH DILLING under a pseudonym. The latter book is evidently being well-received since he has re-ordered additional copies from DILLING on several occasions.

He is also preparing for distribution a copy of the Atlantic Charter which had been published by the Office of War Information and had on it the signatures of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill. He intends to emphasize in distributing this pamphlet the fact that Roosevelt has subsequently admitted that the Atlantic Charter was never signed. Informant believes that SMITH has not yet started to distribute this item. He is also preparing a new letterhead which will include the names of numerous individuals who are among his followers. The greater portion of SMITH'S printing is being done by the Embassy Press at 2036 West Forest Street, Detroit, Michigan.

[redacted], is now working in SMITH'S office and recently attended a meeting of the Civil Rights Federation in Detroit as an undercover agent for SMITH. She was able to get information which he

b7d

considered valuable, and he has indicated he will use her in a similar capacity in the future. [redacted] He has recently sent SMITH a speech which has been delivered or will be delivered by him and which apparently deals with conditions at the camp. SMITH considers it of sufficient importance to print in an early issue of his magazine.

SMITH has continued to receive donations from his followers. On January 13, 1945, the total received was $379.00; on January 16, 1945, $77.00; on January 17, 1945, $55.00; and on January 18, 1945, $69.00. SMITH, according to informant, receives the "Chicago Sun" and "Chicago Tribune" daily and also the New York newspaper "PM" and he is particularly interested in the latter paper's attack upon Senator WHEELER and has stated he will follow this very closely.

He has been in contact with numerous persons by mail during the past few weeks, including Representative CLARE HOFFMAN, HARRY ROMER, Mrs. HENRY BECKER, UPTON CLOSE, WALLACE GAMBER, CARL MOTE, and RALPH BAERMAN. BAERMAN came to Detroit on January 18, 1945, to discuss some matters with SMITH, although informant was not able to learn what they discussed. BAERMAN left Detroit on the evening of January 18, 1945, for Chicago, Illinois, [redacted]

SMITH states he has recently heard from [redacted] although not identifying [redacted], and has indicated he will fight his enemies by "sicking the big ones on each other."

[redacted]

62-1126

All b7c

TELETYPE

Jan 23-1945

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-PBTO/MC

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

1-23-45 2-50 PM EWT

FBI DETROIT

URGENT

DIRECTOR

DARK

[redacted] L. N. SMITH, ET AL, INTERNAL SECURITY - G. LATER INFORMATION [redacted] INDICATES SUBJECT LEAVING DETROIT FIVE TWENTY PM TODAY PENNSYLVANIA RR, ARRIVING WASHINGTON EIGHT THIRTY AM, JANUARY TWENTY FOUR. WILL CONTACT [redacted] OF BALTIMORE AFTER ARRIVAL. LAST INFORMANT DID NOT KNOW WHETHER SUCH CONTACT WOULD BE MADE IN BALTIMORE OR WASHINGTON.

b

b

b

RECORDED & INDEXED

GUERIN

EX - 6

FEB

END

5 3 FEB 1 9 194

2-32 FOR FBI WASHINGTON

FIVE EPB

[redacted]

Feb. 1, 194

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed you will find a letter which was sent to a friend of mine, a letter which I think you should see.

[redacted] thinks that the writer of this letter must have gotten her name from the newspapers. Her husband has been wounded three times and at present is in a hospital in England.

Sincerely

[redacted]

Attached

[redacted]

American Fascist Party
Herald of Cross and Flag
"The Shield of Christ"

RECORDED 62-43818-46

INDEXED F B I

FEB 1 1945

THIS DOCUMENT IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/2/92 BY SP4 [illegible]

ALL b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mh

My Dear Friend

You who have suffered the loss of a son or a husband so dear to you find millions extending their deepest of sympathy. We are with you night and day, and in common with the great mass of true CHRISTIANS we pray and labor for PEACE in a world filled with fear for the future.

Today, I say again we are all filled with FEAR, in fact we are filled with near terror. Curse the Germans as we are apt to we must NOT forget- we have invaded their land and if we have suffered the loss of a son or husband we often wonder , could all this hate and fear been avoided had our dear ones not been FORCED TO FIGHT , if there had not been such a teriffic barrage of alien propaganda which filled our press, radio movies and our legislative halls. In fact we know we have been again betrayed. We have been guided not by our past experiences but have been forced to accept accomplished facts, accomplished at the expense of our men. Britain has been the foremost offender in this drive to hurl us into the war. That is stark, but bitter truth. They wanted aid to maintain the status quo of her colonial possessions(of which we seem to be one) and the millions and the billions gained by the sale of gold to our treasury at $35 per ounce will some day be shown to be the cross of gold upon which our men have been HUNG. Upon this British Cross I say, we have been crucified. The Fleeing gold of the JEWS from Berlin, Tokio, Budapest and all of Europe has also been one element that must NEVER be forgotten. With this gold and our stock market the Jews bought control of all agencies of propaganda to enable them to control the far greater mass of Gentiles and to hurl them against the Germans in order to crush them beneath a hail of stone and steel.

Today we know the truth. We know that this nation has been SOLD over to the Jews, the Red Communists and we know that most Jews are Communists Is this what AMERICA is placed here upon this earth for? Are we the human sacrifice simply because of our vast resources, our gold , our highly intelleigent men. DID YOU KNOW THAT IF WE HAD NO RESOURCES AS Argentina, Spain and Portugal then they would care little for us. It is our man and money power which made our nation the stamping ground of those who wanted an international policeman, a policeman who would make safe the world for the internationaal JEW, the Britisher and what have you! All they want, I say, is our resources. Had we been as poor as China then they would have none of us.

Today we see the war reaching the crucial stage. We see the Reds with their bloody records showing their hands in Greece, in France, in China and in Italy. These Jews who control Russia are aiming at the downfall of ALL Christendom. (read Mrs Dillings "Red Network","The Octopus" Roosevelts Red Record" send $1.00 for a copy address Patriotic Research Bureau, 8 South Dearborn(Dearborn) St. Chicago Ill and learn the truth) Without reading this book you may read the press and the war news and see the salient features stand out. Do you doubt it? Why do they hate Argentine, Spain. Portugal. Ireland? Because the Reds cannot control these nations. My friend, you have suffered a great loss. But you must now take a stand with America and become a champion for all things Gentile, Christian and ~~Kill~~ Anti-Communistic. Become a Worker for the sake of your dear ones. We are FEW. Never has so much depended upon so few. The Challenge is yours, to do or not to do. Write for the issue "The Cross and the Flag(America First. Gerald L. Smith, PO Box 459 Detroit 31. Mich. Be a laborer in the Field. I thank you.

CC:cr
62-43818

February 15, 1945

[redacted]

b2

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

Dear [redacted]

This will acknowledge your letter of February 1, 1945, with enclosure.

Let me assure you that I have carefully reviewed the data set forth in your communication and its enclosure and your kindness in calling these matters to my attention is most appreciated.

Should you obtain any additional information which you feel is of interest to this Bureau, please feel free to communicate with the Special Agent in Charge of our Newark Field Division which is located at 1836 Raymond-Commerce, Newark 2, New Jersey.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

EPB:WMJ

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark February 2, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information in the captioned matter, there are enclosed herewith photostatic copies of a flier entitled, "Gerald L. K. Smith Plots Chicago Riots."

This flier appears to have been issued by J. K. Fishbein of "The Sentinel," an Anglo-Jewish weekly paper.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY

FEB 1 9 50
RECORDED & INDEXED
100-43818-647
32 FEB 6 1945

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

against the Jews, the war effort and the United Nations. This act of forcing entrance was clearly a violation of civil authority. Yet nothing was done.

Soon afterwards this was followed by the convention of his so-called "America First" party, resembling the Nuremberg Congresses in every way. During these discussions, a proposal was made to "emasculate all American Jews."

The excuse given by the police for failing to act upon our demand has been that even American fascists have the right to freedom of speech, press, and assembly. The argument advanced is that denying Smith these privileges would set a dangerous precedent.

This ridiculous excuse can no longer be valid! Smith has shown his hand! We now have in our possession a confidential letter mailed by Smith to a handful of his followers in the Chicago area. This letter is nothing more or less than an open incitement to force and violence.

Having studied "Mein Kampf" well, he begins in perfect Hitler style by blaming the other fellow for his own crimes. Hitler's excuse for invading Czechoslovakia was that the Sudeten Germans—not the Czechs—were being persecuted. Similarly Smith begins by declaring: " . . . You perhaps know that a reign of terror has been organized by certain citizens of Chicago, mostly Jews. The Chicago Sentinel, which advertises itself as the largest American language Jewish periodical in America, has assumed the attitude that the Nationalists must not be permitted to hold meetings in Chicago. Mr. Fishbein, who runs this magazine has been appealing to the worst elements among his subscribers . . . "

Whining like a cornered rat, this "Little Hitler" proceeds to cry: ". . . The last time I spoke in Chicago, certain Jews, inspired by The Sentinel and other like-minded Jewish groups, did everything they could to break up my meeting. They intimidated the management of the building. They gathered in large numbers on the street, so much so that it was necessary to call out a special squad of police to guarantee the safety of Mrs. Smith and resort to Nazi beer-hall tactics. " . . . *Let me assure you,*" he writes, "*that I am going to speak in Chicago soon, or be killed in the attempt* . . .

Mimicking "his Fuehrer," and in fear of his own cohorts, he cries: " . . . May I say that if you attempt to play any tricks upon me by pretending to help me, you will caught at it because everyone who is called on to do a special confidential duty, will be thoroughly investigated in advance . . . "

What help is needed? (F.B.I. please take notice). " . . . In advance of the meeting I will need a committee of 100 men and women *who are not afraid of anything* and who would meet with me in order to plan the details of the coming rally. Are you willing to be one of these individuals with the understanding that you are not afraid of work or *excitement*, and cannot be intimidated . . . This committee will be called on to do *many different things** . . .

We submit that the issue involved here is not one of freedom of speech. It is an open call for insurrection. It is a threat to the peace and order of our community. It is a clumsy attempt to organize an American Storm Troop brigade. Thus Der Fuehrer Smith hopes to carry out his fascist designs despite the expressed desire of Chicago citizenry who will have no truck with his Nazi inspired ideology.

The record in Detroit and every other area where Smith has been spreading his doctrines of hate, shows clearly that race riots and public disorders invariably follow. It is not freedom of speech that he is interested in. Like his Nazi henchmen everywhere, he is misusing the privileges and guarantees of American democracy to try to destroy us from within. The time is long past when we should permit this stale Hitler trick to work. Millions of American boys—including more than a half million American Jews—are at this moment fighting and dying to preserve our constitution and Bill of Rights. Smith's shoddy insinuations to this un-American enemy of decency.

We intend to make it impossible for Smith or any of his ilk to meet in a public meeting place anywhere in Chicago. Let them spew their Nazi filth in sewers, in dungeons, in underground basements—not where decent people gather. We intend to press for adequate national legislation which will make organized anti-Semitism of this kind a crime against the State, punishable by imprisonment. We intend to militantly battle against the false conception advanced by some well-meaning people that the Constitution was ever intended to protect fascist traitors and enemies of this Republic. We intend to drive Gerald L. K. Smith and all his "hatelers" out of our city into a common jail where they properly belong.

In this task we shall have the support of the whole American people. More and more they recognize that our fight is their fight. We call upon the great patriotic labor movement of Chicago to mobilize their organized workers to prevent a recurrence of the disastrous Detroit and Philadelphia riots. The Negro people, too, are directly concerned. We ask their support. We urge the American Legion, Church Federations and civic groups of every kind to reinforce our demands. We solicit expressions of support from Mayor Kelly and the City Council, reiterating their determination to use all police facilities to keep our city free from the storm troop tactics that Smith proposes to unleash.

We strongly urge that every individual and organization write or wire Attorney General Biddle, demanding that Gerald L. K. Smith be apprehended, at once, indicted for plotting incitements to riot, and put safely away for the duration.

Every minute counts. Let us not be too late with too little. The urgency is most pressing. For the sake of our loved ones, our community and our country—demand action today!

* *(Italic type and emphasis ours).*

Chicago Sun 2/2/45

THE SENTINEL

AMERICA'S LARGEST ANGLO-JEWISH WEEKLY— DEVOTED TO UNITY IN JEWISH LIFE

Gerald L. K. Smith Plots Chicago Riots

When Is The Justice Department Going To Act?

By J. I. FISHBEIN

The SENTINEL for some time has been warning against the traitorous activities of America's number one pro-Nazi. It has demanded that he be put in jail where he properly belongs.

We raised this demand last July following the Republican National convention and the disgraceful Stevens Hotel episode. It will be remembered that after having been ostensibly barred from holding his scheduled meeting, Smith, in typical style, stormed into the Grand Ballroom, and proceeded to tirade against the Jews, the war effort and the United Nations. This act of forcing entrance was clearly a violation of civil authority. Yet nothing was done.

Soon afterwards this was followed by the convention of his so-called "America First" party, resembling the Nuremberg Congresses in every way. During these discussions, a proposal was made to "emasculate all American Jews."

The excuse given by the police for failing to act upon our demand has been that even American fascists have the right to freedom of speech, press, and assembly. The argument advanced is that denying Smith these privileges would set a dangerous precedent.

This ridiculous excuse can no longer be valid! Smith has shown his hand! We now have in our possession a confidential letter mailed by Smith to a handful of his followers in the myself when we returned to our hotel . . .

" . . . Spokesmen for our cause have talked directly with Mr. Fishbein and have been notified that they were going to do everything in their power to prevent any hotel or any building management from renting an auditorium or hall to us. These foolish Jews . . . have resolved that I shall never be allowed to speak in Chicago again . . . "

Fully realizing that the patriotic hotel and public building managers of Chicago are determined to prevent his racial and religious poison from infecting the free air of our great city, Smith bluntly declares that he intends to resort to Nazi beer-hall tactics. " . . . *Let me assure you,*" he writes, "*that I am going to speak in Chicago soon, or be killed in the attempt* . . .

Mimicking "his Fuehrer," and in fear of his own cohorts, he cries: " . . . May I say that if you attempt to play any tricks upon me by pretending to help me, you will caught at it because everyone who is called on to do a special confidential duty, will be thoroughly investigated in advance . . . "

What help is needed? (F.B.I. please take notice). " . . . In advance of the meeting I will need *a* committee of 100 men and women *who are not afraid of anything* and who would meet with me in order to plan the details of the coming rally. Are you willing to be one of

tion that he has anything remotely in common with their self sacrificing patriotism is a flagrant betrayal of their trust. He is doing Hitler's work! He has as much interest in freedom of speech, press and assembly as Hitler.

We publicly warn the Department of Justice and the local authorities against a repetition of the kind of disorders that have occurred in Detroit, Philadelphia and elsewhere. The Department of Justice must be roused into action. We intend to continue our announced policy of bringing before the bar of public opinion any public building which gives aid or comfort to this un-American enemy of decency.

We intend to make it impossible for Smith or any of his ilk to meet in a public meeting place anywhere in Chicago. Let them spew their Nazi filth in sewers, in dungeons, in underground basements—not where decent people gather. We intend to press for adequate national legislation which will make organized anti-Semitism of this kind a crime against the State, punishable by imprisonment. We intend to militantly battle against the false conception advanced by some well-meaning people that the Constitution was ever intended to protect fascist traitors and enemies of this Republic. We intend to drive Gerald L. K. Smith and all his "hatelers" out of our city into a common jail where they properly belong.

OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CONFIDENTIAL
POSTAL CENSORSHIP

RECORD No. SA 213755
Page 1 of 1 pages.

FROM:	TO:
[redacted] — File GELATIN PRODUCTS CORP. 9425 GRINNELL AVENUE DETROIT 13, MICHIGAN	[redacted] HOTEL "LOS FLAMINGOS" ACAPULCO, GUERRERO MEXICO
LIST: NONE	LIST: NONE

Date of communication	Date of postmark	Kind of mail	Mail No.	Register No.	Serial N
NOV. 8, 1944	NOV. 9, 1944	AIR		NONE	

Language	Previously censored by	Station distribution	DISPOSAL OF ORIGINAL COMMUNICATION
ENGLISH	NONE	TOD DR	H R R C RS Sent with comment to—

Previous relevant records	For interoffice use	To be photographed	Photo No.	To whom photograph is to be sent
EP 16399 R SA FIN 2532 R		NO		

Division (or section)	Table	Examiner	D. A. C.	Reviewer	Examination date	Typing da
S S	WL 1	36176	A/36035	A/36329	NOV. 11-13, 1944	11/14/4

DR use only

GCW 11/18

1-CC
1-FBI
2-DC

(4)

COMMENT

GERALD L. SMITH PLANS TO BE IN ACAPULCO, MEXICO IN JANUARY, 1945

In a short personal letter writer states:

"Mr. Smith wants to revise his dates. He intends to be in Acapulco (more specifically LOS FAMINGOS) from January 10 to January 27 and he asked me to write to you regarding this. Also [redacted] thinks he will be able to get away to Acapulco only for about 3 days, about the middle of January. I'll repeat the names: Mr. Gerald L. Smith (Ex: see note)(who will go there with his wife) and [redacted] (who will not take his wife this time).

"I hear that the president of this company (Ex: Gelatin Products Co.) is also very anxious to go to Acapulco. He will go as soon as he can get away. He

EPB:MJ

SAC, Detroit

February 2, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION. Mexico - Dep Mail - X
Mexico: For. Travel Control -

Enclosed for your information are photostatic copies of postal censorship submission slip # SA 213755.

From an examination of this submission slip you will note that [redacted] in communicating with [redacted] Hotel 'Los Flamingos', Acapulco, Guerrero, Mexico," on November 6, 1944, stated that subject Smith intended to be in Acapulco, Mexico, from January 10 to January 27, 1945. It is, of course, known to your office that Smith is in Washington, D. C., at the present time as you advised the Bureau by teletype dated January 23, 1945.

b7c

The above submission slip is merely being furnished for your information and so that you may be apprised of the fact that there is some possibility of Smith going to Mexico. In the event you receive any information in this regard, the Bureau should be appropriately advised.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mlm

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

RECORDED
EX - I
FEB 1 1945
FBI
RECEIVED-MAIL
FEB 1 1945
142-4381-648
FEB 6 1945
EX - I

EPB:WMJ

62-43818
SAC, Washington

January 24, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8BW/mlm

Reference is made to our previous correspondence relative to the above-captioned subject.

The Detroit Office has advised that Smith indicated he would leave Detroit at 5:20 P. M., January 23, 1945, via the Pennsylvania Railroad and would arrive in Washington, D. C., at 8:30 A. M., January 24, 1945. The Bureau was further informed that Smith expected to contact Ralph Bauman in Washington and that he would contact [redacted] of Baltimore. It was not known whether contact with the latter individual would be effected in Baltimore or Washington. The purpose of Smith's trip and the length of his stay was not known to the Detroit Office.

b7c

The above data is being furnished for your information and it is not desired that you investigate Smith's activities while he is in Washington. However, should you receive any information as to his contacts and activities while in Washington, the Bureau should be promptly advised.

cc - Detroit

RECORDED
EX-22

62-43818-649

FEB 9 1945

. Tolson
. E. A. Tamm
. Clegg
. Coffey
. Glavin
. Ladd
. Nichols
. Rosen
. Tracy
. Carson
. Egan
. Hendon
. Pennington
. Quinn Tamm
. Nease
. Gandy

FEB 14 1945

TELETYPE

FEB 7 1945

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

FBI DETROIT 2-7-45 6-58 PM EWT RA

DIRECTOR AND SAC, CHICAGO U R G E N T

KEPT.

GERALD L. K. SMITH, IS, SEDITION. [redacted] ADVISED TODAY THAT SUBJECT SMITH WILL LEAVE DETROIT FOR CHICAGO AT FIVE PM, FEBRUARY EIGHTH, PROBABLY ON WABASH TRAIN "RED ARROW". PURPOSE OF TRIP, DURATION OF STAY, AND IDENTITY OF CONTACTS IN CHICAGO UNKNOWN TO INFORMANT. CHICAGO FIELD DIVISION SHOULD NOTE ABOVE DATA IS FOR INFORMATION ONLY AND IT IS NOT DESIRED SUBJECT BE SURVEILLED OR OTHERWISE INVESTIGATEDW WHILE IN [redacted]X CHICAGO BUT IF ANY INFORMATION IS RECEIVED CONCERNING HIS CONTACTS AND ACTIVITIES WHILE THERE BUREAU AND DETROIT FIELD DIVISION [redacted]X SHOULD BE ADVISED.

b7D

RECORDED & INDEXED 193

62-438[redacted]-650

FEB 3 1945

EX-16

cc Mr. Ladd

ACK IN ORDER PLS

WA 70 P 701 PM OK FBI WA GET

GC

315
8488 IB LBL

OK FBI CG BL

DISC FEB 12 1945

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8BD/MLM

FILE 81B

Copy bjw

COPY

NATIONAL EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

A MOBILIZATION OF NATIONALISTS FOR THE PRESERVATION OF AMERICAN SOVEREIGNTY

POST OFFICE BOX 697 DETROIT, 31, MICHIGAN

ADVISORY:
Mrs. David Stanley, Ohio
L. L. Marion, Michigan
Chas. Madden, Pennsylvania
Ruben Kindler, Ohio
Mrs. Flo Scriver, Minnesota
Harvey M. Springer, Colorada
Charles J. Anderson, Jr. Illinois
Mrs. Mary E. Kenny, Nebraska
Mrs. E. M. Smith, Michigan
Orion Hapner, Indiana
Miss Emma Wacker, Iowa
Harry Romer, Ohio
Mrs. Marie Lohle, Pennsylvania
Joseph Stoffel, New York
Carl H. Mote, Indiana
S. O. Sanderson, Minnesota
Mrs. Catherine V. Brown, Pennsylvania
Ralph Baerman, Washington, D. C.
Mrs. Lillian Parks, Pennsylvania
George Gebhardt, Missouri
Mrs. Helen Tesson, Missouri
T. R. Huston, Wisconsin
Mrs. Elizabeth Dilling, Illinois
Donald J. McDaniel, Illinois
R. E. Legant, Michigan
George T. Foster, Illinois
Mrs. M. Engel, Pennsylvania
Mrs. Sue Braun, Ohio
Leo H. Stammen, Ohio
Leonard Vassar, Minnesota
William C. Richardson, Michigan
Miss Opal M. Tanner, Indiana
Mrs. Dora Sapp, Illinois
Gerald L. K. Smith, Michigan
George Walters, Indiana
Miss Lora Allen, Illinois
George Vose, Michigan
Mrs. Nell Pike, Iowa
Wallace J. Gamber, Michigan
Charles J. Williams, Iowa
Almond G. Blanchard, Michigan
Kenneth Goff, Colorada
Wallace Riddle, Maryland
Felix Tschirhart, Michigan
Mrs. Lillian Fiss, Minnesota
Mrs. Rufus Holan, Oregon
Mrs. Christine Sorenson, Louisiana
Miss Ruth Lohbeck, Missouri
L. Z. Smith, Wisconsin
Mrs. N. E. Holtzclaw, North Carolina

Dear Fellow America:

You have been recorded as a supporter of the National Emergency Committee. This is based on your response to my January letter which carries in it an outline of challenging undertakings.

I have just finished conferring with an important individual in Washington, D. C. who is cooperating with me in outlining our program for educating members of Congress and the United States Senate concerning the real issues of the hour.

Your financial support makes this venture possible. It is a heavy and expensive undertaking, but with God's help, and your help, we can save America from the conspiring enemies of our traditional way of life.

We should all be thankful for the courageous stand taken by United States Senator Burton K. Wheeler.

You will be hearing from me continually concerning the progress of our crusade. I welcome personal letters.

The enemy is well financed and is carrying on a ruthless campaign in Washington. These Internationalists are determined that we shall be taken into a Super State, with authority to keep our loved ones on the battlefields indefinitely after this war. God save us from those who plot against the independent destiny of America.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Conferences, Institutes and Regional meetings are being planned. At the proper time you will receive invitations and credential forms necessary for attending these historic and important gatherings. Be on the lookout for this vital information.

RICHARD

-651

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8 ON ORIGINAL

74 FEB 15 1945

Sincerely yours for America First

Gerald L. K. Smith

G. L. K. S.: L

Demanding a Clear Definition of War Aims* Demanding a Clear Definition of Peave Aims * No Super State * No International Police Force * Curb Power Politics * Strictly American * Non-Partisan*

Mailed Jan. 19th, 1945

BA-2

THE CONSTITUTIONALISTS:

Dear Friend:

You and your friends are hereby cordially invited to attend a Homecoming Party for Garland Alderman, Parker Sage and William R. Lyman, Jr., to be held Saturday evening, January 27, 1945 - 8 P.M.

PLACE: 9950 MACK AVE.
(Cor. Cadillac & Mack Ave.)
Detroit, Mich.

The Committee promises you and "the boys" an evening you will long remember. Music, cards, bunco, and refreshments are in store for everyone. Prizes of all types have been donated by Detroit merchants for the occasion.

So that the Committee can make arrangements to accommodate you, please contact the writer at once and make your table reservations.

GRIEF - 50¢

Mr. or Mrs. _____

Phone: _____

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62-43818-651

ENCLOSURE

4-750 (2-7-79)

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62-43818-652

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FBI/DOJ

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: January 10, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT

With respect to your letter of January 30, 1945, requesting that a check be made with the Secretary of State or other appropriate official in the state of Michigan to definitely establish that SMITH was the official candidate of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY in this state, please be advised that there is on file with the Secretary of State at Lansing, Michigan, the certification of candidates filed by the AMERICA FIRST PARTY, dated August 2, 1944, and filed with the Secretary of State August 3, 1944. This certification of candidates includes GERALD L. K. SMITH as nominee for president.

It certifies that each candidate has been notified and is agreeable to such nomination. The certification is allegedly signed by KENNETH C. WEBER, Chairman, and RENATA LEGANT, Secretary. The certification was notarized by JAMES F. KEATING, Notary Public, Wayne County, on the above date.

[redacted] Compiling Division, Secretary of State's Office, advises that G. T. HARTMAN, Deputy Secretary of State, Lansing, Michigan, is the proper person to subpoena in this respect. b7c b7

No further investigation of SMITH'S alleged violation of the FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT is being made in the Detroit Field Division pending receipt of further advice from you.

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

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DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-1BTJ/mlc

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INDEXED F D I
14

MAR 6 1945

TELETYPE

FEB 8 1945

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Bendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/12/80 BY SP-8075 MC

Brown
Hickland

DETROIT 2-8-45 7-00 PM EWT CEC

DIRECTOR URGENT.

KEPT. GERALD L. K. SMITH, WAS., AMERICA FIRST PARTY, FEDERAL CORRUP PRACTICES ACT. RE UR LETTER JANUARY THIRTY NINETEEN FORTY FIVE REQUESTING DETROIT FIELD DIVISION INTERVIEW BERNARD DOMAN. DOMAN NOW BELIEVED TO BE RESIDING ON RANCH NEAR SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS AND MAIL ADDRESS BELIEVED TO BE GENERAL DELIVERY, EDCOUCH, TEXAS.

GUERIN

ACK AND HOLD PLS

7-00 PM OK FBI WA NM

RECORDED
INDEXED

162-43716-654

ec to Detroit
cc San Antonio
2/15/45
EEB

EEB

EBB:MJ

62-43818 - 654

SAC, Detroit

February 15, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1925.

Reference is made to your teletype dated February 8, 1945, in which you referred to Bureau letter dated January 30, 1945, and advised that Bernard Doran was believed to be residing on a ranch near San Antonio, Texas, and that his mail address was believed to be "General Delivery, Edcouch, Texas."

Inasmuch as the Bureau's letter of January 30, 1945, advised that Doran should not be interviewed until after the investigation requested of the Washington Field Office has been conducted, no further action should be taken at the present time towards locating Doran. When a report is submitted by the Washington Field Office, which should now designate a copy for the San Antonio Office, efforts should be made by the San Antonio Field Division to locate and interview Doran.

cc - Washington
San Antonio

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DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-9 STJ/mk

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 13
★ FEB 15 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

DE-INDEXED
10/28/57

FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 38

PAGES REVIEWED: 53

PAGES RELEASED: 37

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This case originated at: DETROIT, MICHIGAN — Detroit File 62-1126

Report made at	Date when made	Period for which made	Report made by
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	1/29/45	12/4,12,18, 19/44; 1/6, 18/45	[redacted]

Title	Character of
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

[redacted]

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: SMITH'S America First Party received less than one per cent of the total vote cast in Michigan in the recent election, and consequently has lost its place on the state ballot. Recount of votes in Oakland County, Michigan, however, is reported to show some irregularities and that some of the America First Party votes were not counted. SMITH has held no public meetings since December 20, 1944, at which CARL ROTH of Indianapolis was principal speaker at a meeting held at the Book Cadillac Hotel, Detroit. SMITH plans to hold a meeting in the near future in Chicago where he claims that a Jewish-inspired "reign of terror" is now underway in an effort to prevent him from speaking in that city. He is actively engaged at present in distributing literature and is said to be collaborating with former United States Senator NOBLE REYNOLDS in the formation of a new nationalist party. He has stated that nationalism is now in a position to accomplish its greatest victory. SMITH'S plans for future activities include a conference of leading nationalists to perfect the formation of an Emergency Committee; personal calls upon and circularizing of Congressmen; the

Approved and forwarded	Special Agent in Charge
K. A. Brennan	[redacted]

Copies of this report:
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1 - Chicago (inf.)
2 - Los Angeles
2 - Washington
3 - Detroit

62-43818-655

RECORDED & INDEXED

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE 7-25-72

MAR 24 1945

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De 62-1126

holding of nationalist meetings throughout the United States; and the "inspiring" of radio publicity. Program calls for opposition to the Dumbarton Oaks Agreement, an international police force, and the so-called British-inspired super state.

- P -

REFERENCE: (61-7055; 62-43818) Report of Special Agent [redacted], dated December 9, 1944, at Detroit, Michigan. b7c

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan

SMITH'S America First Party received a negligible number of votes in the Michigan elections for State and Federal offices, held in November, 1944. Of a total of 875,000 votes cast in Wayne County for the office of Governor, Doctor LELAND MARION, the America First Party candidate, received 717. The various other candidates for State office on the America First Party ticket received a similarly negligible number of votes, according to the official canvass made public in December, 1944. The various candidates of the Party for State Senate received from 68 to 120 votes each in their respective districts, although the total vote cast in those districts for such offices ranged from 73,000 to 194,000.

SMITH received 691 votes out of a total of 875,093 cast for President of the United States in Wayne County, Michigan. This was the lowest total received by any candidate except that of the Prohibition Party who polled 650 votes. Parties having candidates on the ballot in addition to the Democratic and Republican Parties were the Prohibition, Socialist, Socialist Labor, and America First Party. All of these parties were reported to have lost their place on the Michigan ballot when the final report of the State Board of Canvassers was made during the latter part of December, 1944. In the entire state of Michigan, SMITH received a total of 1530 votes for the office of President out of a total of more than two million votes cast. Since the party's vote represented less than one per cent of the total vote cast, the Michigan law requires that the party be removed from the ballot in future elections.

SMITH, however, at the urging of Doctor MARION, has instituted a recount of the ballots in Oakland County, Michigan. The county seat of Oakland County is Pontiac, Michigan, the home of Doctor MARION.

De 62-1126

After a preliminary check was made on the recount, SMITH stated, according to [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, that the America First Party had been "short-counted." The preliminary investigation indicated that in two-thirds of the precincts in that county the Party had been short-counted from ten to ninety per cent, and in several of the precincts only a small percentage of the America First Party votes were counted. The completed recount revealed that in 124 precincts, comprising the county, twenty-five per cent of the America First Party ballots were not counted.

Doctor MARTON claims that this situation has produced an uproar in Oakland County, and SMITH has prepared a statement, setting forth these facts and his conclusions based upon them. He has directed copies of this statement to the Secretary of State, the Attorney General of the State, and various other public officials, claiming that this is a situation representing corruption at its worst and demanding a thorough investigation. He has also sent copies of the statement to every member of the United States Congress.

While SMITH is apparently playing up the vote count in Oakland County, he has told [redacted] that he does not want to place too much emphasis on local situations at the present time but wishes to concentrate on national issues and on making the Party a national force. A copy of the statement above-referred to is being sent to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report, and a copy is being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Office.

SMITH has held no public meetings since the meeting sponsored by the America First Party, held at the Book Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, Michigan, on the evening of December 28, 1944. At that meeting, [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, the principal speaker was CARL H. MOTE of Indianapolis, a long-time friend and associate of SMITH. A copy of the invitation to this meeting is being sent to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report, and a copy is being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Office.

The invitation states that MOTE is "an eminent writer, statesman, businessman, and Nationalist Leader." SMITH presided at this meeting, which was attended by about 300 people. SMITH in his introductory remarks stated that he was going to oppose in the United States Senate any attempt to change the law whereby the Senate could approve a treaty by a simple majority vote. He was strong in his praise of MOTE whom he introduced as an outstanding nationalist. MOTE in his remarks stated that our Russian and British Allies would desert us before this war was over; that the British were going to withdraw from Europe; and that we did not know what the Russians were going to do.

ALL b7D

MOTH stated there was a secret agreement between the British and the Germans which was the reason why the British were not attacking strongly on the Belgian Front. MOTH believed that the economic system of this country would eventually be wrecked because of the war; that there would be a revolution; and that then the nationalists would take over the Government. He did not, however, advise nationalist participation in such a revolution, stating that Roosevelt would be responsible for the revolution when it came and he should bear the full blame for it. He spoke also of the peculiarities of the "Oriental mind," which informant believed was a thinly-veiled attack upon the Jews since MOTH inferred that both Roosevelt and Churchill were Jewish and had the "Oriental mind," and thought along similar lines.

At this meeting there were distributed copies of MOTH'S monthly magazine, "America Preferred," and informant obtained the November and December, 1944, issues which are being forwarded to the Bureau with this report. Informant stated that PARKINSON was also on the speaker's platform at this meeting and was introduced, but did not speak. [redacted] b7D

The remark that our Allies are deserting us is being followed up by SMITH in his January, 1945 letter to his followers, in which letter he states, "Today we are doing most of the fighting and furnishing most of the blood." In the course of this letter SMITH concerns the Russians and the British and outlines his program for future activities. He calls for an explanation of the real purpose of the present war and says that if the President and the State Department cannot furnish a satisfactory explanation of the purpose and aims of the war, then our boys should be brought home alive immediately. He sets forth his plan, which is to call a conference immediately of leading nationalists for the purpose of planning the fight against internationalism. He states that an Emergency Committee will be formed; the proper members of both Houses of Congress will be visited and will be provided with literature; and that "We will inspire radio programs, inspire nationalists to write their Congressmen, and urge that meetings be held all over the United States." In this way, according to SMITH, "This international conspiracy can be stopped." The international conspiracy evidently refers to the Dumbarton Oaks agreement, the plan for an international police force, the continuation of lend lease to Great Britain after the war, and the formation of a "sort of super state."

SMITH also sets out in his letter the belief that although the complete finish of the nationalists was prophesied by their enemies a few weeks ago, "We are now in a position to accomplish our greatest victory." A copy of this letter is being retained in the files of the Detroit

Field Office and a copy is being sent to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report.

In furtherance of the program above outlined, SMITH has told [redacted] that he will have four or five conferences for the purpose of setting up this National Emergency Committee. He had originally planned to have only one conference, but in view of the recent ruling against holding conventions, it will be necessary to have four or five smaller meetings instead. He believes the cost will be about $5,000.00. He told informant that he was having a man come to Detroit from Washington during the middle of January, 1945, for the purpose of discussing this new National Emergency Committee, and that the program would be something unique.

Informant knew that SMITH did have a visitor from Washington on January 14, 1945, but could not learn the identity of this individual. The conferences above-referred to would be in the nature of regional meetings and would be held in Detroit, St. Louis, and other large cities of the Middle West.

In furtherance also of his belief, expressed in the January, 1945 letter previously referred to, that the nationalists were making headway, SMITH told informant that former United States Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS had recently organized a new nationalist party and that he was working with REYNOLDS in the organization of this party. SMITH stated that the nationalists have a great many more subterranean friends in Washington in January, 1945, than they had sixty days previous. SMITH has expressed himself to various individuals as believing that nationalism was in the ascendent at present. In a communication to JAMES O'DONNELL, a newspaperman and radio commentator whose address is National Press Club, Washington, D. C., SMITH said on January 2, 1945, that nationalism had struck bottom sixty days previous but that recent events in Europe as well as in the United States are reviving and producing nationalists on a wholesale basis. The behavior of Churchill, Stalin and Roosevelt is producing, according to SMITH, an incurable cynicism which in turn breeds nationalism.

SMITH told ELIZABETH DILLING of Chicago during the latter part of December, 1944, that "I feel great days lie ahead," and that nationalism would be so popular it would be difficult to prevent it from being exploited by opportunists. He told RALPH SHERMAN, his Washington, D. C. associate, that nationalists in America are being created on a wholesale basis at present due to the lack of unity between Stalin, Roosevelt and Churchill, and that the situation, as respects nationalism, has not been as good since Pearl Harbor as it is right now. He stated the nationalist movement must be deliberately organized as a counter-action to the so-called Americans United movement, which is now being developed all over the country by the "old Eichelberger crew."

To [redacted] SMITH stated in December, 1944, that events in Europe demonstrate conclusively America cannot afford to trust her destiny in the hands of the power-mad politicians of the Old World, and that nationalists in the United States are increasingly determined to carry on a bitter fight against those who have committed treason as it involves our national sovereignty. [redacted] TYLER KENT, a former clerk in the United States Embassy in London, who is presently imprisoned by the British. SMITH has given considerable publicity in recent months to what he calls the "Tyler Kent Story." b7c

While giving every indication that he expects nationalism to continue to grow, SMITH has nevertheless told [redacted] that the nationalist cause is not ready for popular expansion, and at present he wants to keep it on an idealistic level and "stake out the claim and keep the banners waving," until such time as the public is ready for the acceptance of nationalism. b7D

SMITH plans to hold a meeting in the near future in Chicago, Illinois, although [redacted] did not know the exact date of this meeting. SMITH has been in contact with ELIZABETH DILLING and has discussed with her the so-called Jewish-inspired "reign of terror" by which certain Jewish organizations in Chicago are allegedly trying to prevent SMITH from holding any meetings in that city. Although apparently worried about the situation, SMITH has stated that he will hold a meeting in Chicago anyhow just to spite the Jews. He has written a letter to his followers in the Chicago area, stating that he will hold a meeting in Chicago or "be killed in the attempt." b7D

He has requested his Chicago followers to advise him of any church buildings or other halls which might be available for a meeting, and has indicated that he wants a committee of one hundred men or women to meet with him and plan the details of this rally. He also wants persons to volunteer for a picket line.

In addition to this letter, SMITH has sent a letter in December, 1944, to all of his followers, referring to the Chicago situation, denouncing this so-called "reign of terror" and relating his experiences with what he calls a "large crowd of Jews" who attempted to do him physical harm following his last meeting in Chicago. Copies of these two letters are being sent to the Bureau as enclosures with this report, and copies of them are also being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Office.

SMITH claims that his Jewish opposition in Chicago is led by a magazine, "The Jewish Sentinel." In a recent editorial in this publication the editor is supposed to have said, "We intend to make it impossible for SMITH and his ilk to meet in Chicago; we intend to press for national legislation making anti-Semitism of this kind a crime against the state, punishable by imprisonment." The magazine is also said to have requested its readers to write or wire Attorney General Biddle, asking that SMITH be imprisoned for the duration of the war.

The principal organization sponsoring these activities is said to be the Jewish Action Committee at 33 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois. GEORGE SOKOLSKY, newspaper columnist, is reported to have told SMITH that the Jewish organizations in Chicago and New York had recently split and that the Chicago group is now organized to do physical violence to its opponents. SMITH told informant he thought a statement of the kind contained in the "Jewish Sentinel" was fine for him since if anything happens to him now it would be easy to determine who was responsible. He has had several thousand copies of excerpts from this article printed for distribution to his followers.

SMITH further advised informant that in a recent conversation with ELIZABETH DILLING, she told him a Mr. POWELL, a lawyer in Chicago who had represented some of the sedition trial defendants, had been beaten up on the street by what DILLING referred to as "Jewish thugs." SMITH told DILLING that the troubles of his associate, GEORGE VOSE, were due to a Jewish Army captain. According to SMITH, VOSE, who has been under attack recently by newspaper columnists and radio commentators because he served six months at hard labor while in the United States Army last year, is supposed to have been court-martialed as the result of the activities of his Jewish officer.

It should be noted that this account of VOSE'S difficulties is at variance with the report of such difficulties furnished by [redacted] in the reference report. In view of the identity of [redacted] his information is believed to be considerably more reliable than that of SMITH regarding the source of VOSE'S trouble in the Army. b7D

SMITH is still suspicious of the activities of HOMER MAERTZ who has been in Detroit on several occasions recently, and made several unsuccessful attempts to contact SMITH. [redacted] advised SMITH that MAERTZ had stayed with him for a few days during December, 1944, and that he thought MAERTZ was all right. GEORGE POSTER of Chicago, Illinois, head of Constitutional Americans, has also told SMITH he thought MAERTZ could be trusted. However, [redacted] stated that SMITH had recently b7D b7c

learned MAERTZ was holding himself out as a liaison man for the nationalists and claimed to be working as a contact between SMITH, DILLING and other leading nationalists. He told various persons that he was booking speeches for SMITH, and that he provided contact between the known nationalists and other persons of nationalist sympathy who did not want their identity disclosed.

A special feature article about MAERTZ was said to have appeared in a recent issue of SELDES' weekly publication, "In Fact," and MAERTZ was reported to have given an interview to the "St. Louis Star Times," setting out that he was the nationalist liaison man. SMITH has recently sent a letter to all of his followers, stating that MAERTZ has no connections with him, and that any representations made by MAERTZ along this line should be disregarded.

[redacted]

b7c
b7d

[redacted]

[redacted] to upset the result of the recent Presidential election, which plan was set out in some detail in reference report, is apparently not receiving any substantial support from SMITH at the present time, [redacted]

b7c
&
b7d

[redacted]

b7c
b7

SMITH is still actively engaged in the printing and distribution of various types of literature. Reference has been made heretofore to the printing by SMITH of several thousand copies of the Atlantic Charter with the signature of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill attached. SMITH is giving wide distribution to Mrs. DILLING'S book, "The Octopus." He has also had printed a considerable number of pamphlets warning against the communizing of Europe. These pamphlets are printed in red and black ink and bear the title, "Patriots Awake - The Hour is Late." This pamphlet is a reprint of an article appearing in the January, 1945, issue of SMITH'S magazine, "The Cross and the Flag." A copy of this article is being sent to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report, and a copy is being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Office.

SMITH'S magazine is apparently also receiving wide distribution and is attempting to build up its subscription list offering inducements to former subscribers in an effort to have them renew their subscriptions. Mimeographed stories of the article, "The Tyler Kent Story," are also being widely distributed by SMITH. The booklet, "Vote CIO and Get a Soviet America," by JOSEPH KAMP, is being given away in quantities by SMITH to any person who will pay the shipping charges. Marked copies of SMITH'S magazine, his statement concerning the election recount in Oakland County, and the pamphlet on communizing Europe, previously referred to, are being sent to all members of Congress.

SMITH is apparently still having some difficulty with the Campaign Expenditures Committee of the House of Representatives and has apparently not given this Committee sufficient information to satisfy them. SMITH sent to the Committee a copy of a report which he had furnished to a

similar committee of the United States Senate, indicating his campaign expenses to have been $39,370.65.

Congressman CLINTON ANDERSON of the House Committee, however, is not satisfied with this report since the expenditures are not itemized as required by law. Apparently SMITH advised the House Committee that during his campaign he spent $10,000.00 and took in $10,000.00, and ANDERSON has also demanded an explanation as to the discrepancy between this report and the report of $39,370.65 in expenditures furnished to the Senate Committee.

During the early part of January, 1945, SMITH received a wire from Congressman ANDERSON, demanding that a detailed statement of expenditures be filed. Shortly thereafter SMITH advised a member of ANDERSON'S committee that he had reached a satisfactory agreement with ANDERSON as to filing of such a statement but [redacted] was not able to furnish the details as to this agreement. SMITH has blamed delays and discrepancies upon the fact that EMMA DOLAN, his former secretary, left his employ in November, 1944, and DON SOMBECK, who was DOLAN'S successor, was drafted and entered a conscientious objector camp in December, 1944. He has further pointed out that the America First Party, as a political party, came into being on September 1, 1944, and prior to that time had existed as an organization committee for the purpose of educating constituents on the formation of a party. During this period it contributed no money and gave no support to the election of any Federal official. b7D

SMITH has pointed out to Congressman ANDERSON that the Democratic and Republican Parties have admitted expenditures of nearly $40,000,000.00 in the recent campaign, whereas his committee exists only on nickels and dimes. SMITH protested to ANDERSON against being made the victim of a nation-wide attack by WALTER WINCHELL, whom he claims is financed in his political activities by a national corporation. SMITH told ANDERSON he did not think it proper that he should be put under a microscope while a man like WINCHELL is not even questioned concerning his use of corporate wealth to underwrite his political and partisan attacks.

SMITH has been in contact with numerous other individuals associated with the nationalist cause. [redacted] b7c & b7D

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

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FBI/DOJ

De 62-1126

[redacted]

b7c
b7D

An individual named [redacted] called SMITH, requesting information concerning the whereabouts of [redacted] SMITH advised his assistants that he did not know [redacted] and consequently no information should be given to him. [redacted]

b7c
b7D

[redacted]

b7c
b7D

SMITH is apparently [redacted]

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] He has received several calls, according to [redacted] from the Collection Department of Dun and Bradstreet concerning an old account of the Arnold Powers Printing Company. SMITH explained that this account had been paid in installments over a period of several years and eventually would be liquidated, although he admitted he was delinquent in his payments.

His former assistant, BERNARD DOMAN, who left him during the first part of November, 1944, is now living on a ranch near Edcouch, Texas, and has apparently severed all connections with SMITH. DON LOHBECK, who succeeded DOMAN, was required to report to a conscientious objector camp [redacted] b7C SMITH contends that LOHBECK was drafted and required to report to this camp primarily because of LOHBECK'S association with SMITH. [redacted] b7D

An article in the "Detroit News," on December 28, 1944, captioned "Smith Loses Two Party Aides," outlined the facts concerning DOMAN and LOHBECK. In the course of this article it was stated that LOHBECK had studied music in Paris, France, prior to the outbreak of the war; had returned to the United States from Germany in September, 1939; and traveled in Mexico from January to June, 1940. Thereafter he became a paid organizer for the original America First Party in the Oklahoma and St. Louis area but severed his connections with that organization in December, 1941. He later joined SMITH'S "Revised" America First Party.

During LOHBECK'S absence [redacted] are working in SMITH'S downtown office and apparently have assumed LOHBECK'S duties. [redacted] attended a recent meeting of the Civil Rights Federation in Detroit as an undercover agent for SMITH and apparently handled the assignment very well since SMITH has indicated that he will have her handle all such assignments in the future. b7C

He has advised [redacted] that he is making no effort to organize members of the armed forces while they are still in the Government service, but he believes such organizational activity should come under the direction of the United b7C

State Government while the men are in the service. However, if men are mustered out, then SMITH'S organization will be free to work among them, just the American Legion or Veterans of Foreign Wars may do. SMITH is apparently a subscriber to the "Chicago Sun," and "Chicago Tribune," and the New York newspaper "P.M." and has advised [redacted] b70 that he will vigorously oppose a campaign apparently being launched by "P.M." against Senator BURTON K. WHEELER.

SMITH has been under attack in the "Michigan Daily," a negro newspaper, and has been condemned by that paper for opposing any assistance to or cooperation with Russia. Pointing out that SMITH had predicted the America First Party candidate for the Presidency would win in 1948, this paper states that "conditions could well be ripe for the kind of ignoramus whom SMITH would put up." The paper states that while SMITH may seem like a buffoon now, especially in view of the recent election, Hitler also looked like a buffoon when the beer hall putsch failed.

Reports have been received by the Detroit Field Office within the past few weeks that a certain [redacted] employed by the Michigan Tool Company of Detroit, was said to be a member of the America First Party and was extremely critical of the Administration and very anti-Semitic in his conversations. A Detroit lawyer, [redacted] was also reported to be claiming that he was an officer of the America First Party and a good friend of SMITH, although his name has not heretofore been brought to the attention of any informants. b7c

[redacted]

ENCLOSURES: TO THE BUREAU -

1) "The Cross and the Flag," January, 1945 issue.
2) "America Preferred," by CARL H. MOTE, both November, 1944 and December, 1944 issues.
3) Copy of letter from GERALD L. K. SMITH to followers, titled "America First Party," regarding Jewish situation.
4) "Call to the Brave - This is our Opportune Moment," a letter from SMITH to his followers, dated January, 1945.
5) "Statement Concerning Re-Count of America First Ballots in Oakland County," dated January 5, 1945.
6) "Patriots Awake!! The Hour is Late!!" a pamphlet published by SMITH.

7) Invitation to SMITH meeting, December 28, 1944, at Book Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, with GERALD H. MOTT as speaker.

8) Leaflet titled, "Pearl Harbor Blame Laid to F.D.R. Blunder," by JOHN T. FLYNN.

- PENDING -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

IN ACCORDANCE WITH BUREAU INSTRUCTIONS, INVESTIGATIVE REPORTS SUBMITTED IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES.

LOS ANGELES FIELD OFFICE

At Los Angeles, California, will in accordance with the Detroit Field Office letter to Los Angeles Field Office, dated December 26, 1944, make a discreet investigation of [redacted], to determine his identity and background, the extent of his connections with SMITH, [redacted] b7c As pointed out in the letter from the Detroit Field Office and subsequent Bureau letter, dated January 9, 1945, this inquiry should be conducted in a most discreet manner.

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

At Washington, D. C., will determine the identity of the person having the telephone number ATlantic 3598 in Washington, D. C.

DETROIT FIELD OFFICE

At Detroit, Michigan, will maintain contact with Confidential Informants for the purpose of following the further activities of SMITH.

- - - - - -

A copy of this report is being sent for the information of the Chicago Field Office in view of the alleged anti-Semitic agitation in that city and SMITH's expressed intention to hold a meeting in Chicago in the near future despite alleged threats of physical violence.

- PENDING -

Do 62-1126

IDENTITY OF T-INFORMANTS

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

301 Continental Bank Building
Salt Lake City 1, Utah
January 26, 1945

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
[redacted]
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing herewith an envelope and a letter which was posted at Detroit January 18, 1945 and was addressed to [redacted] by letter dated January 23, 1945 forwarded this material to this office.

The letter addressed to [redacted] is signed R. E. LEGANT and enclosed is a copy of a circular letter signed by GERALD L. K. SMITH. The contents of SMITH's letter appear to be of a seditious nature and it is being called to the attention of the Bureau herewith. It is noted that the letterhead of LEGANT's letter to [redacted] bears the heading "The Cross and the Flag edited by GERALD L. K. SMITH, Post Office Box 459, Detroit 31, Michigan". The circular letter over SMITH's signature refers to "The Story of TYLER KENT".

It is believed that the Bureau and the Detroit Office may both be aware of the circularization of this literature; however, the same is being called to the Bureau's attention for appropriate consideration.

Very truly yours,

JAY C. NEWMAN
SAC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/14/92 BY SP-8B75/[illegible]

JCN:st
Encs.

EX-3

CC: Detroit

Memo to clerks 2/20/45 EBB

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818-656
49 FEB 26 1945

FILE 61

ALL 67C

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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☒ For your information: Per your March 18, 1982 letter this enclosure was not xeroxed for release.

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818 - 656 Enclosure

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
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X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark February 20, 1945

-656

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

Reference is made to our previous correspondence in the above-captioned matter.

For your further information there is enclosed herewith a copy of the investigative report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on January 29, 1945, as well as photostatic copies of the enclosures listed on pages 14 and 15 of this report. b7c

Also enclosed for your information is a photostatic copy of a two-page circular letter entitled, "The Story of Tyler Kent," which was signed by Smith. This letter was received by [redacted] who in turn forwarded it to the Bureau's Salt Lake City Field Division. b7c

Enclosure 1

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY [illegible]

MAR 9 1945

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818 - 656 Enclosure

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FBI/DOJ

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

[X] Deleted under exemption(s) b7c, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

[ ] Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

[ ] Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

[ ] Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

[ ] For your information:

[X] The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-657

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FBI/DOJ

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation DATE: January 30, 1945

FROM : SAC, Salt Lake City

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/17/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/MC

Reference is made to my letter of January 26, 1945, entitled "GERALD L. K. SMITH; [redacted]; SEDITION" wherein some literature was forwarded to the Bureau which had been received by [redacted]

I am now forwarding herewith a copy of the magazine entitled "The Cross and the Flag," December 1944 issue, which [redacted] has received and forwarded to this office.

Enclosure

LCN:IP

cc - Detroit

-658

30 FEB 1945

EX-43

FILE

BEHIND FILE

MAR 10 1945

EX-30

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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☒ For your information: Per your March 18, 1982 letter this enclosure was not xeroxed for release.

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818 - 658 Enclosure

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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
[redacted]
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
February 10, 1945

AIRMAIL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8870/mk

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION
(~~61-7055~~; 62-43818)

Dear Sir:

During the period from January 19, 1945, to February 8, 1945, inclusive, the following information concerning the activities of Subject SMITH was received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. b7D

SMITH spent some time in Washington, D. C., during the latter part of January, arriving in that city on the morning of January 24 and leaving Washington for Detroit on the evening of January 28. Prior to leaving Detroit, he stated that he did not want it known he was out of town or that he had gone to Washington since he was laying "deep plans" and did not want this particular activity generally known at present. He called [redacted] Baltimore, Maryland, just prior to leaving Detroit on January 23, requesting [redacted] to meet him in Washington on January 24. He subsequently spent some time with [redacted] in Washington and apparently spent a great deal of time with RALPH BAERMAN who has been his Washington contact man for some time. b7C

While in Washington he inquired as to the address of [redacted] former Secretary to ex-Senator BOB REYNOLDS, and was advised that [redacted]s address was Colorado Building, Washington, D. C. Informant believes that SMITH subsequently contacted [redacted] b7C

SMITH advised informant he had a press conference in Washington on January 26 and advised the newspapermen of his plans. He also had visits with former Senator GERALD P. NYE and with ex-Congressman HAMILTON FISH. He advised informant toward the end of his stay that the purpose of his trip had been accomplished satisfactorily and that he had seen that "news bureau man." Informant did not know to whom this referred.

COPIES DESTROYED
205 OCT 15 1964

INDEXED

62-43818-659

EX-39

FEB 27 1945

FIVE GPO

Informant did not learn the exact purpose of SMITH's visit to Washington, but stated that news stories in the Chicago Sun and "PM" during the time SMITH was in Washington stated that his purpose in going there was to set up a lobby.

Informant thought that SMITH had probably set up some sort of Washington headquarters since he spoke of sending out to his followers a "Washington letter" somewhat similar to the Kiplinger Letter. SMITH is apparently following through on the idea of the Washington letter, since he told informant during the first part of February that his Washington letter would be sent out from the "Washington Headquarters."

He continues to distribute a great deal of literature and has reprinted an additional ten thousand copies of the January issue of the monthly letter which he sends out to his followers. This letter is captioned, "A Call to the Brave - This is Our Opportune Moment," and has apparently met with better response than the usual monthly letter, since informant does not know of any previous time when additional copies of a monthly letter were prepared.

Informant stated that he understood the response to this letter had been very good and that about two thousand answers had been received up to February 7. Since this January letter called for a donation, it is likely that all or nearly all of the responses contained some sort of contribution. SMITH has also had prepared additional copies of the Tyler Kent letter, which he has been distributing to his followers for several months.

A single page called "Patriots, Awaken!" which is a reprint of the inside cover of the January magazine, "The Cross and the Flag," has also met with a good response and SMITH had five thousand additional copies of this pamphlet printed for use by Dr. LELAND MARION of Pontiac, Michigan. MARION is a close friend and associate of SMITH and stated he could easily distribute five thousand of these pamphlets, which are anti-Communist in tone, among the members of his church and among anti-Communist labor men.

ALLEN ZOLL, a friend of SMITH and a follower of Father CHARLES E. COUGHLIN and head of "The American Patriots," is now working in Detroit as advertising manager for the magazine, "Yachting and Aviation." He has been in contact with SMITH on several occasions in the past few weeks with reference to a scheme SMITH is trying to develop for running small classified ads in country newspapers throughout the south and southeast. ZOLL, by reason of his advertising and newspaper connections, is trying to make arrangements for this advertising scheme. Informant did not know the nature of the ads to be used or the purpose of this campaign.

SMITH has also been trying to arrange for a meeting of his followers to be held in one of the downtown hotels of Detroit during the latter part of February. He attempted unsuccessfully to obtain the ballrooms at the Detroit Leland and Book Cadillac Hotels for any day during the week of February 12, 1945. Informant thought that some date in the early part of February had finally been decided upon since SMITH told him he would soon be sending out invitations to seventeen hundred persons inviting them to this meeting. Informant did not know, however, the date fixed for the meeting. The seventeen hundred persons comprise individuals in Wayne County, Michigan, who have in the past made cash contributions to SMITH. SMITH stated that there were 488 persons outside of Detroit and in the State of Michigan who made donations to him.

Informant advised that collections received by SMITH from his followers through the mail during the latter part of January and first part of February were as follows: $32 on January 25; $29 on January 26; $28 on January 27; $9.50 on January 30; $15.50 on January 31; $10 on February 1; $94 on February 2; $48 on February 7.

SMITH has received correspondence from various persons during the past few weeks. He has had letters from Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN, [redacted] Frankfort, Indiana; HARRY ROMER; [redacted] of Huntsville, Alabama, and from United States Senator GREEN of the Senate Committee on Investigation of Campaign Expenditures.

In connection with this latter committee, SMITH told informant he had heard WALTER WINCHELL's comment on the radio several weeks ago that the America First Party should be investigated as a result of statements made to Congressman ANDERSON's committee investigating campaign expenditures. SMITH did not make any comment on WINCHELL's remarks, however.

SMITH has also received correspondence from Senator HOMER FERGUSON and Senator ARTHUR VANDENBURG. A letter from VANDENBURG began, "My Dear GERALD," and thanked SMITH for his comment on VANDENBURG's recent speech, stating that he agreed with SMITH that the Communists were the chief opponents to the program outlined by VANDENBURG. The letter ended with the words, "Warm personal regards and best wishes." Senator FERGUSON in his letter told SMITH that he was in favor of the two-thirds rule for confirmation of treaties and favored leaving the approval of treaties and declaration of war in the hands of the United States Senate.

SMITH has been in contact with numerous people during the past few weeks. A [redacted] from some point in the southern United States was in Detroit and visited SMITH on January 23. A Reverend [redacted],

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a Lutheran minister who is apparently the editor of the Students Newspaper at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri, and a close friend of Reverend WALTER MAIER of that institution, endeavored to contact SMITH while in Detroit, but was unable to do so since SMITH was out of town during the latter part of January. [redacted] spoke of his close connection with ELIZABETH DILLING and of the wonderful set of files she had shown him when he visited her recently in Chicago.

[redacted] of Indianapolis, a close friend of SMITH, also tried to contact SMITH during the latter part of January, but was unable to do so since SMITH was not in town. [redacted] indicated to SMITH's wife that he wanted SMITH's help in the promotion of a booklet, "Political Theologians and Theological Policies," which he hopes to publish soon. He stated that Colonel McCORMICK of the Chicago Tribune agreed with him that the Republican Party was dead and wrote him a letter to this effect, stating that they may as well admit it and start a third party. [redacted] stated that when the Republican National Committee met in Indianapolis during the middle of January he was in continual conference with [redacted] and [redacted] The identity of these individuals was unknown to informant.

MOTE stated that he had worked out an arrangement with these men that would be of considerable interest to SMITH and that he would explain it to him shortly. MOTE stated that the attack on SMITH made in the Chicago Jewish newspaper, "The Sentinel," was a dastardly thing and that he, MOTE, intends to do something about it. He did not, however, state what he intends to do.

On January 7, 1945, SMITH was in conference with [redacted] and with the lawyer for [redacted]. Informant did not know the identities of these individuals. SMITH also had lunch with [redacted] a wealthy physician of Detroit who has been a friend of SMITH for some time and was a defendant in a criminal prosecution under the pure food and drug act about a year ago. [redacted] of Detroit was also in contact with SMITH and received his advice on a letter which he stated he intended to write concerning civil liberties.

SMITH contacted [redacted], and spoke to GEORGE VOSE of Kalamazoo, Michigan, candidate for Lieutenant Governor on the America First Party ticket in Michigan during the last election. SMITH stated he was for VOSE one hundred percent and that VOSE should not believe any of the rumors of the scandal-mongers, evidently referring to recent newspaper attacks made on VOSE because of his having been court martialed while in the United States Army.

ALL
b7c

Prior to SMITH's recent trip to Washington, RALPH BAERMAN, his Washington contact man, went to Chicago for the purpose of seeing some lawyer there and then returned to New York by way of Detroit, spending some time in Detroit with SMITH on January 21, 1945.

[redacted] continues to advise SMITH on various activities.

On January 27, 1945, a "homecoming party" was held in Detroit for PARKER SAGE, GARLAND ALDERMAN and WILLIAM R. LYMAN, JR., three Detroiters who were prominent in the National Workers League and were defendants in the recent Washington sedition trial. This party was apparently sponsored by HOMER MAERTZ of Chicago. MAERTZ has been pushing himself forward in recent weeks as a leading nationalist and contact man for nationalists and has caused SMITH some concern. SMITH evidently is afraid that MAERTZ will take over some of SMITH's followers and, in addition, SMITH believes that MAERTZ is very careless in his manner of operating which may cause embarrassment to anyone who knows him in the event he ever gets into trouble.

[redacted] told SMITH that in a recent edition of the New York Post the columnist, REISEL, referred to MAERTZ as a liaison man for the nationalists and said he was flashing fifty dollar bills. SMITH and [redacted] agreed that MAERTZ was either getting support from someone or [redacted] thought that possibly a few people in Chicago were giving him just enough money to allow him to travel and talk big. SMITH agreed that this was probably true or that possibly MAERTZ was an undercover operator for some private investigative agency. [redacted] stated that MAERTZ had recently sent out a thousand dollars worth of literature before leaving Chicago to come to Detroit. He is said to be a close friend of CHARLES PHILLIPS of Lincoln, Nebraska, who is editor of the "Individualist."

Relative to MAERTZ' party for SAGE, ALDERMAN and LYMAN, [redacted] subsequently advised SMITH that neither SAGE nor LYMAN would attend the party and that [redacted] a former Dies Committee investigator, was in town from New York for a few days and might be there. [redacted] attended the party and reported to SMITH as to what had taken place. He said that ALDERMAN was the only one of the three who attended and that he and MAERTZ made short talks. SAGE was said to be too frightened to go to the party since he feared he might be indicted again and that LYMAN was in Florida and could not afford to attend. The Ku Klux Klan was represented by [redacted]

MAERTZ did not say anything during the course of the evening that was detrimental to SMITH. Informant stated that on the morning the

ALL b7c

party was to be held MAERTZ called SMITH's residence and inquired as to whether SMITH would attend. Mrs. SMITH stated that he was out of town and would not be able to be there. MAERTZ told Mrs. SMITH that he was starting the Pioneer News Service again and that he intended to make a trip through the south and see what people there were thinking. He was somewhat apprehensive as to a new book about to be published by JOHN ROY CARLSON, author of "Undercover." He stated that Mrs. VAN HYNING of Chicago has been getting some headlines in the past few weeks and is now getting a lot of help from people who have been reticent about helping her in the past. GEORGE FOSTER of Chicago has gotten back his old office and all and MAERTZ assured Mrs. SMITH that he could get a hall for SMITH to speak in any time he wanted to come to Chicago.

The identities of several of SMITH's donors and followers became known to informant; [redacted] of Detroit are all contributors and receive his monthly magazine.

SMITH has recently been advised that the United States Army may take his downtown offices in the Industrial National Bank Building and has been trying to arrange for new office space in the event he has to move from his present quarters. He has contacted the manager of this building and advised that he would like to have some other space in the same building in the event he has to move, although he expected to take such other space "on a different basis." This might tend to confirm rumors that SMITH had been receiving office space in this particular building free of charge from the owner of the building.

He recently received a letter from his son, GERALD, who is with the United States Army in Burma and stated he would advise his son not to take the thirty-day furlough which he might now get, but to wait until his two-year term of duty was over, at which time he could expect to come home permanently. SMITH stated the thirty-day furlough was just a way of recruiting men for extended service in Burma.

Informant learned that SMITH appears to confine his reading of papers and magazines to the Chicago Sun, Chicago Tribune, PM and Time and Life Magazines. SMITH is still using the services of [redacted] former professional golfer and Ford Motor Company employee, as a personal body guard.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin
ems

R. A. Guerin
SAC

[redacted]
62-1126

AL
b7C

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: March 12, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

AIRMAIL

Supplementing our letters of March 3 and 5, 1945 relative to the contemplated meeting which the Subject SMITH is to hold in Chicago on March 15, 1945, [redacted] b7

In accordance with our letter of March 5, 1945, the Chicago Field Division is requested to obtain adequate coverage of the meeting to be held on March 15, 1945.

[redacted]ejg b7c
62-1126
cc-Chicago

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-PBS/mc

RECORDED & INDEXED

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MAR

16

5 S MAR 17 1945

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: March 2, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

AIRMAIL

[redacted]

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION
(61-7055; 62-43813)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/82 BY SP8BTO/MC

During the period of February 8 to February 27, 1945 inclusive, the following information concerning the activities of the Subject, SMITH, was received from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau. b7D

Within the past few weeks SMITH has been spending a great deal of time conferring with RALPH BAERMAN, his Washington contact man, concerning the office which SMITH is expected to open soon in that city. SMITH advised BAERMAN to take out a Post Office box in the latter's name and told him he should use the name of former Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS as a reference. They discussed the possibility of an un-named individual working with them in connection with their Washington activities and the informant believed the person referred to was probably BAERMAN's wife. SMITH advised BAERMAN that he should continually ask questions and get answers to them at every opportunity.

A series of interviews is evidently contemplated by SMITH but he advised BAERMAN that he was not quite ready "to launch it" and he would advise BAERMAN when to begin. SMITH thought that the First "Washington Letter" to be published by him would probably be distributed about the second week of March. Apparently a considerable part of BAERMAN's activity is to be connected with getting material for this letter which will be published at regular intervals. BAERMAN advised SMITH that he was going to Chicago in about ten days since the "Senator" had given him five days off. SMITH thought the Senator was a very fine person and indicated also that he had had a nice visit with FRED KISTER and that FRED was a fine fellow who would find a place in the movement in the near future. b7

SMITH is still concerned about the attitude of certain Jewish groups which are attempting to prevent him from holding a meeting in Chicago. He stated that these individuals are inaugurating a reign of terror but that there will be a terrific reactionary counterpart in the near future.

SMITH has apparently finally made arrangements for a hall in Chicago and will hold a meeting there sometime during the latter part of March. [redacted] whom the informant believed to be a resident of Chicago, has made the arrangemen

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56 MAR 17 1945

for the hall. It is west of the Loop and has good transportation. The deal was consummated with the Secretary of the Plasterers Union and the hall was rented in SMITH's name. SMITH thought that now "the fur will really begin to fly."

SMITH made a trip to Chicago on February 8, 1945, returning to Detroit on February 14, 1945. His purpose in making this trip was to see his various contacts there in an effort to arrange for a meeting in the near future. He stated that he also wanted to see how strong the Jewish organizations were that were opposing him.

SMITH held a meeting of his Detroit followers at the Book Cadillac Hotel in that city on February 26, 1945. The informant did not know how large a crowd had attended or who the speakers were.

The informant was advised that among his other activities, SMITH had ordered a large quantity of paper and apparently contemplates an extensive campaign involving the distribution of a considerable amount of literature. He is known to have 3,200 of the books "And So They Indicted Me" by J. E. JONES of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He is withholding five hundred of these for his own use and sending the rest to JONES at Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He is apparently also distributing material for the Constitutional Educational League, which is a New York group headed by JOSEPH KAMP, with whom SMITH is known to be friendly.

SMITH has been in contact with various individuals of Nationalist sympathies in the past few weeks. The informant states that SMITH had a lengthy discussion with GEORGE FOSTER of Chicago concerning a recent meeting held by the latter in that city. FOSTER apparently experienced some difficulty but claimed that he had a record attendance at his meeting.

[redacted] has been in contact with SMITH concerning a certain KOSMERK, who is an important National figure in the Polish American Congress, a group violently opposed to Communism. This group is located at 4019 Wellington Avenue, Chicago. SMITH indicated interest in KOSMERK and stated he could use him effectively against Senator NOWAK of Detroit, a member of the Michigan legislature, who is known to be a Communist according to SMITH. b7c

SMITH has also been in contact with [redacted] a Detroit lawyer who represents Mrs. BLANCHE WINTERS of Detroit. Mrs. WINTERS is a prominent Nationalist and a leader of a professional Mothers group currently under investigation in the Detroit Field Division. [redacted] contacted SMITH on behalf of Mrs. WINTERS and requested that SMITH get in touch with her. It is b7c

known through other sources that SMITH actually did see Mrs. WINTERS during the latter part of February and sought her financial assistance for his Washington activities.

The informant stated that SMITH's collection through the mail amounted to $75.00 on February 9, 1945 and $183.00 on February 21, 1945. It should be noted, however, that the figure for February 9, 1945 is at wide variance with the figures obtained by the informant from another source. These latter figures indicate that on February 9, 1945 SMITH deposited $700.00 and on the previous day deposited $421.00.

Mail has been received by SMITH from numerous individuals of Nationalist tendencies, including EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago, Illinois; [redacted] of Frankfort, Indiana; [redacted] who sent SMITH a package containing printed copies of his speeches; LAWRENCE RILEY, who is a student at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, and has a group of fifty fellow students who studied Communism and are anxious to obtain literature distributed by SMITH; [redacted] of Sterling, Kentucky; former Congressman PETTENGILL of New York; [redacted] Governor Building, Portland, Oregon; [redacted], address unknown. SMITH also has been in contact with [redacted], a Detroit lawyer who is prominent in certain Ukranian organizations which were under investigation in the Detroit Office until recently.

The informant learned that among recent contributors to SMITH were [redacted] and [redacted]. The latter donated $20.00. [redacted] Dearborn, was also known to be a contributor.

SMITH's former assistant, DON LOHBECK, was in Detroit during the latter part of February on a brief furlough from the Conscientious Objector Camp [redacted] During this furlough LOHBECK was in frequent contact with SMITH.

[redacted]
62-1126

ALL
b7C

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
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XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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62-43818-662

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XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

EPB:WMJ
62-43818

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark — March 10, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

b7c

Enclosed for your further information in the captioned matter is a copy of the investigative report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] dated at Los Angeles, California, on February 15, 1945, as well as photostatic copies of a form letter dated "February - 1945," which is allegedly being distributed by Smith From an examination of this form letter it is noted that Smith states in the fifth paragraph on page one that he is opening headquarters for a National Emergency Committee and a Nationalist Lobby in Washington, D. C. Apparently the location of the Washington headquarters has not as yet been decided upon.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8BTJ

RECORDED

62-113-66
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 13 1945
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

EX-42

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

FILED 12
1945 P.M.

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: March 3, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION
~~(61-7055~~; 62-43818)

[redacted] advised on February 28, 1945 that SMITH was in contact the previous day with a certai[redacted] believed to be a resident of Chicago, and [redacted] advised SMITH that arrangements had been made for a hall where SMITH could hold a meeting in Chicago in the near future. The hall is said to be in the area west of the Loop and has good transportation facilities. The hall was rented through the Secretary of the Plasterers Union and was rented in SMITH's name. The indications are that the meeting will be held on March 15, 1945 and SMITH thought that "now the fur will really begin to fly."

b7D
b7C

The informant believes that the hall hired by SMITH is the one in which GEORGE FOSTER of the Constitutional Americans held a meeting on February 28, 1945 and plans to hold meetings on March 14 and March 28, 1945.

In view of the fact that SMITH has been speaking a great deal lately of certain Jewish groups who were creating a reign of terror in Chicago and attempting to prevent him from holding a meeting, the fact that a meeting is now planned by SMITH is called to the attention of the Chicago Office.

It is thought likely that the Chicago Office, with the information contained in the first paragraph above, may be able to learn the location of the hall where this meeting is to be held and arrange to cover this meeting through informants. It should be noted that the policy in the past has been to obtain coverage of SMITH's meetings only through informants and not through the attendance of any Agents at such meetings.

As additional information is received concerning the time and place of such meeting, it will be furnished to the Chicago Office.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP4BTJ/ak

b2c
[redacted] 62-1126

62-43818-664

MAR 9 1945

cc: SAC, Chicago

FILE

MAR 22 1945

[redacted]

[redacted]

February 6, 1945

NOTE: The attached is a copy. The original letter has been returned to [redacted] as requested.

ALL
b7D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8B75/MC

EX-62

EX-62

16

COURAGE REWARDED

February - 1945

Dear Fellow American:

We are winning victories:

Six weeks ago President Roosevelt thought that by this time a forced labor law would be in effect, but because of the fight that you, through men like myself, have put up, This scheme for drafting everybody has been curbed.

The worst part of it would have been the drafting of daughters to be sent all over the world the same as our sons. We must not relax, however, because Mr. Roosevelt and his bureaucratic machine will press for a 'daughter draft' at the first opportune moment.

Four days before I dictated this letter, I returned from Washington, D.C., where I had been for one week, thanks to the cooperation of you and others like you. I shall return to Washington within a few weeks, and perhaps within a few days, after you receive this letter.

Unless you and others like you stand with our Emergency Committee in this fight, we will wake up one morning and find our liberty gone. For instance, an organization has been formed with headquarters in Washington for the purpose of getting a law through Congress that would make it a criminal offense to criticise a Jew. The leader of this organization is one Leonard Golditch. In a recent address Mr. Golditch reminded his people that anyone who critizised the Jews in Russia was shot. He told his people that such was the rule in other European nations, and would soon be the law in France. I do not advocate an attack on any race or creed, but we must not permit such a Russian-born idea to flower in America. Just imagine the persecution that would exist in this land if it became a crime to criticise a Jew, or any other individual for that matter. A bill has already been introduced into Congress to make this a law. With your help, financial and otherwise, we can see to it that Congress is properly informed, to the end that this violent proposal will never become a law.

We are opening headquarters for our National Emergency Committee and the Nationalist Lobby in Washington. At this writing I am not prepared to give you the location. The office buildings where we would want our headquarters are filled to capacity, and it will be necessary for us to use temporary quarters until the proper location opens up.

In the meantime, we have employed two people to do special work in connection with our Washington activities.

While in Washington this past week I visited with the most important Nationalists there. I spent most of my time with nine different people. Every one of these nine people are national figures whose name you would recognize readily if you saw it in the newspaper. They include members of Congress (including the United States Senate), one of the outstanding newspapermen of the nation, one clergyman, and others whose activities are so prominent that if I identified them in any way whatsoever, they could be readily named.

Why Am I not giving you the names of these people? It is because we are preparing to publish a very sensational document. This document will be the first of its kind ever published in Washington, D.C. It will contain news and confidentially-gathered facts, published nowhere else.

While in Washington this time I confirmed what I had believed all along — namely, that most of the important truth concerning events in Washington is not published in the ordinary newspaper

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8375/MC

62-43818-445

Because of the c ration you and others have gi me, I am able to announce to you that within the next 30 days we will begin the publication of this very unusual letter in Washington, D.C. The two people whom I have hired will, under my direction, gather important data from over 100 sources. We will confer especially with these nine important individuals. Thus, when the LETTER goes out from Washington, it will contain documented and absolutely correct information which could ordinarily be found in no other publication.

This letter will be sent out first class mail and will be sealed. It also will be marked "personal". Furthermore, we will permit no re-publication of the facts contained in it without consent of the editors.

This will not in any way interfere with the publication of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG, the magazine I edit. It will make, however, a completely different and much deeper approach to what is really going on in Washington.

This documented letter will create a sensation. I expect the enemies to yell to high heaven. They will demand everything from my liberty to my blood. They will be shocked when they see written in this letter facts which will be brought to me by an individual who is in and out of the White House from one to three times per week. They will pull their hair and gnash their teeth when they read facts in this letter coming right out of the secret conferences of the internationalist politicians, including an account of events taking place in both the British and Russian Embassies.

In planning this letter we are laying the groundwork for the most daring program of patriotic enlightenment ever attempted. The purpose of this letter is to sensitize and educate important and loyal Nationalists in every state in the union.

At a later date I will tell you how you can help us get these facts into your local newspaper, whether it be a weekly or a daily. That is a completely separate program, which I will discuss with you at another time.

Highly financed international political machines are all set to rope us into a Super State and a World Government. Thanks to men like United States Senator Wheeler, these Super State politicians will find some real opposition when they come to the floor of the United States Senate.

If the war ended today, it might be three years before your son would be home. Why? . . Because the shipping problem would be so serious that it would take just that long to ship all of our sons who are in foreign battlefields back to the United States. If Mr. Roosevelt gets his Super State plan through, it may be five or ten years before your son or loved one returns.

Within the next few months I hope to spend one-half of my time in Washington, D.C., coping with the legislative problems that are of interest to Nationalists. We shall not allow any sort of Super State program to get by without our attention. I have formed confidential contacts all over the United States with farm leaders, labor leaders, Christian leaders, statesmen in both old parties, mothers and veterans of both wars.

As the weeks go by, you will see and hear of the representatives of these groups appearing before Congressional and Senate Committees. They will not appear as representing our organization, but they will appear at our instigation as representing the group with which they are primarily identified. With your financial help I shall continue to keep and develop these important contacts in order that our cause for Nationalism be defended by those who come from every walk of life.

We can save the lives of one million servicemen if we will carry on victoriously this campaign to bring our boys home at the earliest possible moment. If Mr. Roosevelt cannot give a better reason for this bloody slaughter than he has been able to give, as of the date of the writing of this letter, then our sons should be brought home, now.

In supporting our nationalist activities in Washington, we will soon be setting up our regional conferences, and we will very likely issue a call for our most loyal supporters to come to Washington, D.C. I am shocked to discover that our Committee is the only one that is carrying on an open campaign to defeat the internationalist clique and support the leadership of such men as Senator Wheeler. This makes our responsibility all the greater, knowing what we do. We will have the blood of innocent men and women upon our hands unless we fight with intelligence, consistency and courage.

Some people receive this letter every month and do nothing about it. It is a mystery to me how any good American can know the facts which I bring out and not give support to those of us who carry on this fight.

Others who receive this letter try to make a contribution of money every month. These are the ones who are making our victorious activities possible.

When the smoke has cleared away, you who have sent in money to carry on this fight can take satisfaction in the fact that you will have helped to accomplish the following:

1. The defeat of the Dumbarton Oaks Plan.
2. The saving of a million lives that might be given to a Super State Police.
3. The bringing of our boys home at the earliest possible moment.
4. The defeat of all plans to finance the British Empire after the war (money spent on the British and other foreign countries should be kept for our own sons).
5. The organization of nationalist veterans of World War II, which is being developed in its own thorough way.
6. The establishment of a Nationalist Lobby in Washington, D.C.
7. The maintenance of headquarter activities in our National Capital.
8. The publication of a sealed letter containing the most explosive series of facts ever to be enclosed under postage stamps as pertaining to the interest of nationalists.
9. The maintenance of the only nationwide nationalist organization, which has survived through thick and thin.
10. The preservation of the America First Principle at a time when cowards ran under the bed, and weak politicians were afraid to stand up and be counted.

You who receive this letter are the first to be told about the sealed package of dynamic information which we are preparing to send out of Washington. We think it will be sent out once each week. It will not be long. . . it will be thick. . .but it will be tough, true and terrific.

I have arranged for you, by using the attached coupon, to be placed on the original list of individuals to receive the first copy of this Washington, D.C., edition.

To maintain and pay the salary of our Washington staff will require a considerable sum of money. Furthermore, it will require that I be in Washington much more than I have been heretofore. Even so, we plan to bring this Washington dispatch within reach of the donators to this crusade.

This is our plan -- (1) Publish the letter once each week - (2) Seal the letter securely - (3) Send it first class mail, postage 3¢ - (4) Read this carefully: To you who send in a donation of $10 or more, using the attached coupon, we will send the letter for one year. To you who send in less than $10, we will dispatch you this letter one month for each $1 you enclose.

You who can contribute more than $10, please do not limit your contribution this month to $10. This would be a calamity, because you must remember that upon your contributions do we depend for the regular expense connected with the maintenance of our headquarters in Detroit and Washington.

Our program is planned on faith. Future acitivities are arranged not on the basis of money in hand, but on the basis of money we know you will give. For instance, we operate on such a small reserve that if you failed to respond to this letter, and everyone else did the same, then we would be compelled to close our headquarters here

and in Washington, and dismiss our help.

I know, however, that you will not fail me. Therefore, I am planning a bigger and more comprehensive program of activities than ever before. I know that as long as I carry on and consume the money you contribute on the program of activity for which you give it, that you, and others like you, will contribute each month.

Let me warn you: Do not fail to fill out the attached coupon and rush it to me in order that you may be enrolled on the original Washington D.C., list. In this way you will be sure to receive the first loaded letter which we will send out from the Nation's Capital.

The reason I am not giving the names of informers and intelligent friends who will help supply the facts to be contained in this letter, is to save them from intense persecution. Furthermore, if I do not reveal their names and protect their confidence, they will be able to gather more of the sort of information for which you and others are hungry.

Answer this letter immediately. Fill out the coupon carefully. Rush it by air mail, if necessary, in order that you may be enrolled on the Washington letter list at the earliest possible moment, and in order that the money you enclose will accomplish the greatest good. The day will come when you will be proud and thankful that you helped to found the first real Nationalist newsletter to be published in Washington, D.C.

I count on you. I depend upon your patriotism. I trust in your courageous and sacrifical support. I know you will not let me down.

Sincerely yours for God and Country,

GERALD L.K. SMITH

Let courage have its reward.

4-750 (2-7-79)

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62-43818-666

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

EPR:WMJ

62-43818
SAC, Detroit

March 10, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

62-43818-66

RECORDED
X-85

Enclosed for your information and for the information of the Washington Field Division are photostatic copies of a form letter dated "February - 1945", captioned, "Courage Rewarded," which Smith appears to be distributing at the present time. From an examination of this form letter it is noted that Smith states in the fifth paragraph on page one that they are opening headquarters for a National Emergency Committee and a Nationalist Lobby in Washington, D. C.

The Washington Field Division should be on the alert for any indication that such a Nationalist headquarters is actually established by Smith in the District of Columbia. No active investigation should be conducted in this connection. However, it is desired that arrangements be made through informants for the Washington Field Division to be promptly advised of the opening of such headquarters.

The Bureau has been advised that the Detroit Police Department is investigating the activities of George Voss, who was a candidate for office on the America First Party ticket in the recent elections. Voss is reported to be located in the Statler Hotel at Detroit where he is engaged in organizing a Nationalist Veterans Organization. This information relative to Voss and his activities should be of assistance to you in your further investigation of the captioned matter.

2 - Washington

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8STJ/MC

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 13
P.M.

DEINDEXED
DATE: 10/25/57

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 39

PAGES REVIEWED: 72

PAGES RELEASED: 67

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: March 5, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

08-1780

Supplementing our recent letter relative to the meeting which Subject SMITH is to hold in Chicago in the near future, [redacted]

b7C
b7D

It is requested that the Chicago Field Division make arrangements to obtain adequate coverage of this meeting through informants and submit a report thereof at an early date. In accordance with the past policy in the handling of the Subject's meetings, it is pointed out that no agent should attend this meeting but that the coverage should be effected solely through informants.

[redacted] b7C

62-1126
cc- Chi

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/12/72 BY SEARCHING

62-43[illegible]

RECORDED & INDEXED 207

MAR 16 1945

FIVE CENTS

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: March 9, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

The Detroit Police Department advised this morning that a report had been received from Chicago to the effect that an unknown follower of SMITH had been murdered and crucified in Chicago last night or early today. Subsequent accounts of this incident in the Detroit papers indicate that the individual was one FRED WALSCHER of Chicago; that he was apparently the leader of some sort of cult; and that he was not murdered but was only injured and is still alive, and that the police of Chicago have some doubt as to the authenticity of the incident.

[redacted]

b7c
b7d

Any further developments will be reported to the Bureau.

[redacted] b7c

62-1126

RECORDED
INDEXED

62-13711-668

MAR 16 1945

FILED

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DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-PBTJ/mlm

51 MAR 21

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAR 13 1945

081776

TELEMETER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-9873/auc

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Gall
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Brown
Joy Strickland

WASH FROM CHICAGO 8 13 7-05 PM

CONF TO DIRECTOR AND SAC DETROIT

U R G E N T

(1)

SYAY. GERALD L. K. SMITH, INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION. REFERENCE MY LETTER DATED MARCH TENTH LAST ADVISING THAT SMITH IS TO SPEAK AT A RALLY UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY COMMITTEE TO BE HELD ON THE EVENING OF MARCH FIFTEENTH NEXT AT TEMPLE HALL, CHICAGO. LENGTHY ARTICLE IN CHICAGO TRIBUNE TODAY REFLECTS THAT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED TELEGRAMS WARNING OF POSSIBLE BLOODSHED IF SMITH IS PERMITTED TO SPEAK HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY THE PLASTERERS UNION, AFL, WHO RENTED THE HALL TO [redacted], CHICAGO ATTORNEY. [redacted] OF THE UNION WHO ACTED IN BEHALF OF THE UNION IN RENTING THE HALL STATES THAT [redacted] TOLD THE UNION THAT SMITH WAS GOING TO DISCUSS THE POLISH QUESTION, BUT HE SUBSEQUENTLY LEARNED THAT SMITH WAS TO SPEAK ON NATIONALISM. SMITH REPORTEDLY TELEPHONED THE DIRECTORS OF THE UNION YESTERDAY AND SAID THAT HIS PREPARED SPEECH WAS DEVOID [redacted] OF STATEMENTS OFFENSIVE TO RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS GROUPS AND SUGGESTED TO [redacted] THAT THE UNION APPOINT A COMMITTEE TO SIT ON THE PLATFORM WITH AUTHORITY TO STOP THE MEETING AT THE FIRST OBJECTIONABLE WORD. THE NEWSPAPER ACCOUNT STATES THAT PROTESTS AGAINST THE

EX-68

RECORDED 62-[illegible]-669

INDEXED 41 MAR 16 1945

ALL 62

081777

MEETING WERE ALSO MADE BY THE CHICAGO COUNCIL AGAINST RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION, CHICAGO CIVIL LIBERTIES COMMITTEE, AND THE B'NAI B'RITH ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE. [redacted] b7c b7c [redacted]. [redacted] VOLUNTARILY TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THIS OFFICE TODAY THAT THE UNION HAD RENTED THE HALL DIRECTLY TO [redacted] AND STATED THAT b7c THE UNION HAD BEEN FLOODED WITH CALLS FROM PERSONS EITHER APPROVING OR DISAPPROVING THEIR ACTION IN PERMITTING SMITH TO SPEAK. PLANS FOR COVERAGE OF MEETING OUTLINED IN REFERENCE LETTER WILL BE CARRIED OUT AND BUREAU AND DETROIT WILL BE IMMEDIATELY ADVISED OF ANY PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS.

DRAYTON

DE ADVISED

ACK PLS

cc: Mr. Tolson

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: March 10, 1945

FROM : SAC, Chicago

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Reference is made to a teletype from the Detroit office dated February 7, 1945, and a letter from the Detroit office dated March 3, 1945, both of which pertain to a projected speech by the subject to be given in Chicago.

[redacted] b7

This office has effected arrangements whereby several confidential informants of this office will be in attendance at the meeting and will furnish full written reports concerning the operations, activities, and persons in attendance. This office will thereupon immediately submit a report setting forth all of this information to the Bureau and the Detroit Field office.

CC: DETROIT (2) AMSD
Enc. 2 - DETROIT
[redacted] b7c

AIRMAIL,
SPECIAL DELIVERY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8CWS/mh

RECORDED 65-13111-670

EX-31

FILE

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: March 13, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1925

BERNARD DOMAN, former Secretary to the Subject SMITH, who left SMITH's employ in November, 1945 and thereafter moved to Edcouch, Texas, has now returned to Detroit and apparently will live in this city for an indefinite period.

[redacted] b2

In view of the Bureau letter of January 30, 1945 and Detroit teletype to the Bureau dated February 8, 1945 stating that DOMAN was no longer a resident of Detroit, the above information is being furnished for guidance in any further investigation of this matter.

[redacted]/ejg b7c
62-1126
cc-San Antonio

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8 [illegible]

RECORDED & INDEXED
EX-6

62-42814-671

MAR 20 1945

MAR 26 1945

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAR 16 1945

TELETYPE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP4 RTJ/MC

FBI DETROIT 3-16-45 1-37 PM EWT MCM

DIRECTOR URGENT

SHAY

GERALD L. K. SMITH, AMERICA FIRST PARTY, FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF NINETEEN TWENTY FIVE. REURLETS JANUARY THIRTY AND FEBRUARY FIFTEEN, FORTY FIVE, REQUESTING INTERVIEW OF BERNARD DOMAN. BE ADVISED REPORT RECEIVED FROM WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION COVERING INVESTIGATION THERE AND UNLESS ADVISED TO CONTRARY, EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW DOMAN IN DETROIT IMMEDIATELY AFTER MARCH EIGHTEEN, FORTY FIVE.

RECORDED & INDEXED 140 62-43812-67
EX-6

END

MAR 16 1945 47

1-38 PM K FBI WA OVMO

4-750 (2-7-79)

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- ____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): _____
- [ ] For your information: _____
- [X] The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: 62-43818-673 & 674

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CASE ORIGINATED:	DETROIT, MICHIGAN		FILE: 100-8486
REPORT MADE AT: WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE MADE:	PERIOD: 2/7,8,14/45	REPORT MADE BY: [redacted] KC
TITLE: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases AMERICA FIRST PARTY			CHARACTER: INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1925

SYNOPSIS: Material made available by Congressman CLINTON ANDERSON as well as material from the File Clerk's Office of the House of Representatives, set out. Latter includes a statement of the America First Party's expenditures from November 7, 1944, until January 1, 1945. Pertinent material regarding GERALD L. K. SMITH and America First Party being transmitted to the Bureau and Detroit Field Division with copies of instant report. Subscriber to telephone number Atlantic-3598 is RALPH E. [illegible]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8C05/AL

RUC

REFERENCE: (62-13818). Bureau letter dated January 30, 1945. Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 29, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan.

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

The following investigation was conducted jointly by Special Agent [redacted] and the writer.

Congressman CLINTON P. ANDERSON, Chairman of the Special Committee to Investigate Campaign Expenditures for the House of Representatives, 1944, personally made a search of his files for material concerning

EX-50

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [illegible]

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157-676

EX-50 [illegible] MAR 24 1945

ALL b2c

GERALD L. K. SMITH and the America First Party. He made available the following material which he advised he did not desire to be returned. He requested that he be advised of the identity of instant material by letter, which has been done. It is noted that the complete correspondence between Congressman ANDERSON and SMITH had apparently not been retained by Congressman ANDERSON. The following quoted material was all that was available in his files.

1. A carbon copy of a letter dated August 29, 1944, to GERALD L. K. SMITH, America First Party, from Chairman, Campaign Expenditures Committee, House of Representatives.

"In accordance with the provisions of H. Res. 551, 78th Congress, the special committee appointed pursuant thereto to investigate campaign expenditures requests that there be furnished the following information in regards to collections of money and expenditures for and on behalf of candidates for nomination and election to the House of Representatives and candidates for nomination and election as President and Vice President of the United States:

"1. The amounts of money subscribed and contributed, the value of services rendered, and the facilities made available to or on behalf of each such candidate in connection with any such campaign or for the purpose of influencing votes cast or to be cast at any convention, primary or general election held during the calendar year 1944.

"2. The use of any other means or influence for the purpose of aiding or influencing the nomination or election of any such candidate.

"3. The amounts of money received, and from whom; the amounts contributed, and to whom; the amounts expended, and for whom--and any amounts received--in connection with any such elections.

"4. The manner and method of raising such funds and of expending and contributing same.

"5. The nature and purpose of such expenditure,--whether the funds contributed were solicited from your organization by the candidates, or any one of them or were spent with or without the knowledge of the candidates.

"This information is, no doubt, readily available in the records of your organization, Its early receipt will be helpful in completing information in the files of the committee.

"A copy of H. Res. 551, mentioned above, under which the committee is authorized, is enclosed for your information. The committee expects to hold hearings on this subject between now and election day."

2. Letter dated September 11, 1944, which is duplicate of above quoted letter.

3. Letter dated September 11, 1944, of GERALD L. K. SMITH to Congressman CLINTON P. ANDERSON.

"In response to your letter of August 29, will say we are preparing the answers to your questions. Our candidates for President and Vice President spent no money in campaigning for the nominations. A careful record is being kept of our campaign contributions and expenditures. It will be a simple matter for us to answer any question you desire concerning our sources of revenue and expenses of campaign funds."

4. Letter dated November 25, 1944, to GERALD L. K. SMITH, signed, "Chairman." This is a carbon copy.

"In checking the files of our Committee, I do not find that you have furnished information concerning expenditures of the America First Party and its predecessor from January 1, 1944 to date of election, and the only list of contributions in excess of $100 that we have on file is a copy of the list furnished the Senate Committee on Campaign Expenditures, which you were kind enough to furnish to us.

"In the information furnished the Senate Committee, a copy of which you furnished us, it appears that there were expenditures from January 1, 1944, to September 1, 1944, in a total amount of $39,370.65. There is no break-down of this amount as is required under the Corrupt Practices Act. It will be appreciated if you can furnish the Committee detailed information both as to this item and as to contributions as is required under the Statute."

5. Carbon copy of letter of Congressman ANDERSON to GERALD L. K. SMITH dated November 30, 1944.

"I have your letter of November 25. I do not know anything about the material that Walter Winchell has been using in his broadcast. As a matter of fact the item you refer to was used by him on November 12 at a time when I was out on a ranch in New Mexico, a long distance from even a radio, so I didn't hear what he said.

"Therefore, when I returned to Washington I asked for a copy of his broadcast for November 12 and his comment is that your Party failed to comply with the law involved in the Corrupt Practices Act. He said, 'The Anderson Committee claims Smith's organization is purely political. Up to now, however, nothing has been done about it or Gerald Smith. Why is this? If you or your wife parked your car overtime, you would either pay a fine or go to jail. What makes a rabble rouser such as Gerald L. K. Smith immune from any law? What influence has he anyway? As one of the

voices on the air--for the men and women who have none--I intend to find out. Unless, of course, Cong. Anderson's wonderful committee scoops me.'

"Of course the situation is that you are required to file certain types of reports. The law required this and not any special committee of the Congress. If you fail to file those reports the proper investigating committees have to certify that information to the Attorney General who may or may not take some action about it. But I don't think you should be distressed by that fact because I feel sure you will want to file a proper listing of expenditures.

"An examination was made of the Friends of Democracy and there is a report to the Committee on the source of their revenue. The hearing has just come from the printer this morning and I am enclising a copy for your information."

6. Telegram dated December 16, 1944, from CLINTON P. ANDERSON, Chairman, to GERALD L. K. SMITH, Founder.

"Statement of contributions and expenditures filed with the Senate Campaign Expenditures Committee showing an expenditure of $39,000 plus does not agree with statement filed with Clerk of House November 24 showing expenditure of $10,000 plus. Please furnish explanation and complete information by Wednesday next."

7. Telegram dated December 19, 1944, from ROBERT E. LAMBERT, Clerk to GERALD L. K. SMITH, Founder.

"Campaign Expenditures Committee trying to close its affairs and make final report. Please expedite statement of complete contributions and expenditures and explanation of difference in statement filed with Senate Committee and with Clerk of House."

8. Telegram dated December 20, 1944, from R. E. LAMBERT, Clerk, to GERALD L. K. SMITH, Founder.

"Telegram sent you December 19 was upon direction of Chairman ANDERSON. Our Committee finishes its work next week and cannot wait longer for your report. Particularly for clarification of discrepancy between $39,000 expenditure listed in report to Senate Committee and $10,000 listed with House Clerk. Hearings at Detroit only alternative if report not received.

9. Two page original letter of GERALD L. K. SMITH to Congressman ANDERSON dated December 19, 1944.

"Your telegram dated December 16 was received the same day. On the afternoon of the 16th, as you will recall, I telephoned you commenting

on the telegram, and this letter is pursuant to that telephone call.

"It was my understanding when I appeared before your Committee that you desired the information we forwarded you, which was a duplicate of that which was requested by the Green Committee.

"When we reported to the Clerk of the House we made the breakdown in $10 expenditures and $100 gifts from the first of September on. As you will recall, the America First Party as a political party seeking the election of Federal officials came into being September 1.

"Prior to that we had existed as an organization committee for the purpose of educating our constituents on the formation of a party. We had contributed no money and given no support to the election of any Federal officials.

"However, as I told you over the telephone, we are happy to cooperate with you 100%. It is our feeling that we have fulfilled the requirements of the Corrupt Practices Act, but we are only too happy to go further with you in helping you to fulfill your responsibility to the Congress.

"You will recall that I told you over the telephone that the man who is familiar with all of these figures is out of the city. Furthermore, he has suffered a positive reaction to TB and it has been necessary for him to leave the city and have his lung collapsed and submit himself to special treatment.

"Therefore, it will require some little time for us to prepare the necessary breakdown for your Committee the receipts of our special America First organization committee from January 1 to September 1, 1944. As you will recall, I explained this to you over the telephone and I now put it in writing.

"I make this point, however, Mr. Anderson, not as a substitute for a report, but for your own conscience in the matter and in support of our integrity. A study of the amount and nature of our monthly expenditures as shown from September 1 on, could with a certain percentage of reduction in the total be considered an average for the year as it pertains to proportionate amounts spent for postage, mailing, handling, etc.

"In other words, with the exception of a few big meetings which entailed additional expense during the political campaign this fall, our routine expenditures prior to September 1 were on about the same order. Be assured, Mr. Anderson, that we have a complete record of expenditures and receipts, and we will prepare the breakdown you request.

"I have no desire to ask for any favors, but added to the loss of a man by sickness, our second man in point of responsibility has been drafted less than three weeks ago. This means that the additional figures you request will have to be prepared by a clerk entirely new to the procedure.

"Trusting that this letter answers your telegram of December 16, I remain

/s/ GERALD L. K. SMITH

"P.S. In case there is any question concerning the fact that the gentleman referred to was stricken with TB, I will be glad to furnish a doctor's certificate. I make this suggestion in order that you may be assured that there was no alibi involved."

10. Original letter of GERALD L. K. SMITH to Congressman ANDERSON dated December 20, 1944, in which he points out that Mr. WALTER WINCHELL is financed by a national corporation.

"Mr. Walter Winchell by the use of an expensive radio network has indulged in political campaigning across the years. At the very time that I was being called to appear before your Committee and make other reports concerning my political activities, Mr. Winchell was indulging in bitter political and partisan attacks upon me, our Party, and my candidacy. He also participated in a campaign to defeat outstanding members of Congress and the United States Senate.

"May I point out to you that Mr. WINCHELL is financed by a national corporation. May I further point out to you that it has been my impression that it was illegal for a national corporation to contribute directly or indirectly to the support of political campaigners.

"I would not call your attention to this incident were it not for the fact that Mr. Winchell in self-righteousness insists that you and others exact from me a pound of flesh and make me the victim of the letter of the law rather than the spirit of the law.

"Consider the fact that the Democrats and Republicans both admit a total expenditure of nearly $40,000,000, not counting money spent indirectly, locally, etc. Why should I, with my little committee, existing on nickels and dimes, be made the victim of nation-wide attacks by a man like Mr. Winchell who is financed in his political excoriations by a national corporation?

"I have no advice to offer your Committee, but I have consulted well informed individuals and they tell me that my point is well and fundamentally taken. Suffice it to say, I chafe under the thought that I must be put under a microscope of interrogation, while a man like Winchell is not even questioned concerning his use of corporate wealth to underwrite his political and partisan attacks."

11. Undated memorandum to Congressman ANDERSON concerning America First Party report attached to which is a report in which GERALD L. K. SMITH states is correct "to the best of our knowledge." It is noted that this report is made on bond paper rather than on the original form which was supposed to have been filled out. Copies of this material with blank forms attached will be transmitted to the Bureau and Detroit Field Division as enclosures to this report.

12. Copies of explanatory memorandums and copies of America First Party expenditures for September 1, 1944, through November 7, 1944. It is noted that this information also was made available in the File Clerk's Office in the House of Representatives and will be set out in instant report.

13. Congressman ANDERSON also made available three copies of the Hearings Before the Committee To Investigate Campaign Expenditures, House Of Representatives, which included testimony in the case of GERALD L. K. SMITH. A copy of this will be transmitted to the Bureau and Detroit Field Division and one will be retained in the files of this Office.

Congressman ANDERSON advised that Dr. JAMES SHELTON, Head of the Anti-Nazi League, 165 W. 46th Street, New York City, New York, had and is believed to have a girl planted in the office of GERALD L. K. SMITH. Congressman ANDERSON stated that he believed that Dr. SHELTON might be persuaded to furnish the identity of this individual.

The following material was made available by Mrs. MARJORIE DODD, File Clerk in the File Clerk's Office, House of Representatives. It is noted that Mrs. DODD advised that photostatic copies could not be made of this material.

"AMERICA FIRST PARTY (letterhead paper)
GERALD L. K. SMITH
FOUNDER
October 16, 1944

"Mr. Scott Trimble
Clerk of the House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

"Dear Mr. Trimble:

"I was nominated as candidate for President of the United States on the America First Ticket at the National Convention of the America First Party on August 30, 1944. I was qualified as a Nominee on September 1, 1944. Between September 1 and 10 no money was spent for the direct purpose of getting votes for me, but the America First Party, which became a national entry on August 29, 1944, collected and spent money during this period. Therefore, upon the advice of the Congressional Committee on Campaign Expenditures headed by Representative Clinton P. Anderson, I am reporting to you the receipts and expenditures of the America First Party for that period as a demonstration of good faith and on the assumption that it is difficult to differentiate between my candidacy and the activities of the Party.

"The same will apply to Mr. Harry Romer, St. Henry, Ohio, candidate for Vice President.

"Attached is the information referred to.

/s/ GERALD L. K. SMITH"

"Memo Concerning America First Party Receipts and Expenditures From September 1, 1944, Through September 10, 1944.

"Expenditures

"Expenditures of $10 or more:

"Embassy Press, Detroit (printing) pd. 9-5-44	$200.00
Gregory, Mayer & Thom, Detroit (pencil) pd. 9-5-44	10.30
Michigan Bell Telephone Co., Detroit, pd. 9-2-44	105.30
Standard Paper Co., Detroit (paper) pd. 9-2-44	24.00
Mrs. David Stanley, Cleveland (hall rent) pd. 9-7-44	60.00
Charles Madden, Pittsburgh (hall rent) pd. 9-8-44	40.00
Detroit Leland Hotel, Detroit, (rent) pd. 9-7-44	87.52
Acme Paper Co. Detroit (paper) pd. 9-7-44	42.90
Michigan Bell Telephone Co., Detroit, pd. 9-8-44	11.25
A. B. Dick Co. (stencils) pd. 9-8-44	12.98
George T. Foster, Chicago (hall rent) pd. 9-9-44	50.00
Cerre, Inc. Detroit (photo eng.) pd. 9-8-44	13.80
Acme Letter Service, Detroit (cutting stencils) pd. 9-9-44	17.50
Cerre, Inc., Detroit (photo eng.) pd. 9-9-44	12.35
Embassy Press, Detroit (printing) pd. 9-9-44	100.00
Macauley Office Supply, Detroit pd. 9-9-44	24.06
Cerre, Inc., Detroit (photo eng.) pd. 9-8-44	10.9
Postage, pd. 9-1-44	375.00
Total	$1,197.92

"Other Expenditures:

"Mailing, stamping, handling		$576.04
Expenditures of less than $10		264.52
	Total	$840.56
	TOTAL PAID OUT	$2,038.48
	Balance on hand 9-11-44	789.80
		$2,828.28

"Receipts

"Contributions: (Between September 1 and 10, 1944)

"Contributions of $100 or more		$000.00
Other contributions		687.63
		$687.63
*Balance on hand 9-1-44		$2,140.65
	Total	$2,828.28

*Balance is money which was turned over to the America First Party by The America First Party Organizing Committee."

"November 24, 1944

"Mr. South Trimble
Office of the Clerk
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Trimble:

"The America First Political Party came into existence August 31, 1944. Campaign expenditures of the Party and nationwide campaign of Gerald L. K. Smith, Presidential candidate are therefore summarized in the attached memorandum.

"The attached memorandum covers the period from September 1 through November 7, 1944.

/s/ GERALD L. K. SMITH"

"November 24, 1944

"Memo:

"The attached report is based on figures assembled by Bernard A. Doman. Late in October Mr. Doman, when examined by a physician, showed a positive reaction to tuberculosis. It was necessary for him to go under the doctor's care, involving the collapsing of his lung and his retirement from active work.

"Mr. Doman therefore delegated the preparation of this memorandum to a member of the staff. This involved some slight delay, which, of course, in no way should reflect upon the intent of the committee to fulfill its obligation to the letter."

"America First Party Expenditures - September 1st, 1944 -- November 7, 1944

Postage	$ 1,885.00	
Hotel Expenses	553.04	
Telephone	357.05	
Railroad Expenses	736.81	
Hall Rentals	574.00	
Newspaper Advertisements	369.36	
Printing & Paper	3,009.48	
Expenses of Geo. Vose	139.97	
Mailing, stamping of literature by B. A. Doman and staff	2,176.20	
Miscellaneous Expenses	200.00	
	$ 10,000.91	
To Gerald L. K. Smith	953.00	
	$ 10,953.91	
"Total Expenditures		$10,953.91
"Balance on hand November 7th, 1944		23.19
		$10,978.10

"America First Party receipts - Sept. 1st, 1944 -- Nov. 7th, 1944

Donations and meeting collections	$10,978.10
Total Receipts	$10,978.10

"Expenditures of $10.00 Or More 'America First Party

"Printing & Paper

"Standard Paper Co. Detroit, Michigan	$	72.02
Acme Paper Co., Detroit, Mich.		269.02
Cerre Inc., Detroit, Mich.		121.56
Acme Letter Shop, Detroit, Mich.		2,437.30
Embassy Press, Detroit, Mich.		49.60
Campbell Letter Shop, Detroit, Mich.		42.48
	$	3,009.48

"Newspaper Advertisements

"Saginaw News, Saginaw, Mich.	$	102.84
Pontiac Press, Pontiac, Mich.		125.80
Huron News, Bad Axe, Mich.		16.80
Huron County Tribune, Bad Axe, Mich.		23.52
Kalamazoo Gazette, Kalamazoo, Mich.		101.20
	$	369.36

"Hall Rentals

"George Foster, Chicago, Ill.	$	50.00
Kiel Auditorium, St. Louis, Mo.		70.00
Jefferson Hall, Milwaukee, Wis.		27.00
Public Auditorium, Cleveland, Ohio		77.00
Kleinhans Music Hall, Buffalo, N.Y.		65.00
Alcazar Auditorium, Baltimore, Md.		50.00
Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, Pa.		45.00
Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, Mich.		82.50
City Auditorium, Saginaw, Mich		20.00
Masonic Temple, Kalamazoo, Mich.		30.00
Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, Mich.		57.50
	$	574.00

"Hotel Expenses

"Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, Ill.	$	97.30
Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis, Minn.		37.20
Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee, Wis.		31.10
Statler Hotel, St. Louis, Mo.		38.32
Statler Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio		90.30

"Statler Hotel, Buffalo, New York	$ 9.10
Pennsylvania Hotel, New York City, N.Y.	46.97
Bellevue-Startford Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa.	26.95
Statler Hotel, Washington, D. C.	93.63
Wm. Penn, Pittsburgh, Pa.	53.53
Wenonah Hotel, Bay City, Mich.	12.10
Irwin Hotel, Bad Axe, Mich.	4.50
New Burdick Hotel, Kalamazoo, Mich.	12.14
	$ 553.14

"Railroad Expenses

"Detroit - Minneapolis	$ 98.66
Minneapolis - Milwaukee	59.10
Milwaukee - Chicago	7.33
Chicago - St. Louis	40.35
St. Louis - Richmond, Ind.	50.86
Richmond - Cleveland	15.00
Cleveland - Buffalo	15.54
Buffalo - New York City	79.73
New York City - Philadelphia	17.56
Philadelphia - Washington, D. C.	24.90
Washington - Baltimore - Washington	16.00
Washington - Pittsburgh	60.49
Pittsburgh - Detroit	40.29
Misc. Exp. (Taxi, Tips, Porters, etc.)	211.00
	$ 736.81

"Telephone Expenses

"Bell Telephone Co., Detroit, Mich.	$ 357.05

"Other Expenses

"George Vose, Kalamazoo, Mich. (Traveling Exps.)	$ 139.97

"CONTRIBUTORS OF MORE THAN $100.00

[redacted] Wayne, Pennsylvania	115.00
[redacted] Chicago, Ill.	100.00

b7c

"MEMO:

"The foregoing report has been compiled to the best of our ability. Any errors which may be herein contained are clerical errors and in no case represent willful misrepresentations.

"This report was made by me from figures compiled by B. A. Doman.

/s/ Don Lohbeck"

WFO 100-8486

"House of Representatives
Clerk's Office
Washington, D. C.

"January 19, 1945

"Mr. Gerald L. K. Smith
America First Party
P.O. Box 459
Detroit, Michigan

"Dear Sir:

"This will acknowledge receipt of your statement of receipts and expenditures, as Treasurer of the above Committee, for the period ended 12/31/44, filed in this office pursuant to the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925.

/s/ South Trimble
Clerk of the House of Representatives"

"America First Party
Gerald L. K. Smith
Founder

"Post Office Box 459
Detroit, Michigan
January 13, 1945

"Mr. South Trimble
Clerk's Office
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

"Dear Mr. Trimble:

"Herewith is the report of the America First Party from November 7 through December 31, 1944.

"This slight delay, as per our letter to you on January 5, 1945, is due to the fact that the one charged with the keeping of this account was drafted in December.

/s/ GERALD L. K. SMITH"

"AMERICA FIRST PARTY EXPENDITURES
"Nov. 7, 1944 - Jan 1, 1945

"Printing and Paper	$	1,293.38
"Embassy Press		296.03
Acme Paper Co.		35.10
Misc. Printing		
"Addressing		
"Hester Christiansen		109.75
"Hall Rentals		
"Book - Cadillac Hotel, English Rm.		32.50
"Telephone		
"Mich. Bell Telephone Co.		181.90
"Postage		1,529.79
Mailing, Handling and Express		1,741.62
Misc. Expenses		203.42
Grand Total	$	5,423.49
"Receipts For Nov. 7 through Dec. 31, 1944	$	5,991.62
On hand Nov. 7, 1944		23.19
	$	6,014.81
"Expenditures - Nov. 7 through Dec. 31, 1944	$	5,423.49
Bal. on Jan. 1, 1945		591.32
"Unpaid Bills		
"Embassy Press	$	1,000.00

"MEMO

"The above report has been compiled to the best of our ability. Any errors which may be herein contained are clerical and in no case represent wilful misrepresentations."

[redacted] T. MURPHY, Counsel for the Special Committee to Investigate Campaign Expenditures, commonly referred to as the Green Committee, through [redacted] Investigator for instant committee, made available the file concerning GERALD L. K. SMITH and the America First Committee. The following material which is set out was the only material pertinent to instant matter.

b7c

1. Letter from ROBERT T. MURPHY to Mr. GERALD L. K. SMITH dated January 12, 1945.

"There was addressed to you on October 23, 1944, a questionnaire for this Committee requesting information regarding the receipts and expenditures of the Michigan Federation for Americanization.

"There is no record in this office of having received the executed form from you. A duplicate of the form is enclosed with the request that the information requested be supplied not later than January 22, 1945, with this amendment: under questions 4(g) and 4 (i) the dates be changed from September 1, 1944, to December 31, 1944."

2. Letter from GERALD L. K. SMITH to the Special Committee to Investigate Presidential, Vice Presidential, and Senatorial Campaign Expenditures, 1944, United States Senate, Washington, D. C., Attention, Mr. ROBERT T. MURPHY.

"Your letter of January 12 relative to the Federation of Americanization of Michigan is at hand. For your information this organization does not contribute to the campaign fund of any political candidates. It is strictly a non-partisan, educational organization.

"Although I am not an officer in this organization, it is generally believed that I am the determining factor in firing its policy. Therefore, I am happy to cooperate with you in helping to fulfill the responsibility of your Committee.

"It is easy to account for the failure of the one charged with the responsibility of answering your former correspondence relative to this matter. In December, he was drafted. In order to fill out the blanks which you sent to me, it will be necessary for an exchange of correspondence between Detroit and the camp in which an officer of the Federation is now located.

"It is our opinion that the Federation does not come within the responsibility of your Committee, but there is no information you seek which any honorable organization should desire to hide. Therefore, I am recommending to the officers of the Federation that they prepare a report which will answer the questions contained in the forms you mailed to me January 12.

"You ask that it be completed by January 22. Therefore, I ask an immediate reply, dealing with the following statement of fact.

"Because of the fact that the one charged with the responsibility of keeping records of the Federation for the year 1944, has just been drafter, it will require about two weeks for the proper exchange of correspondence and preparation of detail. Within about two weeks I am sure that the report could be completed and on its way to you. If, however, this is unsatisfactory, we can mail you a report by the 22nd of January, with the reservation that we have the right to amend it after further detail has been developed through our compatriot, who is now out of the city.

"I would also like reply to the following inquiry:

"Some months ago I petitioned your Committee to investigate certain organizations which I absolutely knew to be spending money and conducting campaigns in opposition to my candidacy for the Presidency on the America First Party ticket. To date I have received no recognition of this inquiry other than a brief reply to the effect that you received my letter.

"Is it your purpose to have any more public hearings within the near future? If so, I should like to appear before your Committee and make certain recommendations for legislation dealing with certain types of propaganda groups in America. If your Committee is willing to hear my recommendations, I shall be happy to appear in person, if it is physically possible. If this is not possible, would you be willing to receive a written recommendation from me concerning these matters?

"Believe me, I shall appreciate a prompt reply to this letter.

"Be it understood that if it will facilitate your work, we shall do all in our power to get the report in the mail by the 22nd, but if I can have a letter from you widening the latitude in this matter, I am sure the officers of the Federation will appreciate it.

"As you entertain the complaints of my enemies, who constantly visit government bureaus and government committees, making libelous accusations against my patriotism, etc., may I remind you of the following.

"My only son, Gerald L. K. Smith, Jr., had six years of military training. At age 18 he was inducted into the Service and became a Buck Private 'mule skinner.' He was taken to the Burma theater. There he volunteered for a suicide engagement in which more than 200 out of 300 men were killed. His citations now include the Purple Heart, the Silver Star, the Presidential Citation, and numerous other recognitions for heroic service. He is now in a Burma hospital."

3. Letter from ROBERT T. MURPHY to Mr. GERALD L. K. SMITH dated January 18, 1945.

"I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 15th relative to the Federation of Americanization of Michigan. It is noted that you definitely state that this Committee neither received nor expended any funds on behalf of any political party. In the absence of any evidence to the contrary, your statement is accepted as reply to the inquiry. It will not be necessary, therefore, for this organization to file the questionnaire form which was directed to you.

"Relative to your request for appearance before the Committee and your reference to complaint filed by you, I wish to inform you that the investigative powers of this Committee expired as of December 31, 1944, and, at the present time, we are engaged only in the assimilation of facts for the preparation of a report for Congress."

4. Letter from GERALD L. K. SMITH to the Special Committee to Investigate Presidential, Vice Presidential, and Senatorial Campaign Expenditures 1944, United States Senate, Washington, D. C., Attention Mr. ROBERT T. MURPHY, Counsel.

"Thanks for your letter of January 18. I stand ready to cooperate with you at any time."

Inquiry by Special Agent [redacted] disclosed that telephone number Atlantic-3598 is listed to RALPH D. [redacted]AERMAN, 1921 N Street, N. E.

The material set out in this report which was furnished by Congressman ANDERSON and Mr. ROBERT T. MURPHY is being retained in the files of the Washington Field Division.

Enclosure to: Bureau
Detroit

Undated memo to Congressman ANDERSON initialed GLKS, attached to which is a copy of answers to questionnaire for Independent Political Committees with blank questionnaire attached and copy of appendix memo also initialed GLKS.

Copy of Hearings Before The Committee To Investigate Campaign Expenditures, House of Representatives dated October 3, 1944.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

At New York City

Will, if deemed advisable, contact [redacted], and also ascertain if it will be possible or desirable for the Detroit Field Division to contact this individual.

b7c

One copy of this report is being designated for the San Antonio Field Division inasmuch as there is investigation to be conducted by that office upon receipt of instant report.

CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURES

AMERICA FIRST PARTY
Gerald L. K. Smith, Witness

HEARINGS

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEVENTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

H. Res. 551

PART 6

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1944

Printed for the use of the Campaign Expenditures Committee

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/92 BY [illegible]

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1944

62-4-5-8-676

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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☒ For your information: Per your March 18, 1982 letter this enclosure was not xeroxed for release.

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818 - 676 Enclosure

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FBI/DOJ

EPB:WMJ

62-43818
SAC, Washington

March 20, 1945

62-43818-676
John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1925

EX-50

Reference is made to the undated investigative report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] made at Washington, D. C. The period for which made was February 7, 8 and 14, 1945.

From an examination of this report it is noted that there has been included in the character "Internal Security - G; Security Matter; Sedition" in addition to the character set forth in the caption of this letter. Inasmuch as the investigation of Smith and the America First Party under the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925, as requested in Bureau letter dated January 30, 1945, is to be separate and distinct from the investigation previously made on Smith and his organization, it is desired that the first page of Special Agent [redacted] report be rewritten deleting from the character "Internal Security - G; Security Matter; Sedition." Since the date when made did not appear on Special Agent [redacted] report, this should, of course, be included on the corrected pages. The last sentence in the synopsis of this report should be omitted since it apparently is connected with the Bureau's previous investigation of Smith and his connections with Ralph E. Beerman. The reference on this page to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 29, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan, should also be deleted inasmuch as it refers to the Bureau's previous "Internal Security - G; Security Matter; Sedition" investigation of Smith.

Page seventeen of the referenced report should be changed by deleting the sixth paragraph which reads: "Inquiry by Special Agent [redacted] disclosed that telephone number Atlantic 3590 is listed to Ralph E. Beerman, 1921 N Street, N. W." This deletion is desired for the same reason as the omission of the last sentence of the synopsis. It is desired that the material furnished by Congressman Anderson and Mr. Robert T. Murphy be forwarded to the Bureau and, therefore, paragraph seven on page seventeen should be changed to reflect the forwarding of this material to the Bureau.

All copies of Special Agent [redacted] report except the original are being returned to your office by the Bureau. The indicated changes should be made and copies of the corrected pages should be forwarded in the immediate future to the Bureau and the field offices which previously received copies of this report.

Enclosures

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

cc - Detroit
Newark
San Antonio

RECORDED-INDEX BOOK

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAR 21 1945 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

76 APR 3 1945

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/21/82 BY SP2 [illegible]

ALL b7c

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
March 17, 1945

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8075/ab

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

DECLASSIFIED BY 600/LEP
ON 8-8-77

Dear Sir:

The following information has been received from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, concerning the activities of the Subject, SMITH, during the period from February 28 to March 15, 1945, inclusive. b2D

During the past few weeks most of SMITH's activity has been devoted to preparing for a meeting of his followers, which was held in Chicago on March 15, 1945. SMITH has had some difficulty in obtaining a hall for his meeting in Chicago and was finally able to arrange for the rental of the Temple Hall, 338 South Marshfield Avenue. Arrangements were made for this hall through [redacted] of Chicago, who is said to be the attorney for JOSEPH E. WILLIAMS, one of the sedition trial defendants. Assistance was also received by SMITH from [redacted] and FRED KISTER, both of Chicago. b7c

The hall referred to is one in which GEORGE FOSTER of Chicago, head of the Constitutional Americans, has been holding meetings regularly.

SMITH claims that his difficulty in arranging for a meeting place in Chicago has been due to a Jewish campaign against him and he told a reporter for the Chicago Times recently that at his meeting on March 15 he intended to discuss and outline the "Technique of Terror" that has been organized against nationalists in Chicago by an unwise and ruthless element of the population.

About 1,500 invitations were sent out prior to the meeting and a large crowd was in attendance at the meeting. The affair received considerable publicity in the Chicago papers prior to March 15.

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206 OCT 15 1964

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INDEXED
161

162-43818-677
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37 MAR 27 1945

EX-68

74 APR 3 1945

Letter to the Director
March 17, 1945

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH

According to SMITH, the Chicago Sun Chicago, Ill. carried a number of "smear stories" about him and the Jews had organized a campaign to persuade the Plasterers' Union, the owners of the hall, to cancel the rental arrangement with SMITH.

On March 13, there were articles in both the Chicago Tribune and the Chicago Sun relative to the SMITH meeting. The Tribune article appeared under the headline, "100 Telegrams Warn of Bloodshed if Smith Talks." SMITH stated he had previously telegraphed [redacted] of the union, suggesting that the union have a committee on the platform with power to stop the meeting if anything objectionable was said by him. b7c

The Chicago Tribune articles stated that the Civil Liberties Union, B'Nai B'rith, and other organizations were opposing SMITH's appearance. SMITH remarked to [redacted] that the Tribune had done all right by him and that he considered the situation "as hot as a fire cracker." He advised [redacted] that if, after all that publicity, the Jews succeeded in preventing the meeting from being held, it would do SMITH more good than if they actually had the meeting. He did not think the prospect of bloodshed would cut down the crowd any, since he does not have any timid people among his followers and most of them are "blistered and tanned, flea-bitten and calloused."

In describing the meeting shortly after it had ended, SMITH stated that during the afternoon of March 15, three gangsters had entered the hall with a gun and had thrown six stink bombs, but that fifty police surrounded the place and cleaned it out. At eight o'clock, as the meeting was about to start, the place was full, and "they" tried to pack the place by the use of counterfeit tickets. They then charged the hall with a mob of five hundred Communists. There were from fifty to one hundred police surrounding the hall during the meeting, but in spite of the police, many windows were knocked out. The people inside the hall, however, remained in perfect decorum and SMITH spoke for two hours and ten minutes.

Following his talk KISTER spoke and SMITH left through the back entrance and was taken to his hotel in a police scout car. There were many pictures taken of various phases of the meeting.

On March 9, 1945, just a few days before the above-mentioned meeting, an individual named FRED WALSCHER of 1134 Drummond Street, Chicago, was found nailed to a cross in Chicago, and upon investigation it was noted that he had some of SMITH's literature on his person and in his living quarters. Reporters from the Chicago Times contacted SMITH to inquire as to whether or not he knew WALSCHER. SMITH stated he could not find WALSCHER's name on his membership list but that if the latter had a copy of SMITH's magazine, he must be a subscriber, since the magazine is not sold on the newsstands.

SMITH refused to make any statements for the papers about WALSCHER but pointed out to the Chicago Times that he was making a speech in that city on March 15 and that he had been having difficulty in getting a place to speak there. In later conversations with some of his associates, SMITH indicated that the crucifixion incident would be more likely to help him than harm him since it was apparently done by his enemies.

SMITH is continuing his program of activities in Washington through RALPH BAERMAN, his Washington representative. BAERMAN advised SMITH that meetings of the House Banking and Currency Committee, which will take up the matter of the Bretton Woods agreement, were open to the public and persons who wanted to appear before this committee could write to the chairman. SMITH indicated that he did not wish to appear in person but that he did want to insert some statements for the record without claiming any academic knowledge of economics. After that is done he wants to have "this fellow" (evidently referring to some associate) make a profound statement.

The material for the first Washington letter to be sent by SMITH is practically complete and he has assembled enough material for about four or five future issues. He plans to send the complete material for each week's letter by air mail each Monday night and BAERMAN will receive them the following day. He will then send them out under a Washington date-line dated the following Thursday.

BAERMAN's wife, MADELINE BAERMAN, is to assist him in the work he is doing for SMITH and will ask for two months' leave from her job with the Navy Department so that she can help him. BAERMAN stated he would obtain more material through interviews in the future.

Items from the National News Service, which is also to be operated by BAERMAN and SMITH in addition to the weekly letter,

will be sent out to only about fifty people a week, at least for the present.

SMITH has been in contact with numerous persons of nationalist sympathies, during the past few weeks. He has spoken to GEORGE FOSTER of Chicago concerning arrangements for the SMITH meeting held in Chicago on March 15. He has been in contact with [redacted] and [redacted] both of whom are followers of his. MARTIN advised SMITH he had had a letter recently from CARL MOAT of Indianapolis, also a follower of SMITH. BERNARD DOMAN, SMITH'S former secretary, who left his employ in November, 1944, claiming that he was in poor health, and who subsequently moved to Texas, has returned to Detroit within the past few weeks and has been in contact with SMITH. From other sources it was learned that DOMAN plans to set up a mimeographing and letter service and has asked SMITH for some of his mimeographing business.

[redacted], who is the Subject of an investigation in the Detroit Field Division at the present time, is also a close friend of SMITH and has been in frequent contact with him. [redacted] had dinner at SMITH's home recently and discussed with him his [redacted] difficulties with the Federal Trade Commission. [redacted] claimed he caught the Government in a fraud which had been cooked up by some pimps whom they used as rebuttal artists.

[redacted] stated that his hearings before the Commission are still in progress and that [redacted] is now asking for a chance to rebut the lies which had been last put in by the Commission. BAERMAN, in commenting upon [redacted] difficulties, stated that he noticed the individual who was standing at the elbow of the chief inquisitor the day that BAERMAN had attended the hearing in Washington and commented, "You will find them everywhere." To this [redacted] replied, "Yes, you will find them some day hanging on the lamp posts," and BAERMAN stated, "I think so too, just so they don't get us first."

SMITH has received mail from numerous individuals, including several items from Representative CLARE HOFFMAN and from Congressman LYNCH. He has also received material from [redacted] of Chicago. He has indicated that among the persons now on his list of donors are [redacted], [redacted] and PARKER SAGE, of 1772 Holcomb, Detroit. SAGE was a defendant in the recent Washington sedition trial.

HLC
DJC

Letter to the Director
March 17, 1945

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH

Also on this list is [redacted] of Appleton, Wisconsin. Informant was not able to learn much concerning the extent of contributions received by SMITH through the mails during the past few weeks but learned that on March 15 SMITH's collections for that day in this matter had totaled $38.00.

b2

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]
62-1126

b2

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

[redacted]
100-19707

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: March 23, 1945

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
SECURITY MATTER (X)

On February 28, 1945, a letter was received from [redacted] [redacted] explained in his letter that recently he had communicated anonymously with the Veterans Organization sponsored by the AMERICA FIRST PARTY, Detroit, Michigan, and stated that he had been recently discharged from the Army and claimed interest in their organization.

[redacted] explained that he received a letter on the stationery of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY which was signed by GERALD L. K. SMITH, which stated that his name had been placed on their veterans' file and that he would receive proper information at the proper time concerning organizational activities. [redacted] stated in his letter to this office that he wished to place the results of his contact with the organization at the disposal of the FBI and from time to time receive appropriate instructions from the FBI as to his conduct with the America First Party.

[redacted] was advised that under no circumstances would the FBI sponsor his joining the AMERICA FIRST PARTY VETERANS ORGANIZATION, and that instructions would not be issued to him concerning his activities in that organization. It was pointed out, however, that should he desire to give any information which would be pertinent to the activities of this Bureau, such information would be gratefully received.

In view of the fact that the organization headquarters are located in Detroit, Michigan, a copy of this letter is being designated for the Detroit Field Division.

cc: Detroit

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DATE 10/12/82 BY SP4 [illegible]

RECORDED & INDEXED

100-43818-678

F B I

41 MAR 29 1945

FIVE EYES

APR 13 1945

Special Agent in Charge
N. Federal Bureau of Investigation
Cross of the Flag Div.

Enclosed is a communication from Gerald L K Smith to a neighbor of mine, relative to renewing his subscription to his publication. Inasmuch as Smith is supposed to have ceased his pro-German activities, I am sending this to your Department.

I am also much efficiency (and many more in this town feel the same) as to why all these German prisoners are being brought over here to our home. I voice an indignant protest.

Respectfully

b6

[redacted]

[redacted]

Mch 29-1945

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DATE 10/19/82 BY SEP/SJM

HANDLE VIA
STOP DESK

62-43913-679

F B I

39 MAR 30 1945

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FBI/DOJ

[redacted]

62-43818-679

RECORDED

April 7, 1945

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of March 29, 1945, with enclosure, has been received.

Let me assure you that I have carefully reviewed the content of your letter and its enclosure. With regard to the protest which you desire to register it is suggested that you may wish to communicate with the War Department inasmuch as such matters are not within the jurisdiction of this Bureau.

Your interest in writing me is most appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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DATE 12/12/82 BY SP1 TBS/MLC

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 13
★ APR - 9 1945 P.M.
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FBI
RECEIVED

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gandy

56 APR 27 1945

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

SA FILE NO. 56-20

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS	3/2/45	2/10/45	[redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	ELECTION LAWS (FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1925)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Certificate of nomination from America First Party nominating GERALD L. K. SMITH for President of U. S. and HARRY ROMER for Vice-President received by Texas Secretary of State at Austin, Texas, 9-11-44. On same date list of 23 Presidential Electors in the state of Texas submitted. Of 23 Electors selected by America First Party only 3 names appeared on official ballot at general election. Copies of Certificate of Nomination, List of Presidential Electors, and Official Ballot obtained and transmitted to Bureau and office of origin.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/12/82 BY

-RUC-

REFERENCE: Bureau letter Washington Field Division, January 30, 1945.

DETAILS: AT AUSTIN, TEXAS:

In the office of the Secretary of State, through the courtesy of [redacted] the original letter of nomination received in the office of the Secretary of State on September 11, 1944, was made available for inspection. This examination reflected the following undated letter on the letterhead of the America First Party with GERALD L. K. SMITH listed as Director and organizer, and the address listed as P. O. Box 459, Detroit, Michigan.

b7c
b7E

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: H. A. Boyer SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

EPS 62-45818-681

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
3-Bureau (Encl.)
3-Detroit (Encl.)
2-San Antonio

F B I
32 MAR 5 1945 11 23

RECORDED
INDEXED

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OCT 23 1964

Serial 680 SMF

RECEIVED 10-13-64

SA 56-20

"AMERICA FIRST PARTY
GERALD L. K. SMITH
Director and Organizer

BERNARD K. DOMAN
Secretary and Treasurer

Post Office Box 459
Detroit, Michigan

CERTIFICATE OF NOMINATION

This is to certify that the America First Party, assembled in Convention, has duly nominated GERALD L. K. SMITH, of Michigan, and HARRY ROMER, of Ohio, as the America First Party candidates for the offices of President of the United States and Vice President of the United States respectively. Appended to this certificate is the list of persons selected by the America First Party Convention to act as Presidential Electors in the state of Texas.

/s/ CARL H. MOTE
Chairman of Convention

/s/ DON LOHBECK
Secretary of Convention"

Photostatic copies of this certificate of nomination are being transmitted to the Bureau and the office of origin with copies of this report.

Accompanying the Certificate of Nomination was submitted a list of twenty-three persons selected by the America First Party Convention to act as Presidential Electors in the State of Texas.

"Presidential Electors

G. J. FLINT
HUntsville, Texas (Walker)
(Declined by phone, Dec. to be mailed)

WALTER KNEIP
La Grange, Texas

R. C. KITTEL (209 Allensworth)
San Antonio, Texas (Bexar)
(Declined by phone 9-23-44)

ERNEST KIESLING
Miles, Texas

98

SA 56-20

THORNTON HAMILDON
Cuero, Texas
(Name crossed off, shorthand notation)

N. L. MacLEAOD Jr.
Seminary Hill, Texas (Tarrant)

WILLIAM SCHMITT
Seguin, Texas (Guadalupe)
(OK by phone)

J. E. FITZGERALD
Stephenville, Texas (Erath)
(OK by phone)

GEORGE YEAGER (3024 W. Travis)
San Antonio, Texas (Bexar)

FRANK G. NELSON
Fort Worth, Texas (Tarrant)
(2 copies)

R. J. PENDERGRAST
Houston, Texas (Harris)
(?)

W. H. VERNOR
Houston, Texas (Harris)
(?)

M. A. WERHALEN
Knox City, Texas
(Check mark following name)

W. A. WASH
Rusk, Texas.

WILLIAM T. CLARK (2211 Ross)
Waco, Texas

ESTELLA SADLER
Montague, Texas

JOHN FINGER
Hondo, Texas

Mrs. F. E. DAVIS
Miles, Texas

BLANCHE R. DANSBY
Midland, Texas
(Declined by phone 9-21-44 by RICHARD BROOKS Atty. Declination to be mailed in.)

S. T. NIXON
Cleveland, Texas
(Declined by phone. Declination to be mailed in)

A. B. DAVIS (Gulf States Bldg.)
Dallas, Texas
(Will call 9-26-44)

P. A. SPAIN
Paris, Texas
(Declined by phone. Dec. to be mailed

MAX A. VOGEL (1817 Main Ave.)
San Antonio, Texas

There is set out following each name the notations that appeared on the original list of Presidential Electors in the office of the Secretary of State.

SA 56-20

Photostatic copies of this list are being submitted to the Bureau and office of origin.

An inspection of the Official Ballot reflected that there were only three names appearing as Electors for President and Vice-President under the America First Party. These three names were:

"WILLIAM SCHMITT
J. E. FITZGERALD
M. A. VERHALEN"

Copies of the Official Ballot in the State of Texas for the General Election are being transmitted to the Bureau and the office of origin.

Enclosures:

Bureau: Photostatic copies of Certificate of Nomination and List of Presidential Electors. Copy of Official Ballot.

Detroit: Photostatic copies of Certificate of Nomination and List of Presidential Electors. Copy of Official Ballot.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

4-750 (2-7-79)

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☒ For your information: Per your March 18, 1982 letter this enclosure was not xeroxed for release.

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62-43818 - 681 Enclosure

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FBI/DOJ

RPB:fmj
62-43818

081773

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark — March 24, 1945

RECORDED 62-43818-681

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1925

Reference is made to your memorandum dated January 19, 1945, requesting an investigation of Gerald L. K. Smith and his America First Party under the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925.

For your information in this connection, there is enclosed herewith a copy of the investigative report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] dated March 2, 1945, at San Antonio, Texas. In your examination of this report you will note that a Certificate of Nomination from the America First Party nominating Gerald L. K. Smith and Harry Romer for President and Vice President, respectively, was received by the Texas Secretary of State at Austin, Texas, on September 11, 1944. b7c

Investigation is continuing in this matter and as additional reports are received they will be immediately made available to you.

Enclosure

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DATE 11/13/82 BY SP1 [illegible]

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
MAR 24 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

APR 5 1945

TELETYPE

MAR 29 1945

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FBI DETROIT 3-29-45 10-20

DIRECTOR URGENT

SAKI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 5/1/82 BY SP-[illegible]

GERALD L. K. SMITH, ET AL, IS, SEDITION. [redacted]

ADVISED TODAY SUBJECT SMITH STATED YESTERDAY HE PLANS TO GO TO SAN FRANCISCO FOR THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON APRIL TWENTY FIFTH AND WILL HOLD MEETINGS AT ST. LOUIS, MINNEAPOLIS, SALT LAKE CITY, DENVER AND OTHER PLACES ON THE WAY OUT TO SAN FRANCISCO. IN A CONTACT WITH MRS. DAVID STANLEY OF CLEVELAND YESTERDAY, SMITH SUGGESTED SHE AND OTHER MEMBERS OF HER MOTHER'S CLUB ALSO GO TO SAN FRANCISCO FOR THIS CONFERENCE AND SHE INDICATED SHE WOULD DO SO. [redacted]

[redacted]

HERIN

[redacted]

78APR 7 1945

10-22AM OK FBI [redacted]

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum · UNITED GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: March 26, 1945

FROM : SAC, San Antonio

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1925
Bureau File No. 62-43818
SA file No. 56-20

Reference is made to letter from the Bureau to the Detroit Field Division dated 2-15-45, and letter from the Detroit Field Division to the Bureau dated 3-13-45.

In view of the fact that the only investigation contemplated by the San Antonio Field Division was to interview BERNARD DOMAN, former Secretary to the subject, SMITH, and he is no longer in Edcouch, Texas, but in Detroit, Michigan, no action is being taken by the San Antonio Field Division, unless advised to the contrary, and this matter is being referred upon completion to the office of origin.

[redacted] b7c

cc - Detroit

HANDLED BY
TOP DESK

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/92 BY [illegible]

140 62-43818-683

RECORDED & INDEXED

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37 APR 3 1945

5 APR 6 1945

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: April 3, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

b7D

[redacted] advised today that it was believed the Subject SMITH would be in Buffalo, New York, next Sunday, April 8, for the purpose of making a speech to a group of his followers. Informant did not know the exact time or place of such speech, but stated that invitations were being sent today to all persons who attended the previous meetings held in Buffalo by SMITH in September and in May of 1944. It is considered likely that the meeting on April 8 will be held at the same location, although this is not definitely known.

SMITH is also holding a meeting at the Book-Cadillac Hotel in Detroit, Michigan, on April 19, 1945, and arrangements are being made by the Detroit Field Division to secure coverage of this meeting through informants.

The Buffalo Field Division is being requested to obtain adequate coverage of this meeting through informants, but in line with the previous policy in covering SMITH's activities it is requested that no agents attend this meeting and that no surveillance be placed on SMITH, but that coverage of the meeting be effected solely through informants. As any additional information is obtained from above informant concerning the details of this meeting, this information will be forwarded to the Buffalo Field Division.

[redacted] b7c

cc: Buffalo
62-1126

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INDEXED
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62-42515-684

36

APR 13 1945

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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☐ For your information: _____

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62-43818-685

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FBI/DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-8486 b7c

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
WASHINGTON, D. C.	4/6/45	2/14;3/27/45	[redacted]:HS

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subscriber to telephone #ATlantic 3598 is RALPH B. BAERMAN.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

REFERENCE: Bureau file ~~#62-7055~~ 62-43818.
Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 29, 1945 at Detroit, Michigan. b7c

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Special Agent [redacted] ascertained that telephone number ATlantic 3598 was listed to RALPH B. BAERMAN, 1921 M Street, NE, Washington, D.C.

b7c

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [illegible] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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2 - Washington Field

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TELETYPE

APR 2 1945

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FBI DETROIT 4-2-45 6-49 PM EWT CEC

DIRECTOR URGENT

RUIF. GERALD L. K. SMITH, AMERICA FIRST PARTY. FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF NINETEEN TWENTY FIVE. RELETS JANUARY THIRTY, FEBRUARY FIFTEEN LAST AND OURTEL MARCH SIXTEEN LAST REQUESTING INTERVIEW OF BERNARD DOMAN. INVESTIGATION HAS LOCATED DOMAN BUT PRIOR TO INTERVIEW FOLLOWING FACTS ARE BEING BROUGHT TO YOUR ATTENTION. URLET, JANUARY THIRTY LAST INDICATED PURPOSE OF INVESTIGATION OF SUBJECT SMITH AT THIS TIME WAS TO DETERMINE REASON FOR FAILURE TO FILE FINAL STATEMENT JANUARY ONE, NINETEEN FORTY FIVE, REASON FOR REPORTED DISCREPANCY BETWEEN STATEMENTS FILED WITH SENATE COMMITTEE AND HOUSE COMMITTEE AND DETERMINATION WHETHER AMERICA FIRST PARTY WAS POLITICAL PARTY WITHIN STATUTE. URLET JANUARY THIRTY LAST QUOTING DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM REQUESTED DOMAN BE INTERVIEWED FOR QUOTE SUCH INFORMATION AS HE MAY HAVE RELEVANT TO THIS INVESTIGATION UNQUOTE. ANALYSIS OF WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION REPORT [illegible] SEVEN LAST INDICATES REPORT DUE JANUARY ONE LAST, ABOVE REFERRED TO, WAS FILED BY SUBJECT SMITH WITH HOUSE COMMITTEE JANUARY THIRTEEN LAST WITH EXPLANATION OF DELAY IN FILING. ALLEGED DISCREPANCY, REFERRED TO ABOVE, APPARENTLY NON-EXISTENT SINCE STATEMENT FILED WITH SENATE COMMITTEE [illegible] DIFFERENT AND MORE EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME THAN STATEMENT FILED WITH HOUSE

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162-43878-287

36 APR 11 1945

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COMMITTEE. DOUBTFUL IF DOMAN COULD FURNISH ANY INFORMATION PERTINENT TO INVESTIGATION ON ANY OF ABOVE MATTERS. HE MAY BE ABLE TO GIVE DETAILED DATA ON FUNDS REPORTED TO SENATE COMMITTEE BUT FOR THIS WOULD PROBABLY REQUIRE ORIGINAL BOOKS WHICH ARE NOW IN SMITHS POSSESSION. DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM REQUESTS INFORMATION CONTAINED IN REPORTS FILED BY SMITH WITH HOUSE AND SENATE BE CONSIDERED MOST CONFIDENTIAL AND THAT SMITH NOT BE INTERVIEWED. DOMAN AT THIS TIME ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN BUSINESS ORDERS FROM SMITH AND WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY GIVE SMITH FULL AND COMPLETE ACCOUNT OF ALL MATTERS COVERED IN INTERVIEW. IN VIEW OF THESE FACTS AND INDICATION THAT DOMAN DOES NOT HAVE INFORMATION THAT IS PERTINENT, IT IS REQUESTED THAT PRIOR TO INTERVIEW WITH HIM DEPARTMENT BE CONTACTED THAT THESE FACTS BE PRESENTED AND IF INTERVIEW IS STILL DESIRED, A SPECIFIC STATEMENT OF MATTERS TO BE OBTAINED FROM DOMAN THROUGH INTERVIEW BE SET OUT. PENDING ADVICE FROM BUREAU NO FURTHER ACTION IS BEING TAKEN ON THIS MATTER BY DFD.

GUERIN

ACK AND HOLD PLS.

CORRECTIONS TENTH SORDXX WORD SIXTH LINE OF SECOND PAGE SHD BE CONFIDENTIAL

LAST WORD OF SEVENTH LINE SHD BE BUSINESS

ACK PLS AND HOLD

,56-57 PM OK FBI WA NM

EPB:aop
62-43818

SAC, Detroit

April 9, 1945

RECORDED

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
62-43818-687
GERALD L. K. SMITH, America First Party
Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925

Reference is made to your teletype dated April 2, 1945, in the above captioned matter.

In view of the data set forth in referenced teletype, Bernard Doman should not be interviewed at the present time. However, you should furnish the Bureau the results of your inquiries in this matter. Upon receipt of investigative reports from your office and the Washington Field Division, this matter in its entirety will be presented to the Department at which time we shall request advice as to whether Doman should be interviewed inasmuch as he is associating with Smith.

FBI
RECEIVED-WIRE
2 P
P.M
APR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DATE 2/12/82 BY [redacted]

52 APR 24 1945

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. DETROIT 62-3126

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	3/28/45	1/25; 2/1, 2/9, 3/1; 3/7, 12/45	[redacted]

TITLE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY

CHARACTER OF CASE
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SEDITION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clyde
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Keenan
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Howden
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Mohr
Tamm
Miss Gandy

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

~~STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

SMITH held meetings of followers in Detroit on February 26, 1945, and in Chicago on March 15, 1945. DEAN SMITH, former oil man, was speaker at Detroit meeting and Subject SMITH was speaker at Chicago meeting. Detroit meeting uneventful, but picketing of meeting hall and other disturbances featured Chicago meeting. SMITH is expanding Washington activities at present and now has RALPH BAKERMAN and wife MADELEINE BAKERMAN working on full-time basis, assisting him in maintaining nationalist lobby in Washington and in collection of information for "Washington Letter" and for "Nationalist News Service". Program at present calls for defeat of Dumbarton Oaks plan and of any plan for a "super-state"; bringing of American soldiers home at earliest possible moment; defeat any plan to finance the British Empire; organization of Nationalist Veterans of World War II; support of nationwide nationalist movement and preservation of America First principle.

DECLASSIFIED BY [illegible] ON [illegible]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/2/82 BY [illegible]

REFERENCE: ~~62-7055 and~~ 62-43818 Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated January 29, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan

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3 21 PM '45

(DE #62-1126)

DETAILS: At DETROIT, MICHIGAN

The first meeting held by Subject SMITH for his followers in several months was held at the Detroit-Leland Hotel, Detroit, Michigan, on February 26, 1945. He had some difficulty in obtaining a meeting hall but was finally able to make arrangements at the above-mentioned hotel. Invitations were sent out to the 1,700 persons in Wayne County who had made cash contributions to him in the past.

[redacted] The principal speaker was DEAN E. SMITH and the subject of his talk was "Imperialism, The Cause of War". DEAN SMITH, who was at one time an employee of the Standard Oil Company in the Orient, claimed to be an authority on the Far East and spoke at considerabl length about British policies there. He condemned Great Britain, stating that the American General, JOSEPH STILLWELL, had been recalled from China because he was succeeding in his effort to make China a strong nation and the British did not want China to become strong. For the same reason SMITH stated that the British were responsible for the dissolution of the group of American veterans known as the "Flying Tigers" and also for the fact that the Burma Road had not been completed. His general theme was that the British were imperialistic and internationalist and that the United States should oppose internationalism, particularly as set out in the Dumbarton Oaks agreement.

Subject SMITH spoke very briefly in introducing the main speaker and in the course of his remarks announced that he had just opened an office in Washington, D.C. where he was now publishing a "Nationalist News Letter" and was also establishing the "Nationalist News Service". This latter service will distribute news items to nationalist papers throughout the country and he has sources of information among all types of people, having one source within the White House itself, according to SMITH.

[redacted]

It should be noted that while MERTZ claims that he is a close friend and associate of SMITH, SMITH will have nothing to do with him and has specifically warned his followers that he is not working with MERTZ. [redacted]

[redacted], a member of the United States Army Air Forces who carried himself [redacted] and was living in Room 336, Webster Hall Hotel, requested tickets for this meeting and presumably attended. The crowd that attended the meeting was quiet and there were no disturbances reported.

In contrast to his Detroit meeting, the meeting which SMITH held at Temple Hall, 338 South Marshfield, Chicago, Illinois, on March 15, 1945, was very noisy and nearly precipitated a riot. SMITH had considerable difficulty in obtaining a hall for his Chicago meeting and he stated that the principal reason for this was "a reign of terror" and a boycott organized against him by certain Jewish groups in Chicago. With the assistance of [redacted] of Chicago, who was said to be attorney for JOSEPH McWILLIAMS, one of the defendants in the recent Washington sedition trial, SMITH was able to obtain the above-mentioned hall which is apparently owned by the Plasterers' Union. Assistance in arranging for the meeting was also received by SMITH from [redacted] and FRED KISTER, both of Chicago. The hall in which the meeting was held has also been used frequently in the past by GEORGE FOSTER, head of the Constitutional Americans and a close friend of SMITH.

After arrangements had been made with the union for the rental of the hall and this fact became known generally in Chicago, [redacted] stated that the Chicago Sun carried a number of stories concerning SMITH which he referred to as "smear" stories. He also claimed that the Jews of Chicago had organized a campaign to pursuade the Plasterers' Union to cancel the rental of the hall. According to Informant, there were articles on March 13, 1945, in both the Chicago Tribune and the Chicago Sun relative to the meeting. The article in the Tribune appeared under the headline "100 Telegrams Warn of Bloodshed as Smith Talks". The article further stated that the Civil Liberties Union, reported to be a Communist group, the B'Nai B'Rith, a Jewish organization, and other groups were opposing SMITH's appearance. SMITH apparently was disturbed by the publicity received and told FRED KISTER that the Tribune had done all right by him and that he considered the situation "as hot as a fire cracker". He also told KISTER that if, after all the publicity, the Jews succeeded in preventing the meeting from being held, it would do SMITH more good than if the meeting actually were held. He did not think that the prospect of bloodshed would cut down the crowd any since he did not believe he had any timid people among his followers.

The card which SMITH sent out to 1,500 of his followers in Chicago announced that the meeting would be a rally under the auspices of the National Emergency Committee and the subject would be "Liberty in the Balance". The letter accompanying the card was on the letterhead of the National Emergency Committee and was described as being "a mobilization of nationalists for the preservation of American sovereignty". The address was given as Post Office Box 697, Detroit, Michigan. The letter stated that the Communists and the Internationalists would attempt to prevent the meeting but that his followers should ignore anything they read in the papers or heard over the radio concerning the meeting and that no matter what they might hear,

they should come to the Temple Hall on Thursday night, March 15.

A copy of the above-mentioned letter and card is being sent to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report.

In apparent anticipation of a possible riot, SMITH requested [redacted] prior to the meeting to arrange for adequate police protection and also requested that he provide at least ten good, healthy, fearless men of unimpeachable character who must be available for protection. Apparently his fears of possible violence were justified, according to [redacted] because several persons entered the meeting hall with drawn guns on the afternoon of the night the meeting was to be held and threw stink bombs into the meeting hall.

At the time the meeting was to be held the hall was crowded with about 1,200 people and an effort had been made to pack the meeting by the use of counterfeit tickets. This was apparently discovered in time, however, and very few, if any, persons opposing SMITH were able to gain entry into the hall during the meeting. SMITH told informant that about 500 Communists charged the hall in an effort to gain entry but were repulsed by a crowd of between fifty to a hundred Chicago police. In spite of the police protection, many windows in the hall were broken. The people inside the hall apparently maintained good order and SMITH spoke for two hours and ten minutes. Following his talk he left the hall by a rear entrance and was taken to a hotel in a police squad car.

Account of the incident in a United Press Dispatch in the Detroit News on March 16, 1945, stated that during the meeting SMITH assailed members of the B'nai B'Rith, the Civil Liberties League and the National Negro Congress which had protested his appearance. He is also said to have attacked Walter Winchell for allegedly having prevented SMITH's son from being accepted into Officers' Candidate School of the United States Army. The speech was said to have been anti-administration in character and devoted principally to a condemnation of the proposed partition of Poland. [redacted]

There have been some repercussions following SMITH's Chicago meeting. According to [redacted] "The Sentinel" had sent letters to JOHN FITZPATRICK, President of the Chicago branch of the American Federation of Labor, and to WILLIAM GREEN, President of the American Federation of Labor, calling attention to the "shocking disgrace on the labor movement" which occurred when the Plasterers' Union allowed SMITH to speak in their hall on March 15th. SMITH was given this information by [redacted] of Chicago who was apparently a member of the Plasterers' Union. [redacted] suggested that SMITH contact a Mr. M. J. McDONOUGH, National Secretary of the Plasterers' Union of 200 Fidelity Building, Cleveland, Ohio, and explain his position, pointing out that the persons protesting against SMITH's meeting were Communists and left-wing agitators. Informant stated that SMITH had also received a telegram on March 21,

b7C

from a certain [redacted] of Chicago whom Informant could not identify, stating as follows: "Question is not who does or does not subscribe to your philosophies - question is freedom of speech and right of assemblage".

On March 9, 1945, just a few days prior to SMITH's meeting in Chicago, an individual named FRED WALSCHER of 1134 Drummond Street, Chicago, Illinois, was found nailed to a cross in that city and upon investigation by the police it was noted that he had some of SMITH's literature on his person and in his living quarters. [redacted] stated that reporters for the Chicago Times had contacted SMITH and inquired as to whether WALSCHER was one of his followers. SMITH stated he could not find WALSCHER's name on his membership list, but since he had a copy of SMITH's magazine, probably was a subscriber since the magazine was not sold on the news stands. SMITH refused to make any statements for the papers about the incident, but in later conversation with some of his associates, he indicated that the affair would probably be more likely to help him than harm him since it was apparently done by his enemies. SMITH has not referred to the incident in any of his talks since this happened and in view of the fact that newspaper accounts subsequently have stated that WALSCHER confessed that the crucifixion was a hoax, it is unlikely that SMITH will make any further reference to it.

b7

SMITH has devoted a great deal of time and attention in recent weeks to his Washington activities. RALPH BAERMAN and his wife MADELEINE BAERMAN are apparently both working for SMITH now on a full-time basis in the collecting of information and other data at his Washington headquarters. [redacted]

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[redacted] states that a post office box was taken out in the name of MADELEINE BAERMAN and that the name of former United States Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS was used as a reference. [redacted]

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In connection with his activities in Washington, BAERMAN advised SMITH recently that meetings of the House Banking and Currency Committee, which will consider the Breton Woods Agreement, were open to the public and persons wishing to appear before the committee could write to the chairman. SMITH stated that he did not wish to appear personally but that he did want to insert some statements into the record without claiming any academic knowledge of economics. After this was done, he wanted to have "this fellow", evidently referring to an associate of his, make a profound statement for the committee.

Material for the "Washington Letter" is being gathered by BAERMAN and SMITH and they now have enough for about four or five issues.

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(DE #62-1126)

The first issue is expected to be published during the latter part of March and will be sent out from Washington, D.C. every Thursday. The material will be prepared and the letter actually written in Detroit by SMITH. Items sent from Smith's Washington headquarters for the "Nationalist News Service" will go to about 50 persons each week, at least according to present plans.

[redacted]

ALL
b7D

In his general letter to his followers for the month of February which bears the caption "Courage Rewarded", he announced the opening of the headquarters for the National Emergency Committee and the Nationalist Lobby in Washington. He stated that on a recent trip to Washington he had nine different people, all of them national figures, whose names would be recognized and included members of Congress, a clergyman, outstanding newspapermen and others equally prominent. He did not, however, divulge their names. He also announced the forthcoming publication of "The Letter" and stated that it would contain documented and correct information which could not be found in any other publication. He stated that this letter would create a sensation and that some of the information contained in it would be obtained from an individual who is in and out of the White House from one to three times per week. He also announced the setting up of the Nationalist News Service and indicated that this new program of activity in Washington would require him to spend about half of his time there within the next few months.

In connection with the announcement of his Washington program, SMITH also set out in his February letter the general course which he intends to follow in the next few months. He stated that he would not allow any sort of a super-state program to get by without his attention and that he had formed confidential contacts all over the United States with farm, labor and Christian leaders, with statesmen in both political parties, with mothers and with veterans of both wars. Representatives of these groups would appear before various Congressional Committees at SMITH's instigation and would oppose any form of super state. He stated that the lives of one million servicemen could be saved if this campaign is carried on vigorously and that "if Mr. ROOSEVELT cannot give a better reason than he has been able to give, then our sons should be brought home <u>now</u>".

SMITH stated that he hoped by this program to accomplish the following:

(1) The defeat of the Dumbarton Oaks plan

(2) The saving of a million lives that might be given to a super state

(3) The bringing of our boys home at the earliest possible moment

(4) The defeat of all plans to finance the British Empire after the war

(5) The organization of Nationalist Veterans of World War II

(6) The establishment of a Nationalist Lobby in Washington

(7) The maintenance of headquarter activities in Washington

(8) Publication of the "Washington Letter"

(9) The maintenance of a nation-wide nationalist organization

(10) The preservation of America First principle

In his last letter SMITH mentioned the above activities as forming his basic program at this time and in addition stated he wished to foster the cultivation of the nationalist movement at its very roots with meetings, institutes and assemblies and wished to encourage the publications of nationalist literature and books by the organization of the Nationalist Book Club. He indicated that the guiding plan of his activities would be opposed to President Roosevelt, of whom he said, "The dictator is here; he is throwing the Constitution out the window. His usurpage must be stopped". He stated Roosevelt had returned from Russia after giving Stalin everything he wanted. Plans are said to be on foot to subdue our people by an artificial scarcity of food. According to SMITH, Roosevelt is determined to draft the young women of the nation and has ambitions to become head of a super state. The Dumbarton conspiracy is a plan to destroy our sovereignty and the whole set-up is a "program of treason". SMITH then states that his followers "must be Paul Reveres, the informers, the inflamers, the warners, the alarmers" and that the nationalists must oppose and defeat Roosevelt's program. He states that by January 1, 1946, the enemy will have been foiled and the conspirator will have been exposed and "nationalism, which is another name for righteous Americanism, will have been triumphant."

A copy of the February and March letters above referred to are being sent to the Bureau as enclosures with this report and a copy of the February letter is being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Division.

In connection with his activities in Washington and Chicago, SMITH has made trips to both cities within the past few months. According to [redacted] SMITH left Detroit for Washington on January 23rd and returned to Detroit on January 30th. During this period in Washington he was in contact with [redacted] a minister of Baltimore, Maryland, and was also in contact with RALPH BARMAN as Washington representative. He is believed to have seen [redacted] former secretary to United States Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS. [redacted] address is Colorado Building, Washington, D.C. Informant stated SMITH had a press conference in Washington on January 26 at which time he advised the newspapermen of his plan for expanded activity in Washington. He also had visits with former United States Senator GERALD P. NYE and with ex-Congressman HAMILTON FISH and he also had contacted a "News Bureau man" whose identity was unknown to informant. Informant stated that stories in the Chicago Sun and in the newspaper P.M. indicated that SMITH was in Washington for the purpose of setting up a nationalist lobby.

b7

[redacted]

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[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Reference has been made above to the effort of HOMER MERTZ of Chicago to become a part of SMITH's organization. MERTZ sponsored a home-coming party for PARKER SAGE, GARLAND ALDERMAN and WILLIAM R. LYMAN, three Detroit residents who were at one time prominent in the National Workers League and more recently were defendants in the Washington sedition trial. This party was held on January 27, 1945, in Detroit under the auspices of "The Constitutionalists" which is the name MERTZ has given to his new organization. On the morning of the day the party was to be held MERTZ called SMITH's residence and inquired as to whether or not SMITH would attend the party. SMITH's wife stated he was out of town and would not be able to attend. MERTZ then told Mrs. SMITH that he was a close friend of GEORGE FOSTER of Chicago who was known to be a friend of SMITH and that he, MERTZ, could get a hall for SMITH to speak in in Chicago any time SMITH would like him to get same. [redacted] states, however, that SMITH is still suspicious of MERTZ, believing him either to be an informer for some investigative agency or to be very indiscreet in his operations and in any event SMITH will have nothing to do with him.

KENNETH WEBER, candidate for Attorney General of Michigan on SMITH's America First Party ticket last November, however, did attend MERTZ' home-coming party as did [redacted] a friend of SMITH. [redacted] subsequently reported to SMITH the details of what had taken place at the party and stated that nothing derogatory to SMITH had been said.

A bulletin issued by SMITH recently concerning MERTZ stated in part as follows: "Mr. Mertz does not represent me and never has. In fact, I have very little knowledge of his background or his activities..... Pass the word along". A copy of this notice is being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Division.

SMITH has also expanded his program for the distribution of literature in recent weeks. Apparently his distribution is nation-wide since reports have come to the Detroit Field Division from various field divisions indicating receipt of monthly letters and other material from Utah, Buffalo, New York, Cleveland, Ohio, Chicago, Illinois, and from North Carolina. [redacted]

[redacted] b

[redacted] A copy of the National Emergency Committee letter, the TYLER KENT letter and the article from the Jewish Sentinel is being sent to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report and a copy of the Jewish Sentinel article is being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Division.

In the February issue of his magazine "The Cross and the Flag" SMITH outlines the nationalist program in an article entitled "Zero Hour". In this article SMITH points out that nationalism, which had reached an all-time low in the late summer and early fall of 1944, is again in the ascendent as a result of old world diplomacy and power politics and that American soil is now fertile for nationalism as it had never been before. SMITH states in conclusion that "Nationalism is on the march! The opportunity of America First still lives!" Many of the items of editorial comment in the magazine are condemnatory. It is noted that he condemns in order the Atlantic Charter, Secret Diplomacy, Failure to state the United States' war aims, Roosevelt's Double Talk, British newspaper attacks upon United States, Rex Stout, International Bank and failure to court-martial General Short and Admiral Kimmel. He has words of praise for REYNOLDS, NYE, FISH, JOSEPH KAMP, whom he knows as a martyr, for Rev. CLYDE F. STARK, a preacher of Lincoln, Nebraska, who publishes a periodical called "Foundation Truth", the Dies Committee and CARL H. MOTE. In one comment he urges that all nationalists organize, not necessarily in the same organization, but that they all be united on the America First principle and that they organize according to their respective occupations or vocations, such as mothers, wives, veterans, workers and businessmen. A copy of the February issue of this magazine is being sent to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report.

SMITH has been in contact with many persons of nationalist sympathies in the past few weeks. Among these are ALLEN ZOLE, a former supporter of Father Charles E. Coughlin and head of the "American Patriots". [redacted] SMITH is contemplating the running of small classified ads of some sort in newspapers throughout the southeastern part of the United States. ZOLE has had some experience in newspaper and advertising work and he is apparently trying to make arrangements for these ads. [redacted] who learned of SMITH's contact with ZOLE, did not know of SMITH's purpose in running such ads. SMITH has also been in contact with CARL H. MOTE of Indiana. MOTE on one occasion during the latter part of January came to Detroit but SMITH was out of town at that time. According to [redacted] MOTE told SMITH's wife that he wanted SMITH's help in the publication of a booklet, Political Theologians and Theological Politicians. MOTE stated that Colonel McCORMICK b7d

of the Chicago Tribune agreed with him that the Republican Party was dead and wrote him a letter to this effect, stating they might as well admit it and start a third party. MOTE also stated that when the Republican National Committee met in Indianapolis during the middle of January he was in continual conference with [redacted] and [redacted] The identity of these individuals, however, was unknown to [redacted] MOTE indicated also that he had worked out some sort of agreement with these men which would be of interest to SMITH and that he would explain it to him shortly.

SMITH has also been in contact with [redacted] of [redacted] who is the leader of some sort of peace group. SMITH told GEORGE VOSE of Kalamazoo, Michigan, who was his candidate for governor of Michigan on the America First Party ticket last November that he was for him 100% and that VOSE should not believe any of the rumors of the scandal-mongers. He has also been in frequent contact with [redacted] an employee of the Ford Motor Company. He has been in communication with Reverend LAWRENCE [redacted]LY, a Lutheran Minister of Detroit who is a recent graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and a close friend of Reverend WALTER MEYER of that institution. [redacted]LLY is apparently the editor of a student newspaper at the seminary and spoke of his close connection with ELIZABETH DILLING and of the wonderful set of files which she had shown to him on his recent trip to Chicago. [redacted]

According to [redacted] SMITH has also spoken in recent weeks to GEORGE FOSTER of Chicago and to [redacted] who is the subject of an investigation in the Detroit Field Division at the present time and who is now having a series of hearings before the Federal Trade Commission dealing with his alleged cancer cure. [redacted] is a close friend of SMITH and shares his nationalist views. According to informant, RALPH BAERMAN of Washington, in a conversation with [redacted] stated that he had noted the type of individuals attending [redacted] recent hearing in Washington and commented "You will find them everywhere". To this [redacted] replied, "Yes, you will find them some day hanging from the lamp posts", and BAERMAN stated, "I think so too - just so they don't get us first".

[redacted], was in contact with SMITH recently and suggested that SMITH contact Mrs. WINTERS. [redacted] it was learned that SMITH did contact her and made an effort to obtain a contribution from her to help finance his Washington activities.

BERNARD DOMAN, who was formerly SMITH's secretary and who left his employ in November to go to Texas for his health, has now returned to Detroit and is starting a mimeographing and letter business. He has been in contact with SMITH in an effort to obtain from SMITH some of the latter's mimeographing business. [redacted]

4-750 (2-7-79)

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62-43818-688 p. 13

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FBI/DOJ

(DE #62-1126)

[redacted]

b7
b7

[redacted]

[redacted]

SMITH has received correspondence from various nationalists and important political figures, according to [redacted] His recent correspondence has included letters from Congressman CLAIRE HOFFMAN, United States Senator GREEN of the Senate Committee on Campaign Expenditures, from Senator HOMER FERGUSON and Senator ARTHUR VANDENBURG. The letter from VANDENBURG began "My Dear Gerald" and thanks SMITH for his comment on VANDENBURG's recent speech. The letter ended with the words "Warm personal regards and best wishes". Senator FERGUSON in his letter told SMITH he was in favor of leaving the approval of treaties and the declaration of war in the hands of the United States Senate and also favored the two-thirds rule for confirmation of treaties. SMITH has also received mail from Senator ARTHUR CAPPER and from CLARK TRIMBLE of the House of Representatives.

In his correspondence with nationalists he has received mail from OSCAR SMITH, head of the Farmers Guild of Frankfort, Indiana, HARRY ROMER, candidate for Vice President of the United States on the America First

Party ticket last November, [redacted] of Huntsville, Alabama, EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago, Reverend LAWRENCE NEILLY, [redacted] of Sterling, Kentucky, former Congressman PETTENGILL of New [illegible], [redacted], Governor Building, Portland, Oregon, [redacted] of Minneapolis and [redacted] of Chicago.

b7

[redacted] learned that the following names were on the list of donors to SMITH's organization: [redacted] PARKER SAGE, 1772 Holcomb: [redacted]

b7

[redacted] stated they had learned that SMITH's collections received through the mail from his followers were as follows on the following dates:

$ 32.00	January 25
29.00	January 26
28.00	January 27
9.50	January 30
15.50	January 31
10.00	February 1
94.00	February 2
48.00	February 7
75.00	February 9
183.00	February 21
38.00	March 15

b7

[redacted]

[redacted] stated that a [redacted] had been in Detroit to visit SMITH during the latter part of January, but Informant did not know the purpose of his visit. Informant also stated that DON LOHBECK, SMITH's former secretary who is at present in a conscientious objector camp in [redacted] was back in Detroit on a furlough during February and spent considerable time with SMITH during this period. However, Informant did not learn the nature of their conversations.

b7

(DE #62-1126)

ENCLOSURES

TO THE BUREAU

An admission card to hear GERALD L. K. SMITH at a rally under the auspices of the National Emergency Committee at Temple Hall, 338 South Marshfield, Chicago, Illinois, at which the subject would be "Liberty in the Balance".

Letter accompanying the above card on letterhead of the National Emergency Committee bearing heading "A Mobilization Of Nationalists For The Preservation Of American Sovereignty".

Letter on stationery of GERALD L. K. SMITH in which Subject announces publication of the Washington Letter, referring to it simply as "The Letter".

Subject's general letter to his followers for the month of February entitled "Courage Rewarded".

Subject's general letter to his followers for the month of March entitled "Liberty in the Balance".

Letter on letterhead of the National Emergency Committee sent by Subject to persons on his mailing list.

Excerpt from a letter written by TYLER KENT to his mother in Washington, D.C., on December 8, 1944.

Handbill entitled "The Sentinel".

February issue of SMITH's magazine "The Cross and the Flag".

- P E N D I N G -

(DE #62-1126)

IN ACCORDANCE WITH BUREAU INSTRUCTIONS INVESTIGATIVE REPORTS SUBMITTED IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At DETROIT, MICHIGAN, will maintain contact with confidential informants for the purpose of following further activities of the Subject.

A copy of this report is being sent to the Chicago Field Division for information purposes in view of the alleged agitation against SMITH in that city and also to the Washington Field Division in view of SMITH's expanded activities in Washington, D.C.

- P E N D I N G -

(DE #62-1126)

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

[redacted] Identical with [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

[redacted] Identical with [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

b7D

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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FBI/DOJ

EFB:WL

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark — April 9, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

081772

RECORDED 62-43818-688

Enclosed for your further information in the captioned matter is a copy of the investigative report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on March 28, 1945, as well as photostatic copies of the enclosures listed on page 16 of this report.

b7c

This report, you will note, sets forth information to the effect that Smith is expanding his Washington activities at the present time and that with the assistance of Ralph Ewerman and his wife, Madeleine Ewerman, he is attempting to maintain a Nationalist Lobby in Washington. Information is also set forth in this report that data is being collected for Smith's proposed, "Washington Letter" and for his "Nationalist News Service."

Smith's activities are being continually followed and as additional reports are received, they will be made available to you.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/12/82 BY

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 13
APR - 9 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. L. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

6 APR 25 1945

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum : UNITED GOVERNMENT

EPB:WMJ

TO : Mr. D. M. Ladd DATE: April 24, 1945

FROM : J. C. Strickland

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1925

Attached is a copy of the column "Broadcast" by Dorothy Walker, which appeared in the April 3, 1945, issue of the Washington Post. In this column there is quoted the following:

> "The Department of Justice wants to make a test case out of the fact that the America First organization did not file a statement of campaign expenditures before January 1, as required by the corrupt practices act. (Didn't the America First organization officially dissolve just after Pearl Harbor?)".

Although it is not entirely clear whether Mr. Walker has reference to the America First Party or the America First Committee, it is believed he is referring to an investigation we are presently conducting on Gerald L. K. Smith and his America First Party for violation of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925. Smith's party is of recent origin and is not the America First Committee which, as Mr. Walker states, was dissolved shortly after Pearl Harbor. It is true, however, that many members of Smith's America First Party were also connected with the America First Committee.

Our investigation of Smith and his party for failure to file a statement of campaign expenditures before January 1, as required by the Corrupt Practices Act, was initiated on January 30, 1945, at the specific request of the Department and is continuing to receive attention at the present time. We have received no information indicating that the Department intends to make this a test case as stated by Mr. Walker. You will recall Smith and his associates have also been investigated by the Bureau for their so-called Nationalist activities during the past several years. Information developed in this investigation which is carried under the character, "Internal Security; Sedition," is also being furnished the Criminal Division of the Department. To date, the Criminal Division, while continuing to manifest an interest in Smith's activities, has not seen fit to authorize prosecution against him.

HANDLED BY
STOP DEAR

Attachment

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DATE 10/2/82 BY

62-43818-689

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/28/57

4

59 APR 24 1945

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
[redacted]

081771B

Broadway

By DANTON WALKER

Broadway Underground

81771 A

WELLINGTON KOO, whose wife's too-revealing book about China was suppressed, may be appointed ambassador to the U. S. . . . Mohandas Gandhi is readying a final ultimatum to Great Britain, to be delivered this month . . . Our State Department will undergo a shakeup just after the San Francisco conference, maybe a little sooner . . . Within 90 days, all civilian travel between the East and West Coasts will be suspended, to make way for a flood of supplies to the Pacific area . . . The Department of Justice wants to make a test case out of the fact that the America First organization did not file a statement of campaign expenditures before January 1, as required by the corrupt practices act. (Didn't the America First organization officially dissolve just after Pearl Harbor?) . . . The CIO has told Secretary of Labor Perkins to put in a CIO man as second assistant, to counterbalance Dan Tracy, AFL man, who is her first assistant.

Beatrice Lillie

SECRETARY OF COMMERCE WALLACE will encourage postwar travel, so foreign countries can have plenty of American dollars with which to buy our products . . . New York city will be getting plenty of two-dollar bills, which soldiers are receiving in their pay. Incidentally, whatever became of Mexico's requirement that all tourists change their money to two-dollar bills before being allowed over the border? . . . Miami Beach hotels are now buying space on the radio to keep their rooms filled . . . Bungalows you once rented at Long Beach for $300 a season will cost you five times that amount this summer . . . There'll soon be stories about the shortage of ships preventing furloughs of soldiers from the Western Front after V-E Day . . . The black marketeers are going in for still another necessary commodity—salt . . . The Newspaper Guild ball this year will be called off because of the curfew.

HOLLYWOOD is alarmed to hear that J. Arthur Rank, the British movie mogul, plans to build a studio in Mexico (Rank is the man who has been signing up U. S. stars at fabulous figures) . . . A returning correspondent says Evelyn Knight's recording of "Dance With the Dolly" is to Paris of 1945 what "A Broken Doll" was to Paris in 1918 . . . Douglas Montgomery, formerly of Hollywood, has been borrowed from the Canadian Army to star in a London film for the R.A.F. . . . Nina Foch, of Columbia's "A Song to Remember," hears that the Nazi captain who ordered the murder of her grandfather (former speaker of the Dutch Parliament) has been captured and will be tried as a war criminal . . . While on tour overseas with the USO, Irene Manning made a British film, "I Live in Grosvenor Square," with Dean Jagger and Anna Neagle—all about an American GI . . . George Chatterton writes Freddy Lamb that he is using his old Club 18 routines to entertain GI's with the Fifth Army in Italy.

WILLIAM J. NEAL is slated to become administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration, the job that Aubrey Williams didn't get . . . Republican Senator Homer E. Capehart is offering his public relations man a fat bonus if he can persuade the public to stop referring to him as "the Juke-Box King" . . . A book on Government affairs recently completed by Secretary Ickes is being held up by two other Government agencies which don't want it published . . . The Lublin government and the Polish underground are conferring on how to reach an understanding about a new Polish government (the thing that may hold up the San Francisco conference) . . . An American woman is willing to spend ten or twelve million dollars to establish German-American schools in Germany, with the faculties divided 50-50 between American and German teachers, but she can't get to first base with the plan.

BEATRICE LILLIE is set for a Hollywood junket . . . Connie Talmadge suffered three broken ribs when she encountered the tail of a swordfish while swimming near Havana . . . Kate Smith will broadcast a series from Washington to boost the Seventh War Loan drive, starting May 7 . . . Marion MacPhail, Larry MacPhail's daughter, has been promoted to a head research job on Time Magazine . . . Crooner Larry Douglas, using an alias, will try out for the Dodgers at their Bear Mountain camp . . . Capt. Hartson Bodfish, last of the Martha's Vineyard whaling captains, is dead. It was Captain Bodfish who gave the Navy the necessary dope about South Pacific island harbors and landmarks when war broke out . . . Victor Borge, Danish concert and night club pianist (and former movie actor), will do propaganda broadcasts to his native land for the OWI . . . For the Department of Social Trends: Tommy Manville is reported occupying a room in his garage at Mon Repos.

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DATE 10/12/82 BY SP2 [illegible]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 14 OF 18

FILE NUMBER : 62-43818

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 40

PAGES REVIEWED: 58

PAGES RELEASED: 47

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

EPB:MLJ

34776

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

April 9, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information in the captioned matter there are enclosed herewith photostatic copies of the following materials:

1. Booklet entitled, "The Platform of the America First Party."
2. Four-page mimeographed leaflet entitled, "Courage Rewarded."
3. Circular dated February 14, 1945, captioned, "National Emergency Committee."

Enclosure

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DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8BTJ/mc

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-690
F B I

21 APR 11 1945

EX-50

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 13
APR - 9 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mease
Miss Gandy

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50 APR 26 1945

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FBI/DOJ

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XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan

April 7, 1945

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED BY 4913 ALPW ON 1-9-76

Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/2/82 BY SP-5BTJ/mrc

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND OFFICES AGENCY NOTIFIED SLIP(S) DATE 2/3/78

Dear Sir:

[redacted] The following information has been received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, concerning the activities of the Subject SMITH during the period from March 16, 1945, to April 5, 1945, inclusive. b2D

SMITH is planning a number of meetings of his followers in the near future. On Sunday, April 8, 1945, he will hold a meeting in Buffalo, New York, and has sent invitations for this meeting to all persons who attended his two previous meetings in Buffalo. He is also holding a meeting in Detroit, Michigan, on April 19, 1945. Informant believed that the Detroit meeting is to be held at the Detroit Leland Hotel but did not know where the Buffalo meeting would be held. As far as is known, SMITH will be the only speaker at these meetings.

On April 20, 1945, SMITH plans to leave Detroit for San Francisco where he will observe the operations of the United Nations Conference to be held in that city starting April 25, 1945. On his way to San Francisco he plans to hold a series of meetings. The first of these will be in Chicago on Sunday, April 22, 1945, at the LaSalle Hotel. Two meetings will be held, one in the afternoon and the other in the evening. The speakers will be CARL HOTE of Indianapolis and DEAN E. SMITH of Chicago in addition to Subject SMITH. The meeting will be under the auspices of a committee of World War II veterans and Subject SMITH'S name will not appear in connection with it. It was expected that about 250 people would attend.

From Chicago SMITH will travel to St. Louis, Missouri, where he will hold a meeting on a date as yet undetermined. Thereafter, he will proceed westward holding meetings, according to the present schedule, at Denver, Colorado, Salt Lake City, Utah, and possibly at Oakland, California.

He was in contact recently with Mrs. DAVID STANLEY of Cleveland, Ohio, head of a group of "professional mothers" in that city, and suggested to her that she and her followers should attend sessions

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27 APR 13 1945

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21 APR 22 1945 36

41

of the United Nations Conference at San Francisco. She indicated that this was a good idea and that she might act upon it. SMITH stated he would see her there.

SMITH has discussed at great length with his various followers the meeting which he held in Chicago on March 15, 1945, which meeting was picketed by persons whom SMITH said were "Communist Jews" and which ended in a near riot. SMITH believes that the publicity incident to this meeting has reacted very favorably for him and that the newspapers branded the group as Communists. He believes the riot was incited by FISHBEIN, editor of the "Jewish Sentinel."

H. J. DALTON, Secretary of the Plasterers' Union, whose hall was rented by SMITH for his Chicago meeting, advised SMITH that FISHBEIN had written to JOHN FITZPATRICK, President of the Chicago Federation of Labor, and WILLIAM GREEN, President of the American Federation of Labor, making an official protest against the fact that the union had allowed SMITH to use the hall for the meeting and stating that there was a rumor that several former Bund members were active in the union. SMITH states that FISHBEIN pulled a "boner" in writing this letter to the union officials since they are all now mad at him and taking SMITH'S side. He also stated that the Communists had always tried to make him appear anti-labor and that now labor is turning out to be his chief benefactor. He believes that the disturbance created at the Chicago meeting boomeranged against the persons who incited it. SMITH also states he has received a wire from a certain [redacted] of Chicago b7c stating that the question at issue was freedom of speech and right of assemblage and not the correctness or incorrectness of SMITH'S philosophy.

SMITH is also taking an interest in meetings of other than his own organization. He made arrangements for anti-Communist literature to be distributed at a meeting addressed by EARL BROWDER in Detroit on April 5, 1945. However, at the last minute this plan was called off since he could get only one of his workers to agree to distribute the literature. However, he did have his secretary attend the meeting and make notes on what BROWDER said. Informant states that his secretary advised SMITH that BROWDER made no comment on him.

He has been in contact with various Nationalist Associates during the past few weeks. He made an effort to contact Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER at Denver, Colorado, at whose church SMITH will hold his Denver meeting on his way to San Francisco. Informant did not believe, however, that SMITH had actually been in contact with SPRINGER.

He was in contact with BERNARD DOMAN, his former secretary, who has recently returned to Detroit after spending several months in Texas.

Letter to the Director
April 7, 1945

GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

DON HARLAN, a local lawyer who represents the mother of TYLER KENT, advised SMITH recently that he had some interesting material for SMITH. He has been in contact with GEORGE VOSE who is his organizer of World War II veterans and who has recently been working in Chicago. An individual named [redacted] whose first name was unknown to the informant, met with SMITH in Detroit on April 5 and 6, 1945. [redacted] is a resident of Chicago, and informant did not know the purpose of his meeting with SMITH. On March 31, 1945, SMITH endeavored to contact some unknown individual at Little Rock, Arkansas.

[redacted] an employee of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, spoke with SMITH at considerable length concerning the latter's tax problems. SMITH indicated that he wanted to discuss with someone his "whole tax picture, war taxes, Social Security, etc." and that he wanted to see one of the "old timers" in the Bureau concerning this, since he had political enemies and did not want to talk to anyone who had gotten a job during the last three years. [redacted] stated he was an "old timer" since he had been there twenty-nine years and that his policy was to give everybody a break. [redacted] then stated, "I am calling you because I think we have the Revenue Agents inside checking on you from the Department in Washington and I don't want this against you..... If they come along and tell me what to do and--well, I don't want to do it. I just wanted to give you a break so that is why I gave you a ring."

SMITH continues to expand his program for the distribution of literature. He is still sending copies of his monthly magazine to all members of Congress. He has had 10,000 of his Washington News letterheads printed and has ordered more of his Nationalist News Service stationery. VIRGINIA LOHBECK, who is in charge of his office, advised informant that within the last week she had run off 32,000 pieces of mimeographed literature. He is sending special material in addition to his regular monthly letter to all his Chicago followers. On one item of literature in particular, the exact nature of which was unknown to informant, SMITH has already mailed out 6,985 copies and was preparing an additional 1,500 copies.

In an apparent effort to expand his already large mailing list he obtained the names of two mailing list companies, Boyd's City Dispatch, 114 East Twenty-third Street, and W. S. Ponton Company, 635 Sixth Avenue, both of New York. These companies are supposed to have lists of wealthy individuals and SMITH will obtain from them their mailing list catalogs.

He has evidently had some differences with a former close friend of his, GEORGE FOSTER of Chicago, head of the Constitutional Americans. SMITH is unable to understand why FOSTER is mad at him but on March 28, 1945, at a meeting of FOSTER'S group in Chicago FOSTER made an attack upon SMITH.

Informant learned that on March 20, 1945, SMITH'S mail collections amounted to $14.50 and on April 5, 1945, to $33.00. SMITH has added to his mailing list the name of ROBERT POWERS, one of the owners of the ARNOLD

ALL
b7C

Letter to the Director
April 7, 1945

GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

POWERS Printing Company of Detroit. Among the persons contributing funds to him recently have been [redacted] and [redacted]

b7c

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN
Special Agent in Charge

DP3:MJ

RECORDED & INDEXED

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark — April 9, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

For your further information there are enclosed herewith photostatic copies of a leaflet entitled, "Warning!", which reportedly is being circulated by Smith and his associates.

Enclosures

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/92 BY SP-8 [illegible]

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 13
APR - 9 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FBI
RECEIVED-MAIL

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

APR 25 1945

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

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☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

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62-43818 - 693 Enclosure

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FBI/DOJ

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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☐ For your information: _____

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62-43818-693

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FBI/DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APR 23 1945

TELEMETER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8BTJ/MC

WASH FROM CHICAGO 1 23 2-23 P

DIRECTOR AND SAC DETROIT ROUTINE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lester
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gandon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

DROP. GERALD L. K. SMITH, INTERNAL SECURITY, SEDITION. SUBJECT DELIVERED TWO SPECHES AT LA SALLE HOTEL, CHICAGO ON APRIL TWENTY SECOND LAST. ESTIMATED TOTAL ATTENDANCE WAS EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY. SMITH MADE FREQUENT MENTION OF THE FACT THAT HE WAS IN ACCORD WITH ARCHBISHOP SAMUEL STRITCH OF CHICAGO IN OPPOSING THE AIMS OF RUSSIA AND ENGLAND AND REPEATEDLY REFERRED TO THE SAN FRANCISCO PEACE CONFERENCE AS A COMBINED QUOTE DUMBARTON HOAX UNQUOTE QUOTE CRIME OF CRIMEA UNQUOTE AND QUOTE THE SAN FRANCISCO SELL OUT UNQUOTE, CLAIMING THAT THE SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE WAS BEING SPONSORED TO PROMOTE AND SAFEGUARD BRITISH POSSESSIONS AND ENLARGE THE INTERNATIONAL STRENGTH OF RUSSIA. SUBJECT STATED HE WOULD BE AT THE SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE BUT WOULD FIRST MAKE SPECHES IN ST LOUIS, DENVER, AND SALT LAKE CITY. FRED KISTER ACTED AS MASTER OF CEREMONIES AND MADE MANY ANTI-SEMITIC STATEMENTS. DEAN E. SMITH, WHO HAS MADE A NUMBER OF APPEARANCES BEFORE THE CITIZENS USA COMMITTEE AND SIMILAR LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS GAVE OPENING ADDRESS WHICH WAS EXTREMELY ANTI-BRITISH. THESE MEETINGS HAVE RECEIVED NO PUBLICITY IN LOCAL NEWSPAPERS INDICATING THAT THOSE IN [redacted] ATTTENDANCE WERE HANDPICKED BY SMITH. COMPLETE REPORT WILL BE SUBMITTED IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

DRAYTON

DETROIT TO BE ADVISED

ACK 28 APR 27 1945

RECORDED & INDEXED 119

162-43818-674

37 APR 25 1945

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EX-7

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Brook
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: April 17, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

DECLASSIFIED BY 4913/APW ON 4-5-78

As you have been previously notified, the Subject SMITH is leaving Detroit April 21, 1945 for an extended trip during which time he will hold meetings at Chicago, St. Louis, Denver, Salt Lake City, and San Francisco. Traveling with him and acting as a personal and confidential secretary will be Miss RENATA LEGANT of Detroit.

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8BTS/MC

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) DATE 2/3/78 Declassification

[redacted]ejg
62-1126
cc-Chicago
St. Louis
Kansas City
Denver
Salt Lake City
San Francisco

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-695

F B I
19 APR 1945

EX-65

FILE & B

76 MAY 2 1945

Gerald L. K. Smith, Detroit, Michigan

Post Office Box 459

April 21, 1945

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
c/o Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Attached herewith is the photostat to which I referred in my last communication with you.

If anyone in Philadelphia is impersonating an FBI agent in an attempt to coerce a building management, I am sure that you will be anxious to put an end to such chicanery.

Sincerely yours,

GERALD L. K. SMITH

GLKS:M
Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP6BTJ/MLR

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818-696
F B I
APR 29 1945

C. E. Hill
Linear Parks 127
Current Events Club
State Camp of the
Patriotic Order Sons
of America

EX-29

FIVE

59 APR 27 1945

Ninety-Seven Years of Patriotic Service

State Camp of the Patriotic Order Sons of America

Incorporated by Act of Legislature

Organized December 10th, 1847

Office of the State Secretary
SONS OF AMERICA BUILDING
1317-19 N. Broad Street
PHILADELPHIA 22, PA.

God, Our Country and Our Order

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

State President
IRA T. FISS
Shamokin Dam, Pa.

State Vice-President
GEORGE H. LARE, Jr.
322 Lemonte Street
Roxborough, Phila. 28, Pa.

State Master of Forms
FRANK S. DOERRMAN
144 W. Douglas Street
Reading, Pa.

State Treasurer
EUGENE F. HENDRICKS
1311 Hampden Blvd.
Reading, Pa.

State Secretary
CHARLES BRUMM HELMS
Sons of America Building
1317-19 North Broad Street
Philadelphia 22, Pa.

Organized December 10, 1847.

★

To Preserve the Public School System.
Made Education compulsory.
Placed Flag on School Houses.
Removed distorted Text Books from Schools.

★

Preserved Washington's Headquarters at Valley Forge.
Owns acre of ground and monument at Washington's Crossing.
Helped save Betsy Ross Flag House.
Marked home of author of National Anthem.

★

First Five Companies to answer Lincoln's Call
Furnished 27,000 members to World War I.
Furnished 3000 members to World War II.
National Defense program called finest in country.

★

Assist Red Cross and Salvation Army.
Cooperates with all Veterans' Organizations.
Cooperates with F. B. I.
Sold and purchased over $20,000,000.00 in War Bonds.

★

Presented thousands of flags and bibles to Schools and Churches.
Opposed Sectarian appropriations—uniting of Church and State.
Camp rooms are the High Schools of American freedom.
Restricted Immigration into Nation.

★

Owns Finest Patriotic Headquarters in country.
Sponsors George Washington Boys' Camp—Outstanding Youth Movement.
Maintains Chalfont Aged Folks Home. A Haven for brothers and wives.

April 13, 1945.

Mrs. Lilliam Parks, Secretary,
Current Events Club,
1317-19 N. Broad St.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Madam:-

Several complaints have reached us against your holding meetings in our Building, through members of the F.B.I. and otherwise. Today they advise us the Rev. Gerald Smith is to speak here this evening.

I am compelled under the circumstances to cancel the lease, and advise you that we cannot permit your meeting here this evening if Mr. Smith is to be present or deliver an address.

Very truly yours,

C. B. Helms

State Secretary, P.O.S.of A.

CBH/MIH

P.S. We made efforts to reach you by telephone all afternoon. Your phone did not answer.

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: April 3, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/5/82 BY SE-8073/mlm

Informants of the Detroit Field Division advise that Subject SMITH will leave Detroit on April 21 for the purpose of attending the International Conference of the United Nations which will begin in San Francisco on April 25, 1945. Enroute to San Francisco, SMITH will stop at several cities for the purpose of holding meetings of his followers and make speeches. The first meeting will be held in the Century Room of the La Salle Hotel, Chicago, at 3:00 PM and 8:00 PM on Sunday, April 22. Because of the disturbances which attended SMITH'S meeting in Chicago on March 15 his connection with the meeting on April 22 will be kept secret and the meeting ostensibly will be held under the auspices of the "Veterans of World War II." This is a fictitious organization existing in name only and set up by SMITH for the purpose of holding this meeting. Speakers at the meeting in addition to the Subject SMITH will be CARL MOTE of Indianapolis and DEAN SMITH of Chicago. It is expected that about two hundred fifty people will attend the meeting. FRED KISTER will preside.

On April 23 or 24 SMITH will hold a meeting in St. Louis at a place not definitely decided as yet. Informants believe it will be either one of the two meeting places, the Kiel Auditorium or at the DeSoto Hotel. RUTH LOHBECK is said to be making the arrangements for the St. Louis meeting. After leaving St. Louis SMITH tentatively plans on stopping at Kansas City but informants did not know at this time whether he would hold a meeting there or simply a press conference.

On April 30, SMITH will hold a meeting at Denver, Colorado, at the tabernacle of Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER. Arrangements for this meeting are said to have been made by KENNETH GOFF. On leaving Denver, SMITH has made tentative arrangements to have a meeting within the succeeding few days at Salt Lake City, Utah, providing necessary arrangements can be made there. JEREMIAH STOKES and an individual named MAC KNIGHT, both of whom are believed to be lawyers, are said to have been trying to arrange a meeting at Salt Lake City.

SMITH plans on arriving at San Francisco during the first few days of May, 1945. He has tentatively planned to stay in San Francisco about three weeks. During this period he contemplates holding a meeting at Oakland, California, where a Mrs. ESSIG, formerly a member of the America First Committee, will make arrangements for such a meeting.

RECORDED & INDEXED 196

62-43812-69

19 APR 20 1945

Letter to the Director
April 3, 1945

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

SMITH is not believed to have any definite program outlined for opposition to the activities of the San Francisco Conference. At the present time he contemplates attending all the public sessions of the conference and will attempt to learn from such sources as there are available all information which he can concerning the activities of the conference and its delegates. Since he has recently established the Nationalist News Service, he may attempt to qualify his wife and Miss RENATA LEGANT, his secretary, as press representatives which would entitle them to attend sessions of the conference that SMITH himself might not be able to attend and in this manner get information which otherwise would not be available to him. LEGANT and Mrs. SMITH are accompanying SMITH to San Francisco but it is not believed that he is traveling with anyone else.

The Chicago, St. Louis, Denver, Salt Lake City, and San Francisco Offices are requested to make arrangements for coverage of the meetings above referred to and the reporting of what takes place at such meetings. It should be noted that no surveillance of the Subject is desired nor should any agents attend any such meetings but coverage should be effected solely through informants. In the event that SMITH holds a meeting at Kansas City the Kansas City Field Division is requested to make arrangements for similar coverage of such a meeting. In the event SMITH holds only a press conference in that city it is requested that the Kansas City Office report the results of such press conference as set out in the daily newspapers.

The San Francisco Field Division is requested to learn through informants the nature and extent of SMITH'S activities in that city in connection with the United Nations Conference but it is believed advisable that such information be obtained solely through informants.

As further information is obtained concerning the specific dates and places of the meetings above referred to and any other contemplated activities of the Subject SMITH, the interested offices will be notified by the Detroit Field Division.

[redacted] b7c
62-1126
CC: Chicago
St. Louis
Kansas City
Denver
Salt Lake City
San Francisco

697

RPB:aop

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/12/82 BY [illegible]

April 11, 1945

62-43818-697

RECORDED

Mr. Frederick B. Lyon
Chief
Division of Foreign Activity Correlation
State Department
Washington, D. C.

[redacted]

62-43818-697

San Francisco Conference

We have received information to the effect that Gerald L. K. Smith, who you will recall is the head of the America First Party in Detroit, Michigan, will attend the International Conference of the United Nations in San Francisco, California. According to our source of information, Smith is not believed to have any definite program outlined for opposition to the activities of the San Francisco Conference, but does contemplate attending all the public sessions of the conference and will attempt to learn from such sources as there are available all information he can concerning the activities of the conference and its delegates. It has been said that since Smith has recently established the Nationalist News Service he may attempt to qualify his wife and a Miss Renata Legant, his secretary, as press representatives, thus entitling them to attend sessions of the conference which Smith himself might not be able to attend and in this manner gather information which otherwise would not be available to him.

Advice has also been received to the effect that Smith in a recent contact with Mrs. David Stanley of Cleveland, Ohio, suggested that she and other members of her mothers' organization also go to San Francisco for the conference, and Mrs. Stanley reportedly indicated that she would do so. We have also been informed that at a meeting held in the home of Mrs. Blanche Winters of Detroit, Michigan, on March 28, 1945, Mrs. Winters stated that she, Vivian Kellems of Saugatuck, Connecticut, Mrs. Lyrl Van Hyning of Chicago and other national leaders of Mrs. Winters' mothers' organization were planning to attend the San Francisco Conference and planned to picket the meetings of the conference and otherwise create disturbances.

It has also been reported to this Bureau that former congressman Martin L. Sweeney recently organized a group in Cleveland, Ohio, known as the "Intelligent American Voters League." Sweeney was reportedly formerly connected with Father Coughlin and more recently with Gerald L. K. Smith. According to our information at the first meeting of Sweeney's group it was decided to send delegates to the San Francisco Conference to agitate and bring about

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

MAILED 3
APR 15 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

57 MAY 4 1945

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205 OCT 13 1964

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-77777-32

attention to the fact that a just peace should be made at the conference. It was also decided that a group of veterans and Gold Star Mothers would go to the conference as they expressed it "to raise Hell and see that America does not sell out to Russia."

In the event further information is received by the Bureau relative to the contemplated activities of the individuals mentioned above at the San Francisco Conference, it will be made available to you.

cc [redacted] SIS

697.

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: April 17, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/24/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/MC

In futherance of the information relative to the above Subject contained in the Detroit Field Division letter dated April 3, 1945, it has been learned through Informants of this Field Division that the Subject's meeting in Chicago will be held at the time and place mentioned in the reference letter. The meeting to be held in St. Louis will be in Assembly Room 2 at the Kiel Auditorium on April 24th. There will be no meeting at Kansas City but the meeting at Denver will be at the time and place set out in the reference letter.

SMITH is expected to arrive in Salt Lake City on May 2 or 3, 1945 and Informants believed that a meeting will be held in that city, probably at one of the local hotels, either on May 2 or 3, 1945. Arrangements for this meeting are being made through JEREMIAH STOKES and J. H. McKNIGHT.

Subject SMITH will arrive in San Francisco on May 4 or 5, 1945. He has not yet been able to locate a place to stay. Informants state no definite plans have as yet been made for the contemplated meeting in Oakland, California, referred to in the reference letter.

SMITH is expected to stay in San Francisco for several weeks, although he has no definite plans as to the length of his stay. After leaving San Francisco he may go to Portland, Oregon to see the wife of former United States Senator RUFUS HOLMAN. She is the widow of former United States Senator LUNDEEN of Minnesota. Informants believe that SMITH may hold a meeting in Portland and that on his return from the Pacific Coast he may also hold a meeting in Bismarck, North Dakota, where he is expected to contact friends of former United States Senator GERALD P. NYE. He may also hold a meeting at Minneapolis on his way back to Detroit. As further information is obtained concerning the meetings at Portland, Bismarck, and Minneapolis, offices covering those points will be notified.

As requested in reference letter the Chicago, St. Louis, Denver, Salt Lake City, and San Francisco Offices are requested to arrange for coverage and reporting of the meetings above set out but it is again being pointed out that this coverage should be effected solely through Informants. Since no meeting is being held by the Subject in Kansas City, the Kansas City Field Division is requested to report any press conference held by the Subject in that city as the result of said conference may appear in the daily newspapers. The San Francisco Field Division, while SMITH is in San Francisco, will effect such coverage of his activities as is set out in the reference letter.

62-43818-698

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205 OCT 13 1964

RECORDED & INDEXED

74 MAY 11 1945

19 APR 24 1945

EX-41

Letter to Director
4/17/45

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

In all reports submitted by the above Field Divisions, the Detroit Field Division should be carried as the office of origin.

SMITH will also hold a meeting for his followers at the English Room of the Book Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, at 8:00 p.m., on April 19, 1945. He will be the sole speaker and according to the card advertising the meeting will discuss, "The Breton Woods - 'Steal', The Dumbarton - 'Hoax', and the San Francisco - 'Sell-Out'." The card also states that this meeting is being held on the eve of SMITH's departure for San Francisco and a West Coast speaking tour and that he and ten instructed observers will study the San Francisco United Nations Conference in behalf of twenty-one Nationalists Groups. As far as is known the only persons traveling with SMITH on this trip to the West Coast will be his wife and his Secretary Miss RENATA REGANT. Coverage of the Detroit meeting will be effected through Informants of the Detroit Field Division. SMITH will leave Detroit on April 21, 1945.

[redacted]ejg b7c
62-1126
cc-Chicago
St. Louis
Kansas City
Denver
Salt Lake City
San Francisco

4-750 (2-7-79)

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XXXXXX
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

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_____

☐ For your information: _____

_____

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62-43818-699

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FBI/DOJ

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JTC:JWD
100-19707

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: April 16, 1945

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH, was.
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION
FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT of 1925
(Bureau File #62-43818)

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Washington, D.C., March 7, 1945, in the above captioned case. This report contained a lead for the New York Office to contact [redacted] of the Anti-Nazi League, New York City, to determine the identity of the girl who is reported to be employed in the office of GERALD L.K. SMITH by the Anti-Nazi League. b7c

In view of the relations between the Anti-Nazi League and the New York Field Division this lead is not being covered at the present time. It is believed that the Detroit Office may be in a position to ascertain the identity of this person. No investigation will be conducted in this matter by the New York Office unless specifically requested by the Detroit Field Division.

cc. - Detroit

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DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8 BTS/MC

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43811-700

EX-59 142

APR 24 1945

FILE 8PB

MAY 9 1945

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit 26, Michigan
April 23, 1945

Director, FBI

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION
(62-43818; ~~61-7055~~)

1-9-78 4913 APIU

Dear Sir:

The following is the pertinent information received concerning the Subject's activities from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, during the period from April 6 to April 20, 1945, inclusive.

b7D

SMITH'S reaction to the death of President ROOSEVELT was that it was a good thing the President had died since it was a case of one man with too much authority for too long a period of time. SMITH stated it was apparent that HITLER was now out and with ROOSEVELT dead it appeared that all those who try to get all the power in their own hands, soon pass out of the picture. He felt that the death of ROOSEVELT left CHURCHILL and STALIN in bad shape since to them it was like the death of Santa Claus. He felt that TRUMAN was the best man on any of the tickets last fall and would make a better President than WALLACE. He stated he was thankful that WALLACE had not been Vice President or the country would now be in the hands of the Reds.

SMITH received information from RALPH BAERMAN, his Washington contact man, to the effect that President ROOSEVELT had been in very bad health for sometime prior to his death and that Mr. ROSENMAN had been signing documents for the President. BAERMAN stated that HARRY HOPKINS was the most important man in Washington today since he alone knew of the commitments made at Yalta but that BAERMAN did not know the relationship between HOPKINS and President TRUMAN. BAERMAN thought that TRUMAN was hated by WALLACE and would have to get rid of WALLACE and other enemies within the Government or they would ruin him. SMITH spoke to DON LOHBECK, his former secretary, who is now in a conscientious objector camp, and LOHBECK stated that if President ROOSEVELT had died three months earlier, WALLACE would be President now and there wouldn't be anything to feel relaxed about. SMITH considers ROOSEVELT'S death to be a parallel to that of Judge EICHER, who was presiding at the Washington sedition trial, since in both cases the individual had died before the "crowd" around him could put through the ideas they planned.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND SERVICES ADVISED PER SHIP(S) ... DATE ...

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818-201 APR 28 1945

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/24/82 BY SP-8 SLC

76 MAY 14 1945

Letter to the Director
April 23, 1945

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was. et al
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

As a result of President ROOSEVELT'S death, SMITH made some changes in his monthly magazine, "The Cross and the Flag," which was in the course of preparation when the President died. He withdrew all derogatory references to Mr. ROOSEVELT and changed all items which were outdated by the President's death. One of the articles which he prepared following ROOSEVELT'S death stated that President TRUMAN had not been in the confidence of President ROOSEVELT and knew little of what had been going on in the White House or among any of the great powers. He stated that ROOSEVELT had died with the secrets of the world on his heart. SMITH stated that TRUMAN had not been ROOSEVELT'S choice for Vice President, but he had been forced onto the ticket by a coalition of Southern and Western Democrats and that everyone at the last Democratic Convention knew in nominating TRUMAN that they were nominating the next President of the United States. SMITH stated that only God could save TRUMAN from the clutches of the most ruthless and highly financed set of international conspirators the world had ever known.

With reference to President TRUMAN, he stated that he was a commoner, that "He's like us", and some might call him a hillbilly. SMITH stated that "I'm for Grandma TRUMAN, if HARRY goes with Grandma, I'm for him, but if he allows those seaboard sophisticates, London chiselers, Moscow planners and Washington pinks to kidnap him, then I am against him. I will assume that he is the prodigal son raised in the right family but drifted into the wrong company." Later, SMITH commented that TRUMAN'S first speech had been very good, emphasizing justice and the fact that the great powers should serve the world and not dominate it.

Dr. LELAND MARION of Pontiac, Michigan, SMITH'S candidate for Governor of Michigan on the AMERICA FIRST PARTY ticket last November, stated he suspected that President ROOSEVELT was not really dead, that no one had ever seen him lying in state in a casket and that the funeral had been conducted very soon after his death. MARION felt there might be a diabolical scheme backed by the Jews for the purpose of having ROOSEVELT re-appear at some time in the future to become the head of the world government. SMITH told MARION he would check through his Washington sources to learn if anyone reputable actually had seen President ROOSEVELT'S body following his death.

SMITH is planning a trip to San Francisco for the purpose of attending and observing the sessions of the United Nations Conference to be held at that City. He has told informant he will report on the activities of the Conference for twenty-six members of Congress, both Senators and Representatives, and will also make reports to about 100 periodicals. On his way from Detroit to San Francisco, he will hold meetings of his followers

at Chicago on April 22, St. Louis on April 24, Denver on April 30, and Salt Lake City on May 3. The meetings in these towns will be held respectively at the LaSalle Hotel in Chicago, assembly room number two of the Kiel Auditorium in St. Louis, at Englewood Tabernacle of Dr. HARVEY SPRINGER in Denver, and at Hotel Utah at Salt Lake, City. SMITH expects to arrive in San Francisco on May 6 and his length of stay in that City is indefinite. He may also hold a meeting of his followers in San Francisco or Oakland since he has stated there are a lot of "old AMERICA FIRSTERS" out there. He has been unable to obtain hotel accommodations as yet in San Francisco and has requested [redacted], secretary to Senator HOMER FERGUSON of Michigan, to obtain a hotel room for him. SMITH will be accompanied by Mrs. SMITH and his secretary, RENATA LEGANT. SMITH planned to leave Detroit for the start of his trip on April 21, 1945. b7c

On April 8, 1945, SMITH went to Buffalo, New York, to address a conference on monetary problems sponsored by JOSEPH STOEPEL, a friend and associate of his who lives in Buffalo. This conference was held at the Statler Hotel in Buffalo.

On April 19, SMITH held a meeting of his followers at the English Room of the Book-Cadillac Hotel in Detroit. Accommodations were provided for 350 people and the room was filled. SMITH was the only speaker and he told his followers of his contemplated trip to the Pacific Coast and also of the probable effect that the death of President ROOSEVELT would have upon the future policies of the United States. Informant states SMITH'S Chicago meeting on April 22 would be under the auspices of the Committee of Veterans of World War II and that arrangements for the meeting had been made by FRED KISTER of Chicago, a friend of SMITH'S. The speakers would be CARL H. MOTE of Indianapolis and DEAN E. SMITH of Chicago, both close friends of SMITH. SMITH would also speak, although his name was not mentioned in connection with the arrangements made at the meeting places. The St. Louis meeting is being held under the sponsorship of the "National Emergency Committee", which is said to represent "twenty-one nationalist groups." Arrangements for the Salt Lake City meeting were made through [redacted], a friend of SMITH, who is located at 218 Atlas Building, Salt Lake City. b7c

SMITH has been in contact with various associates and nationalist leaders in recent weeks. DON LOHBECK, his former secretary, was in Detroit some weeks ago and SMITH also contacted him when he spoke at Buffalo, New York, on April 8. An individual named [redacted] whose first name informant did b7c

not know, was in Detroit during the first part of February and saw SMITH on several occasions. [redacted] GEORGE VOSE, whom SMITH has been trying to develop as an organizer of the Nationalist Veterans of World War II was in Detroit recently and in contact with SMITH. The Jewish Sentinel, a Chicago newspaper which has frequently attacked SMITH, is reported to have recently published an article stating that VOSE had received a dishonorable discharge from the United States Army. SMITH believes that VOSE has a good basis for a libel suit against this paper since VOSE'S discharge from the United States Army was honorable.

An individual named [redacted] representing the Jewish Press and Publicity Service, which publishes a paper known as "The Day" at 60 East 42nd Street, New York, attempted to interview SMITH but was not able to do so. DON HARLAN, a Detroit lawyer who represents the mother of TYLER KENT was in contact with SMITH recently for the purpose of giving him some information which HARLAN stated would be of value to him. GEORGE MAINS of Flint, Michigan, contacted SMITH from Washington to state that he had spent some time with Justice FRANK MURPHY and had "gotten the low-down" on the Washington situation as it existed following the death of President ROOSEVELT. MAINS is known to be a reporter for a Flint newspaper, a national organizer of the Blue Star Mothers and a Captain in the Michigan State Troops. An individual named JACOB, evidently from out-of-town, whose full name was unknown to informant, was in contact with SMITH on April 9. BERNARD BOMAN, SMITH'S former assistant who left his employ in November of 1944 and spent several months in Texas, has now returned to Detroit and was in contact with SMITH. SMITH also spoke to FRED KISTER and [redacted] of Chicago, and CARL MOTE of Indianapolis, in connection with the Chicago meetings on April 22. He received a letter from PARKER SAGE, former sedition trial defendant, advising that SAGE was not connected in any way with HOMER MAERTZ and that SAGE would attend the San Francisco Conference.

GEORGE FOSTER of Chicago, ahead of the "Constitutional Americans" and a former close friend of SMITH'S, has recently become unfriendly to SMITH as a result of some disagreement unknown to informant. SMITH was absent from Detroit from April 12 to April 15, inclusive, during which time he visited his mother and father at Delavan, Wisconsin. Informant was not able to learn much concerning SMITH'S receipts through the mail. On April 11 the receipts were $28.50. SMITH stated that he had received over 300 responses from his followers up to April 18, 1945, although informant did

not know the total amount of money received. SMITH has been endeavoring to cut down his expenses somewhat, stating that during the summertime the income would be smaller and he wanted to reduce the expenses as much as possible. The payroll for extra help at his office during one week in April was $228.40. An additional report to be sent to one of the Congressional committees investigating campaign expenditures was received by SMITH during the early part of April and he advised DON LOHBECK to sign his name to the bottom of three or four blank pieces of paper so that when "they send in that report," evidently referring to the report required by the Congressional committee, they can have his signature for it. SMITH continues to send out large quantities of literature. He sent 100 copies of his April letter to S. O. SANDERSON, 11 Twelfth Street, SE, Rochester, Minnesota, and distributed 400 copies of a book by BERTHA GLEBE at his Detroit meeting on Thursday night. He has ordered 2,000 copies of a book by EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago (probably the book "Forty Years of ROOSEVELT"), but has only received 1,000 so far. He is arranging with DON LOHBECK to publish some sort of pamphlet written by a person calling himself "AMERICANUS." He plans to start a subscription campaign for his magazine on April 20.

Among his subscribers, informant learned the names of the following:

[redacted] San Francisco;
[redacted] Detroit;
[redacted] address unknown;
[redacted] Pittsburgh;
[redacted] Pittsburgh;
[redacted] Philadelphia;
[redacted] Ohio;
[redacted] St. Paul, Minnesota;
[redacted] Ohio.

SMITH has received mail recently from [redacted] of Chicago, from a [redacted] of Prospect, Ohio, from [redacted] of St. Louis, from [redacted] of Chicago, from Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN and a [redacted] of Denver, Colorado.

Very truly yours,

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

ALL b7C

[redacted]
62-1126

Gerald L. K. Smith, Detroit, Michigan

Post Office Box 459

April
18th
1945

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Attached is a photostatic copy of a letter which speaks for itself. The letter is singular in several respects:

1. There had been no arrangement for me to speak in Philadelphia as the letter suggests.

2. I am convinced that no representative of your Department attempted to coerce the management of the building referred to in an attempt to prevent my speaking in Phi~~ladelphia.~~

3. I have confidence in you to believe that you would not participate in any plan to deny an American citizen his civil liberties.

It is my personal opinion that someone in Philadelphia is impersonating a representative of your Department.

May I have an early reply from you concerning this matter.

Sincerely yours,

GERALD L. K. SMITH

GLKS:L
Encl.

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DATE 10/12/82 BY SP2 [illegible]

62-43818-702

EX-4

50 MAY 15 1945

Gerald L. K. Smith, Detroit, Michigan

Post Office Box 459

April
19th
1945

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8BTJ

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Attached is a carbon copy of a letter I sent to you on April 18. After the original letter was in the mail we discovered that through a clerical error the photostat referred to was not enclosed. The letter is being photostated and the copy will be rushed to you within seventy-two hours. I do enclose, however, a typewritten copy of the letter which is now being photostated. This will help you to interpret the meaning of the letter I wrote you on the 18th, copy of which I attach herewith.

As soon as the letter referred to is photostated, it will be returned to Philadelphia.

Sincerely yours,

GERALD L. K. SMITH

GLKS:L

RECORDED & INDEXED
62-43818-703
F B I

FILE

Post Office Box 459

April
18th
1945

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Attached is a photostatic copy of a letter which speaks for itself. The letter is singular in several respects:

1. There had been no arrangement for me to speak in Philadelphia as the letter suggests.

2. I am convinced that no representative of your Department attempted to coerce the management of the building referred to in an attempt to prevent my speaking in Philadelphia.

3. I have confidence in you to believe that you would not participate in any plan to deny an American citizen his civil liberties.

It is my personal opinion that someone in Philadelphia is impersonating a representative of your Department.

May I have an early reply from you concerning this matter.

Sincerely yours,

GERALD L. K. SMITH

GLKS:L
Encl.

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DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8BTS/MWC

62-45818-703

Note: Original copy of following letter is being photostated.

STATE CAMP OF THE PATRIOTIC
ORDER SONS OF AMERICA

Office of the State Secretary

Sons of America Building

1317-19 N. Broad Street
Philadelphia 22, Pennsylvania

April 13, 1945

Mrs. Lillian Parks, Secretary
Current Events Club
1317-19 N. Broad St.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Madam:

Several complaints have reached us against your holding meetings in our Building, through members of the F.B.I. and otherwise. Today they advise us the Rev. Gerald Smith is to speak here this evening.

I am compelled under the circumstances to cancel the lease, and advise you that we cannot permit your meeting here this evening if Mr. Smith is to be present or deliver an address.

Very truly yours,

/s/ C. B. Helms

State Secretary, P.O.S. of A.

CBH?MIH

P.S. We made efforts to reach you by telephone all afternoon. Your phone did not answer.

COPY

3

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8BTS/mlm

JKM:ECD

RECORDED

62-43818-703

April 26, 1945

Mr. Gerald L. K. Smith
Post Office Box 459
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letters dated April 18 and April 19, 1945, with enclosures.

You may be assured that the assumptions you set forth in your letter of April 18 are correct; i.e., no representative of this Bureau has at any time attempted to coerce the management of any building to prevent your speaking in Philadelphia or engaged in any activities designed to deny an American citizen his civil liberties.

I appreciate your bringing this matter to my attention so that you will have no question concerning the policies of the FBI.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc - Philadelphia (with incoming)

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DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8TJMC

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
APR 27 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. A. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nease
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

MAY 8 1945 367

NO FORM NO. 64

Office-Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. Ladd

DATE: April 26, 1945

FROM : J. K. Mumford

Call: 11:50 am
JKM:CAB

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Candy

At the above time I spoke with SAC Sears, Philadelphia Field Division regarding the captioned individual. Mr. Sears stated that at no time was Helms told by an FBI agent that Smith was to speak at a meeting of the Current Events Group. Helms' only information on this was a telephone call and he has stated the wording of his letter to Mrs. Lillian Parks was incorrect. Mr. Sears furnished the details as follows:

Last summer, Special Agent [redacted] of the Philadelphia Office, called on Helms. At the present time [redacted] is on a plant and was on his way to that plant and could not be reached by noon. [redacted] visited Helms concerning the Current Events Group, the Blue Star Mothers. During the conversation, [redacted] is reported as saying the group was reportedly anti-Semitic, reportedly pro-Nazi, and as having intimated that the Patriotic Order Sons of America would be better off without this group. Mr. Sears stated that although he has not yet talked personally to [redacted] he does not think [redacted] would have intimated the Patriotic Order Sons of America would be better off without the above group. [redacted] More recently, [redacted] looked over the place, but did not return and made no comments concerning the Current Events Group.

b7c

b7c

Helms had numerous telephone calls regarding the Current Events Group and progressively became annoyed with this matter. On April 13, 1945, he received an anonymous telephone call from a [redacted] (phonetic), who said that Gerald L. K. Smith was going to address the group meeting that night. Helms then decided it was time to take some action and wrote the letter, a copy of which is in the Bureau's possession, to Mrs. Lillian Parks which was handed to the group when it arrived that night. The balance of the rent was refunded and the lease canceled.

b7c

Earlier on April 13, 1945, Helms called [redacted] Secretary to Mayor Samuels, and advised him of the telephone call and said, "You'd better send some squad cars and detectives up here tonight." [redacted] had told him this group was a trouble maker and had been put out of the Adelphia Hotel. Helms does not recall any visit by [redacted] or others of the Anti-Defamation Council.

b7c

HANDLED
STOP

Regarding Mr. Helms' letter to Mrs. Lillian Parks dated April 13, 1945, stating "Several complaints have reached us against your holding meetings in our building, through members of the FBI and otherwise. Today they advise us the Rev. Gerald Smith is to speak here this evening", Helms stated the agent made no actual complaint as such but did state the group was reportedly anti-Semitic and reportedly pro-German. Helms further advised that if this group was being investigated by

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F B I
APR 28 1945

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DATE 10/1/72 BY SP-8 EX-2

30 JUN 7 1945

the FBI, as was obvious, he wanted to and still does want to cooperate. He said his use of the word "complaint" in his letter is unfortunate and not exactly correct. He stated he was at no time told by an agent that Smith was to speak, his only source of information being the above-mentioned telephone call.

Helms received a telephone call on April 25, 1945, from [redacted], who stated her husband was a member of the Patriotic Order Sons of America. She stated the Current Events Group consisted of all good Catholics and nice people and she argued generally in their favor.

b7c

Helms sent a letter yesterday to Mayor Samuels, stating he canceled the lease of the Current Events Club and that he had talked to [redacted] who had advised that this group was put out of the Adelphia Hotel, which was not the case. Helms stated in this letter that he had been approached by Christian elements and asked for an explanation; further, "I can only say that agents of the FBI had advised me they were pro-Nazi but my informants tell me this is not the case but they are a group of Catholic ladies.....opposed to the so-called New Deal and to some extent in opposition to radical Jewish elements." Helms stated he wants to give everybody a fair chance to have his say.

Mr. Sears stated he was not worried about Helms' letter to the Mayor since the Philadelphia Office is very friendly with the Mayor's office. Mr. Sears stated in conclusion that the situation can be summed up as set out in the first paragraph of this memorandum.

I advised Mr. Sears that it would not be necessary for Special Agent [redacted] to submit an explanation but he should be admonished against being indiscreet in his questionings.

b7c

ACTION:

Attached for your approval is a suggested reply to Smith.

Attachment.

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DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8B75/ac

INDEXED IN
PUBLICATION
FILES

Gerald L. K. Smith

[illegible] Detroit [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] put under
the [illegible] of one who is friendly to
the Nazis. If I would do [illegible]
in one [illegible] at the U.S.O. Detroit to get
rounded up the Angeles of Germans who
are friends of the President, some of
them born in Germany and are very
dangerous. Why not give the public the
privilege of making such reports?

FILE 95

RECORDED & INDEXED
62-43910-7053
170 23 [illegible]

FILE 95

[redacted]

52 MAY 24 1945

b7c

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

_____

_____

☒ For your information: Per your March 18, 1982 letter this enclosure was not xeroxed for release.

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818 - 705 Enclosure

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

DETROIT FILE NO. 62-1126

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	4/19/45	2/9;3/13;4/2, 16/45	b7c [redacted] EJG

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; AMERICA FIRST PARTY	FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Since his return from Texas several months ago, BERNARD LOMAN has been living at his former Detroit address, 603 Philip Street. Is reported to be planning to set up a shop for mimeographing and printing and is known to be in contact with his former employer GERALD L. K. SMITH for the purpose of obtaining business from SMITH. Records of Michigan Secretary of State indicate certification of candidates filed by America First Party on August 3, 1944 which includes SMITH as nominee for President.

- P -

REFERENCES:

Bureau File 62-43818

Bureau letter dated January 30, 1945 to Washington Field Division copy to Detroit Field Division.

Teletype from Detroit Field Division dated April 2, 1945 to the Bureau.

Bureau letter dated April 9, 1945 to the Detroit Field Division.

DETAILS: AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

P

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: R. A. Guerin SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-706

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
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3 Detroit

cc Clark by memo 4-30-45 expt: fab

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205 OCT 15 1964

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DATE 10/14/82 BY SP8B15/MC

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, confirms what [redacted] has stated concerning DOMAN and indicates that DOMAN has been in frequent contact with SMITH and apparently is on excellent terms with him. DOMAN has not, however, given any indication that he will again go to work for SMITH as his Secretary and [redacted]

b7D

In connection with the various reports, which the Subject SMITH has been required to file with Campaign Expenditures Committees of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, Informant ZMT states that SMITH has recently been preparing an additional report for submission to one of these Congressional Committees although Informant did not know which one. In the same connection SMITH recently advised his wife to have DON LOHBECK, his former Secretary who is at present in a Conscientious Objector Camp in New York State but who was in Detroit for a few days recently, to "sign his name to the bottom of three or four blank pieces of paper so when they send in that report, they can have his signature on it." Informant believed that the report, which SMITH was referring to, was the above-mentioned report being sent to the Congressional Committee.

Investigation by Special Agent [redacted] at Lansing, Michigan, indicates that the certification of candidates filed by the AMERICA FIRST PARTY with the Michigan Secretary of State at Lansing, Michigan, on August 3rd contains the name of GERALD L. K. SMITH as the Party's nominee for President of the United States. The certification states that each candidate listed thereon has been notified of his candidacy and is agreeable to such nomination. The certification, which is dated August 2, 1944, is apparently signed by KENNETH C. WEBER as Chairman and RENATA LEGANT as Secretary and is notarized by JAMES F. KEATING, Notary Public for Wayne County, Michigan.

b7C

[redacted] of the Compiling Division of the Secretary of State Office, advises that G. T. HARTMAN, Deputy Secretary of State at Lansing, Michigan, is the proper person to subpoena in the event it is desired that the above-mentioned certification be produced in court. The above information concerning this certification was furnished to the Bureau by the Detroit Field Division by letter dated February 10, 1945. b7c

In view of the information set out in the reference teletype and the reference Bureau letter dated April 9, 1945, DOMAN is not being interviewed at present and no further action is being taken by the Detroit Field Division in this matter pending receipt of advice from the Bureau as to whether or not DOMAN should be interviewed.

- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At DETROIT, MICHIGAN, will conduct such further investigation in the instant matter as may be specified by the Bureau.

-PENDING-

LPB:FVB
62-43818-706

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark April 30, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1925

Reference is made to my memorandum dated April 20, 1945, wherein you were furnished information relative to the above captioned matter.

For your further information, there is enclosed herewith a copy of the investigative report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] dated April 19, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan.

b2

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 12/12/82 BY SP-8B7 Jah

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 96
APR 30 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAY 2 1945

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI.

DATE: April 26, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

In furtherance of the information contained in Detroit Field Division letters of April 3 and 17, 1945, relative to the activities of the Subject SMITH, it has been learned that the meeting of his followers which SMITH will hold in Salt Lake City will be at the Hotel Utah on May 3, 1945, at 8:00 p.m. It is believed that this will be a rather small meeting and probably no more than one hundred persons will attend.

Arrangements for the meeting have been made through [redacted] and [redacted] of Salt Lake City. b7c

As requested in the letters above referred to, the Salt Lake City Field Division will arrange for covering and reporting this meeting but it is again being pointed out that this coverage should be effected solely through informants and no Agents should attend such meetings.

No surveillance of Subject SMITH is desired during his stay in Salt Lake.

[redacted] b7c

62-1126
cc - Salt Lake City

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F B I

50 MAY 2 1945

EX-8

Five EKB

7 MAY 19 1945

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: May 5, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

We are in receipt of a letter dated April 13, 1945 from the St. Louis Field Division requesting advice as to whether recordings made of a meeting held by the Subject SMITH in St. Louis on February 17, 1944 should be retained or may be destroyed by that Office. The St. Louis letter states that a full account of the meeting was set out in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 6, 1944 at St. Louis, Missouri. b7c

? ultimate ?

In view of the fact that any decision as to alternate prosecution of the Subject will possibly be made by the Department, the question of whether the evidence referred to in the St. Louis Field Division should be retained is being referred to the Bureau for a decision and it is requested that the St. Louis and Detroit Field Divisions be advised as to what decision is arrived at by you.

[redacted] b7c

62-1126

cc: St. Louis

SAC, Detroit cc St. Louis
6-2-45 EPB/ay

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP1BTJ/ma

HANDLE

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-708

F B I

13 MAY 8 1945

EX-38

EPB:aop

62-43818 - 128

SAC, Detroit

June 2, 1945

RECORDED

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

EX - 8

GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

Reference is made to your letter dated May 5, 1945, requesting advice as to whether the recordings made of the meeting held by subject Smith in St. Louis, Missouri, on February 17, 1944, should be retained or destroyed.

Inasmuch as we are still actively investigating Smith, it is not desired that these records or any other evidence relating to this case be destroyed or otherwise disposed of at the present time.

cc-St. Louis

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8BTS/MC

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

aop

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 13
★ JUN 2 - 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

51 JUN 8 1945

EPB

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JWP:HS
100-17175

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: April 6, 1945

FROM : GUY HOTTEL, SAC WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1925
Bureau file 62-43818

Reference is made to Bureau letter to this office dated March 20, 1945 requesting a revision of the undated report of Special Agent [redacted] made at Washington, D.C. the period for which was February 7, 8, 14, 1945 to include only information relating to GERALD L. K. SMITH and the America First Party in connection with the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925. b7c

There are transmitted as enclosures to instant letter pages 1,4,7, 14,and 17 which should be inserted in copies of this report by offices receiving this letter. The four copies of the report which were returned to this office by the Bureau have been revised and are also being transmitted herewith to the Bureau as an enclosure to this letter together with the revised pages for the additional copy of instant report which was retained at the Bureau.

The Detroit, New York and San Antonio Field Divisions are being transmitted respectively 3, 2, and 1 revised copies of corrected pages to instant report. Also being transmitted to the Bureau herewith are the additional enclosures listed in the revised copy of instant report. Copies of instant reports in the Washington Field Division have been revised in conformity with Bureau instructions.

This matter is being considered Referred Upon Completion to the Office of Origin.

Encls. — pgs. were inserted in report previously submitted EPB

cc - Detroit
New York
San Antonio

[redacted] Attm

ENCLOSURE

Encl. behind file 6-13-45

ENCLO. BEHIND FILE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SR3857/MDEDD

62-43818-709

MAY 5 1945

EX-18

FILE EPB

memo clerk
4-26-45
EPB

EPB:mva
62-43818 - 709

RECORDED

EX-16

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark — April 20, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1925.

Reference is made to my memorandum dated March 24, 1945, with which you were furnished a copy of the investigative report submitted by Special Agent [redacted], dated March 2, 1945, at San Antonio, Texas. This report, you will recall, set forth information to the effect that the America First Party was properly registered in Texas as a political party.

Inquiry by the Bureau's Detroit Office has disclosed that Gerald L. K. Smith was the official candidate of the America First Party in Michigan in the recent Presidential election. There is on file with the Secretary of State at Lansing, Michigan, the certificate of candidates filed by the America First Party under date of August 3, 1944. This certificate of candidates includes Smith as nominee for President. The certificate is signed by Kenneth C. Weber, Chairman, and Renata Legant, Secretary, and was notarized by James F. Keating, Notary Public, Wayne County. [redacted], Compliance Division, Secretary of State's Office, has advised that G. T. Hartman, Deputy Secretary of State, Lansing, Michigan, is the proper person to subpoena in connection with this matter.

For your further information, there is enclosed herewith a copy of the investigative report prepared by Special Agent [redacted] at Washington, D. C., on April 6, 1945, as well as photostatic copies of the enclosures listed on page 17 of this report. In your examination of Special Agent [redacted] report, you will note on page 13 information is set forth to the effect that under date of January 13, 1945, Smith communicated with [redacted] Clerk of the House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., furnishing him a statement of receipts and expenditures of the America First Party from November 7, through December 31, 1944. Smith at the same time also explained the reason for his delay in filing this statement.

In view of the fact that the America First Party has been determined to be a political party and since the reason for Smith's failure to file the statement required of political parties on January 1, 1945, has been ascertained, you are requested to advise whether further investigation should be conducted in this matter. In the event you are desirous of further investigation, I would appreciate your advising me whether you believe Bernard Doman, Smith's former secretary, should be interviewed. In this connection it should be noted that Doman is again in contact with Smith and attempting to secure Smith's printing business for his new printing establishment. Because of this business association and also because Doman no longer has access to Smith's books and records, it does not appear that he would be able to or would willingly furnish any information of value to this investigation.

Enclosures

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

APR 21 1945

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
F B I

Exit

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b1, b7c, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-710

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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

TELETYPE

MAY 5 1945

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FBI SALT LAKE CITY 5-5-45 9-50 AM FR

DIRECTOR AND SACS SAN FRANCISCO AND DETROIT URGENT

WOVE. GERALD L. K. SMITH, AMERICA FIRST PARTY - INTERNAL SECURITY, SEDITION. SUBJECT, HIS WIFE, AND HIS SECRETARY RENATA LEGANT, FEMALE, LEFT SALT LAKE CITY VIA UNION PACIFIC TRAIN NUMBER THIRTY THREE AT ELEVEN NAUGHT FIVE PM, MAY FOURTH, NINETEEN FORTYFIVE. THIS TRAIN CONNECTS WITH SOUTHERN PACIFIC TRAIN NUMBER TWENTY ONE, LEAVING OGDEN, UTAH, FIVE AM MAY FIFTH, AND SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE SAN FRANCISCO SIX FIFTY AM, MAY SIXTH. SUBJECT AND WIFE OCCUPY COMPARTMENT B, CAR NAUGHT ONE NAUGHT. LEGANT OCCUPIES LOWER FIVE, CAR NAUGHT ONE NAUGHT. SUBJECT STATED HERE IN PRESS CONFERENCE HE WAS GOING TO SAN FRANCISCO AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF AMERICA FIRST PARTY AND WAS TO HEAD A STAFF OF TWENTY ONE PERSONS COVERING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PEACE CONFERENCE FOR THIS PARTY. HE ALSO CLAIMS HE IS TO SUB MIT A CONFIDENTIAL REPORT ON PEACE CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES TO TWENTY THREE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, INCLUDING SIX SENATORS. HE PLANS TO REMAIN IN SAN FRANCISCO FOR APPROXIMATELY FIVE WEEKS, WHEN HE WILL RETURN TO DETROIT, MAKING STOPS EN ROUTE FOR SPEECHES AND CONFERENCES AT VARIOUS POINTS WHICH HE CONSIDERS STRATEGIC. IT IS KNOWN HE PLANS TO STOP IN SALT LAKE CITY ON HIS RETURN. SUBJECT HAD NO HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS SAN FRANCISCO AT TIME OF DEPARTURE FROM SALT LAKE CITY. HOWEVER, AN ADVANCE AGENT IS SUPPOSEDLY ARRANGING FOR SAME AT PRESENT TIME. IDENTITY OF THIS

4-750 (2-7-79)

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- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
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- ____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): _____
- [ ] For your information: _____
- [x] The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: 62-43818-712 & 713

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
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FBI/DOJ

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation DATE: May 1, 1945

FROM : Tom C. Clark, Assistant Attorney General TCC TCC:SPM:esw 146-28-43

SUBJECT: Gerald L. K. Smith; America First Party
Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hoover
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Miss Candy

It appears from your memorandum of April 20, 1945, that the America First Party filed with the Clerk of the House of Representatives on January 15, 1945, the statement of receipts and expenditures which should have been filed on January 1, 1945, pursuant to the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925.

With the filing of this report by the America First Party there remains only a technical violation of the statute for failure to file this report on January 1. Inasmuch as it does not appear that a successful criminal prosecution could be based on such a technical violation, no further investigation is desired in this matter. The Department's file on a possible violation of the Corrupt Practices Act is being closed.

~~[illegible]~~ [illegible]

HANDLED BY
S[illegible]SK

Link memo forward left. Detail
[illegible] 5-18-45

RECORDED 162-43818-714
FBI
39 MAY 8 1945

EX-23

FILE 28B

EPB:mm
62-43818 - 714

SAC, Detroit

May 19, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director - Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; AMERICA FIRST PARTY
Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925

Reference is made to the investigative report submitted by Special Agent [redacted], dated April 1, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan, in the above-captioned matter. b7c

You are advised that this report was furnished the Criminal Division of the Department for its consideration in conjunction with the others made available in this case and an opinion as to whether further investigation was desired. By memorandum of recent date, advice was received as follows:

> "It appears from your memorandum of April 20, 1945, that the America First Party filed with the Clerk of the House of Representatives on January 13, 1945, the statement of receipts and expenditures which should have been filed on January 1, 1945, pursuant to the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925.
>
> "With the filing of this report by the America First Party there remains only a technical violation of the statute for failure to file this report on January 1. Inasmuch as it does not appear that a successful criminal prosecution could be based on such a technical violation, no further investigation is desired in this matter. The Department's file on a possible violation of the Corrupt Practices Act is being closed."

In view of the above expression of opinion by the Criminal Division, no further investigation is desired for the purpose of developing a Corrupt Practices Act violation against the subject or his America First Party. However, you should continue to follow Smith's activities and those of his organization in the case captioned, "Gerald L. K. Smith, The America First Party; Internal Security, Sedition."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8BTJ/kw

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Miss Tamm
Miss
Miss

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
MAY 21 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAY 12 1945

EPB

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

CONFIDENTIAL

SL... FILE NO. 100-6013

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SAINT LOUIS	5-11-45	4-26,27-45	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject SMITH held an America First Party meeting April 24, 1945 at the Kiel Auditorium, Saint Louis, Mo.; attendance approximately 800. Subject assailed the British, the Russians, the "Jewish Communists," "the international conspirators," as well as U. S. [illegible] policy. Substantial collection taken and SMITH advised he would return to Saint Louis to report on the San Francisco Conference.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED TO SEP(S) DATE 5-5-[illegible]

REFERENCE: Letter from Detroit to the Bureau dated 4-3-45.

CLASS BY SP-T BTS/mh

DETAILS: At Saint Louis, Missouri:

DATE OF REVIEW DADR 10/1/80

GERALD L. K. SMITH held an America First Party meeting April 24, 1945 at 8 p.m. in the Kiel Auditorium, Hall No. 2, Saint Louis, Missouri. Admission was by card only. The attendance was approximately 800 persons.

[redacted]

b7D

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE: H. B. Norman

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES: 62-43818-1715

RECORDED & INDEXED

EX-58

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5 - BUREAU
3 - DETROIT
2 - SAINT LOUIS

COPIES DESTROYED 205 OCT 1 1964

F B I MAY 14 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED DATE 10/28/97

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☐ For your information: _____

_____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-715 p. 2+3

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FBI/DOJ

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

b1

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

* * * * * * * * * *

The Saint Louis Star-Times dated April 25, 1945 carried the following comment concerning the SMITH meeting on April 24, 1945:

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

GERALD L. K. SMITH IN REPEAT PERFORMANCE HERE; 700 ATTEND

GERALD L. K. SMITH, the self-styled "rabble-rousing" leader of the America First Party, went through his act again last night, this time for the benefit of about 700 followers, most of them middle-aged women, at Kiel Auditorium.

Attendance at the meeting, in Assembly Hall No.2, was supposed to have been limited to invited members of the party, but a woman who said she was attached to SMITH's "headquarters" here called the Star-Times yesterday, said she was speaking for SMITH and that he would like to have a reporter present. So a reporter who had seen SMITH in action many times before went.

It was a typical SMITH show, with a few new names added to to the SMITH blacklist. The chest-beating, arm-flailing, bellowing "nationalist" leader assailed the British, the Russians, the "Jewish Communists," the "international conspirators."

His Comment on Truman.

He spoke disparagingly of President TRUMAN as "a good politician who will try to please most of the people regardless of how it is done," and of the late President ROOSEVELT, who was one of his pet hates, he said:

"FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT's death was hastened by his inability to get the American people to swallow Yalta, the crime of the Crimea."

He said Premier STALIN forced an agreement on ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL "to bring slavery to Europe, slavery for millions of Germans who destroyed Europe but who are no more to blame for HITLER than I am for the New Deal."

Delegates at the Bretton Woods "steal," he said, "schemed to build a $10,000,000,000 kitty to bribe the delegates at San Francisco, both below and above the table, so an ungodly set of rascals and international thieves and connivers and international bankers could seize control of the world."

CONFIDENTIAL

"The whole scheme," he continued, "is to expand the British Empire and communize Europe, with the United States underwriting both projects."

Klaxa Tariff Policy.

He told the audience, which at times became almost hysterical in its enthusiasm, that the British maintain a lobby in Washington to keep tariff rates down and that, as a result, the British would "flood St. Louis with Czech shoes," (he never explained how) and that many St. Louisans would be thrown out of work.

He said the U. S. must pay the Australian government $3 for every tree knocked down by American guns "in any British possession in the Pacific, even though it is held by the Japs."

He said Independence, Mo., hometown of President TRUMAN, is famous for two things: "For HARRY S. TRUMAN and JESSE JAMES. I hope we have had enough of JESSE JAMES." Later, he added, "Only God can save HARRY TRUMAN from the international conspirators."

At the conclusion of the meeting, the reporter asked SMITH how he would handle the Germans when victory comes in Europe. "In the usual military manner," he replied, and wouldn't elaborate.

Copies of the April, 1945 issue of "The Cross and The Flag", "The Chicago Christians Victorious", and a pamphlet entitled, "Stop Peacetime Conscription" were obtained and are being retained in the Saint Louis file.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION
TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 41

PAGES REVIEWED: 90

PAGES RELEASED: 81

NOTES: _____

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR CONSIDERATION
AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

William D. Hassett
Secretary to the President

[redacted]

May 6, 1945.

President Truman
Washington, D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP8BDT/ALC

Dear Mr. President

I hope it is not presumptuous of me to write you, if I intend upon you very busy program I hope you'll forgive it. I had an experience here in Chicago that rocked the ground from under me and feel legal action must be taken.

In some way, I know not how, I received an invitation to attend a meeting at the La Salle Hotel on April 22. Dean E. Smith spoke on "Imperialism, the Cause of War." I knew the subject matter would be reactionary, but I like to hear both sides of the story, was all unsuspecting. But when Gerald K. Smith was introduced I knew I was in the wrong place. However, I remained. The Star Spangled Banner was sung twice, the flag was spread of over the entire back of the speaker's platform. Gerald K. Smith said he was for Jesus

Gerald L. K. Smith

GERALD K. SMITH

RECORDED
INDEXED
SERIALIZED
FILED
MAY 16 1945

[redacted]

the Constitution of the U.S. for the American flag. There were about 200 people present & they were mostly elderly women - but some elderly men. It was supposedly given under the auspices of Com. of Veterans World War II. But young Frederick Kistler, the chairman, was the only Veteran. Suddenly he pointed his finger & arm at someone in back & shouted "There are two Jews in the back" They happened to be two little Jewish sailors sitting in the last row. "Can they deprive us of our Free Speech?" Shouts of NO from the audience. "They are trying to take our country from us. Are we going to let them?" Again a chorus of NO. Still shaking his arms at them & yelling he cried "The Jews caused this war!" "There they are." "You with sons in the service, those Jews killed your sons!" The audience shouted, some said "Tar & feather them." An old man in front of me said "Someone ought to tear them to pieces!" I and my companion were trembling with fright. Those faces as they turned & shouted at the boys were so bestial & distorted I can still see those horrible expressions, all turning & looking backward. The two little sailors sat & said nothing!

I am a respectable maiden lady of 5 3/2
I have travelled around the world + seen
many things but I had to live to see
this in the city I was born in + my
parents before me! It was unbelievable.
And those two boys in the uniform of
their country + the war not yet completely
won!

My companion + I left in the middle of
Smith's speech + went to a nearby phone +
called the police to send protection up to
the hall in the La Salle Hotel (Chicago's loop).
The woman who answered the phone said
she would send someone to investigate!
I said "I investigate nothing. Send two
plain clothes men up there to protect those
boys!" I don't know if protection arrived or
what was the end of the meeting, but I
was so afraid. I felt I was being followed +
watched all the way down the street. Even
now I tremble to think of it + am afraid
to say I attended the meeting. I am Jewish
but do not look it or I might have been
attacked - who knows? This rabble-rousing
certainly should be stopped!!! The crowd
laughed at the mention of the F.B.I.
Hissed Roosevelt. The way they chorused in
unison makes me believe, on looking back,
that there must have been paid claques
in the crowd. Kirsten said "Should we

have, no meetings? "Should we meet all over the country?" Chorus of "Yes." It was like the organized Nazis transplanted from Germany to Chgo. Like a movie scene in a newsreel. With the precision of practice.

If this goes on now, during the war, it will break loose in wild riots when the war is over & the boys get back looking for jobs. The enclosed envelope, with a small pencil inside, was handed me to leave one present. I understand that the twin of leaflets against the Jews were handed out in San Francisco, no doubt by Smith.

I favor a bill of right in the World Conference, but we certainly need it enforced here too. Libel against a group should be punished as well as libel against a person. Anyway, threatened violence to law abiding people is a terrible thing. I know, I've seen it. And it should not be permitted to continue just because people shout "free speech." Aren't the Jews entitled to free speech too? ~~But those boys~~ were afraid to utter a word & so was I. Those people looked ordinary, but when aroused looked like beasts capable of anything! I saw fascism in action there & it should not go on.

You have been doing wonderfully well, so far, Mr. President; please do something about the matter, too. Very sincerely,

A Constituent.

b7c

[redacted]

[redacted]la
62-43818-716

b7c

39666

May 29, 1945

[redacted]

b7c.

Dear [redacted]

Your communication dated May 6, 1945, addressed to the President has been referred to this Bureau for consideration and acknowledgment.

I have carefully reviewed the content of your letter and want you to know that I appreciate very much your interest and courtesy in making this information available to the Government.

In the event you receive information in the future which you believe to be of interest to the FBI, I want you to feel free to communicate with me or with the Special Agent in Charge of our Chicago Field Office, which is located at 1900 Bankers' Building, Chicago 3, Illinois.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE [illegible] BY [illegible]

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Egan
Hendon
Pennington
Quinn Tamm
Mease
Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 13
★ MAY 29 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

10AR

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 14-7 MK

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	4-24-45	4-6, 7, 10-45	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, was.; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G; SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: ~~STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

On 4-8-45 at Iroquois Room, Statler Hotel, Buffalo, N.Y., SMITH addressed the Eastern Monetary Congress; meeting under sponsorship Buffalo Economics League. Congress characterized as subsidiary of America First Party. Literature of America First Party distributed at meeting, about 150 persons present. Essence of SMITH'S remarks set out.

- R U C -

REFERENCE: Letter from SAC, Detroit to Director, dated April 3, 1945.

DETAILS: AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK

[redacted] b7c b7e

advised that the Eastern Monetary Congress was meeting under the local auspices of the League at the Statler Hotel on April 6, 7 and 8, 1945. [redacted] said that GERALD L. K. SMITH was scheduled to address the meeting on Sunday, April 8, 1945, and that SMITH was not expected to arrive in Buffalo prior to that time. He advised that he

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10-19-81 BY SP7 MA/JC #68.444

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: J. B. Welch SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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EX-18

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had not followed the matter very closely inasmuch as he was not interested in hearing SMITH and that he did not wish to attend the meeting. He said that league literature indicated that CARL H. MOTE of Indianapolis, RALPH KEELING, Chicago, Illinois, Mrs. ARLEALA JOHNSON of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, MARTIN CROWE of Cleveland, Ohio, and JACOB S. COXEY (General COXEY of Coxey's Army fame) were also scheduled to address the Congress. [redacted] said that he understood that JOSEPH STOFFEL, Chairman of the Buffalo Economics League and JOHN G. SCOTT and EDWIN LUNDQUIST of the same organization, were handling arrangements for the meeting of the Monetary Congress. b7c b7D

The Buffalo Evening News for April 9, 1945, reported also that the following individuals were in attendance at meetings of the Congress:

JOHN McLAREN of Boston, Massachusetts
LAWRENCE ZIMBARIS of Salamanca, New York
Rev. W. S. WERNER of New York City
Mrs. ANNA WEIDEMAN of Washington, New Jersey
Mrs. MONA MANNING, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
S. R. HOUSE, Detroit, Michigan
Mrs. SAMUEL GEDDIS
Mrs. JACQUELINE BROCKNER
Rev. MICHAEL ANSTETT
(the latter all of Buffalo, New York).

It is to be noted that the newspaper account referred to characterized CARL H. MOTE as the GERALD L. K. SMITH of Indiana.

[redacted] of the Statler Hotel, advised that his records reflected that the Eastern Monetary Congress had been booked for meetings in the Iroquois Room of the Statler for April 6, 7 and 8. He said the booking was made through [redacted] of the Union Central Life Insurance Company, 904 Liberty Bank Building, Buffalo, residence address 98 Comstock Avenue, of the same city. The booking of the Iroquois Room was at $25.00 per day and meetings were to run through the entire day of each of the dates stated from 9:00 a.m. [redacted] said that the meeting was under local sponsorship of the Buffalo Economics League and that a request had been made for a room accomodating three hundred persons on Sunday, April 8, 1945. [redacted] said that the Iroquois Room would accomodate only approximately one hundred twenty-five persons. He advised the hotel was unable to furnish other accomodations for the organization and that therefore the Iroquois Room was to be used for all three days of the meetings. He said further that it was not until Saturday morning that it was ascertained that GERALD L. K. SMITH was to address the meeting on Sunday, April 8, and that on that day the hotel received a request from SMITH for a reservation of a conference room at day rate only; that SMITH expected to arrive early Sunday forenoon and to depart the same day. [redacted] said that no b7c b7D

program for the meetings had been made available to him, and that apparently the meetings were closed affairs and not open to the public. He said that he could furnish no further information concerning the nature of the meetings of the Eastern Monetary Congress or data concerning SMITH'S plans. He referred the writer to [redacted] at the Statler who had handled the booking.

[redacted] stated that he was unable to supplement the information furnished by [redacted] in any detail except that [redacted] mentioned above, had requested that billing for the accomodations in the Iroquois Room be made to him. He said further that he had observed in passing the Iroquois Room a person was stationed at the door and that no one except certain individuals, probably members of the Buffalo Economics League, were admitted. [redacted] advised that he started to enter the Iroquois Room when the meetings were in session on Friday afternoon and that the person at the door immediately asked him to identify himself; that he made no further effort to ascertain what was going on at the meeting. He stated that at this time, however, he overheard someone move the meeting to vote confidence to GERALD L. K. SMITH, who was to address the meeting on Sunday.

[redacted] advised that he had no further information concerning the prospective meeting at which SMITH was to appear. He stated that he had noted that General JACOB S. COXEY of COXEY'S Army fame, had opened the Congress. He said further that the Courier-Express did not wish to give any but nominal publicity to SMITH'S appearance in Buffalo, but that he personally wished to be cooperative with this office in furnishing any information that he could relative to SMITH and said that a very capable reporter would attend the meeting on Sunday and make a detailed report for his own files on SMITH'S remarks and that this report would be made available to this office.

Subsequently [redacted] furnished to the writer the report of [redacted] reflecting that SMITH addressed the meeting of the Eastern Monetary Congress on Sunday afternoon, April 8, 1945. The audience was comprised of approximately one hundred and fifty middle-aged men and women. [redacted] reported to [redacted] that before he was able to enter the meeting room he was asked to present credentials and in addition was required to obtain permission from JOSEPH H. STOFFEL, Chairman of the Buffalo Economics League, presiding at the meeting. [redacted] reported that seated at the speakers' table were STOFFEL, SMITH, MRS. STOFFEL, MRS. SMITH, CARL H. MOTE of Indianapolis, JOHN G. SCOTT, identified by SMITH in his speech as the "apostle of monetary reform", and Gen. JACOB S. COXEY, Sr., who related his 1893 "March on Washington".

ALL b7c, b7D

b7c
b7D

Following is the report which [redacted] made to [redacted] relative to SMITH'S remarks at the meeting:

"In opening his talk, SMITH told delegates he was not unmindful of the honor bestowed upon him to speak before the Eastern Monetary Congress, although, while flinging a few bouquets to Gen. COXEY, STOFFEL, MOTE, and others, SMITH readily admitted he was 'a layman, not a student of money.' He added it would be ridiculous for him to pose as a student of money, emphasizing, however, that 'any American should be able to say I favor constitutional money,' one of the monetary reforms proposed by COXEY.

"Still giving pats on the back, SMITH called SCOTT the apostle of monetary reform, with 'character in his countenance, a man who made himself a slave to the truth'. Then, he said: 'My job is to recruit large masses of the people in the cause of nationalism. I am not ashamed of America First and nationalism. The word 'First' is an honorable word.'

"With a change of pace, SMITH charged that the press had been trying to smear him, and that the editor of the Courier-Express libeled him to the extent of saying he jumped on the American flag. But with Godly men, like STOFFEL and his compatriots, SMITH said, 'we shall preserve the four freedoms in Buffalo.'

"One of the few statements SMITH made with reference to the monetary congress currently meeting in Buffalo was that he favored constitutional money, adding that 'we cannot have constitutional money if we divide our sovereignty with Russia, England, France, and other countries.'

"SMITH said, 'we have a crew in Washington which steered us through Bretton Woods, Dumbarton Oaks, and later this month, will do it again at San Francisco, a crew that would make Benedict Arnold look like a Sunday school teacher when it comes to organized treason.'

"Then he charged that ROOSEVELT was buying up mayors all over the country with the people's money, the 'product of our own sweat and tears.' He charged that 'never has there been, including even Napoleon, Ivan the Terrible, the Czars, Caesar, and Nero, such an exploitation of the wealth of the people as we have experienced in the last 12 years. He told of political maneuvering in Congress as a result of which bridges were built in the desert of Florida in expectation of the canal which was to run underneath, but that after the spans were erected, the deal fell through, and left the people with useless bridges.

"He charged that at the United Nations conference, President ROOSEVELT hopes to rush through the Bretton Woods proposals, with

the aid of 'stuffed-shirt STETTINIUS.' He said also that FDR wants to be the first president of the world superstate, and that the president and his 'crew of international financiers, connivers, bankers, and others' will use the people's wealth to create a superstate, and thereby make the people the slaves of the world.

"SMITH ridiculed the Atlantic charter, and said that in a moment of weakness, FDR 'forgot himself for a moment and told the truth,' and confessed that there was no written document as the Atlantic charter. SMITH said this country sent, 13,000,000 to fight for what we thought was the Atlantic charter, and then after 1,000,000 have died, be told there is no charter.

"'I am ashamed,' said SMITH, 'that there are gutless Americans who do not rise in indignation.'

"SMITH then listed what he termed his 'chorus'; the Bretton Woods steal, the Dumbarton hoax, the Crime of Crimea, and the San Francisco sellout.

"Tacking again, SMITH then turned his attention to the foreign situation, asserting that HITLER was able to invade the Low Countries and France, only because he had STALIN'S assurance that Russia would not strike at her back. SMITH said that 'STALIN crawled into bed with HITLER, and told him 'go to it.'

"But, added SMITH, as always happens, thieves eventually fall out, and HITLER invaded Russia, and America found itself in alliance with the Soviet. At this point, SMITH Said, EARL BROWDER who, heretofore, had been kicked from pillar to post for his Communistic ideas, suddenly emerged as 'the patron saint.' 'It is strange how illegitimate children come back to roost on our front porch.'

"SMITH said that ROOSEVELT released BROWDER from penitentiary to promote 'national unity', but implied that it had been conveniently maneuvered so that BROWDER was released just before the presidential election in order to swing more votes FDRs way.

"Jumping back to the Crimean conference, SMITH asserted that 'at their worst, the Prendergast, Hague, and Kelly-Nash machines smelled like violets in the spring in comparison to the smell in the backroom at Yalta when they sold the blood of your boys and mine."

"SMITH scored the voting arrangement whereby England was to have six votes, Russia 3, and the United States only 1. He said that 80 out of every 100 men fighting, and 90 out of every 100 dying were Americans.

"Not only are they going to set up a superstate at San Francisco, said SMITH, but FDR also has agreed that STALIN can veto anything if it doesn't suit his particular fancy.

"SMITH said the "most arrogant confession' he had ever heard was the statement attributed to BERNARD BARUCH on his arrival in London, when BARUCH told a London newspaperman that 'I am here to swing the big stick.' 'Why should he swing any stick,' asked SMITH. 'We didn't elect him to any thing.'

"The internationalists want two things from the superstate which is to be created at the United Nations conference, SMITH said. He listed these as the increase of taxes of the American people, and the use of between 2 and 4 million American men as a world police force.

"Then in his most persuasive tone, SMITH said: 'As long as there is a pulse in my wrist, blood in my veins, spirit in my soul, and self-respect, no foreign power shall ever give the order to send your son and mine to his battle death.'

"SMITH said it will be at least 3 to 4 years before American boys will return home, even if the war were to end that same night. He attributed this to the fact that England will be using her ships to regain her world commerce, and too busy to transport the men back to this country.

"'I say when we have put the enemy to flight, bring our boys back home,' said SMITH.

"He said then that the U. S. was paying 46 million dollars to England as rent for airfields in India 'to save England.' Commercially, he said, we have been run out of the Mediterranean, and no airplanes will be permitted in that area without England's permission.

"He said that we paid England 86 million dollars as rent for British ships to carry American soldiers to Europe to 'save England.'

"SMITH said the U. S. spent 6 billion dollars to buy goodwill in South America, a goodwill that we do not now possess. He charged that the San Francisco conference is being speeded up because they do not want to risk the resentment of 13,000,000 American soldiers.

"SMITH then related supposedly true stories of conversations with discharged veterans who, in their desire to return home, did not make the proper arrangements about claims. He said that one soldier he talked to, received only $11 in mustering out pay. At this point, SMITH very vaguely implied that doctors in the military

were applying a new technique whereby they would play on the serviceman's desire to leave the service as quickly as possible upon receipt of medical discharge that they often neglect to do anything about claims until it is too late.

"SMITH said he was taking an America First delegation to San Francisco, adding that it did not make any difference whether he was permitted to attend the meetings or not, since there were going to be 1,200 newspapermen covering the conference. 'If you hang around them long enough', he said, 'one is bound to spring a leak.' He termed the conference an 'attempted sellout.'

"He announced that he had established a Nationalist News service with about 81 periodicals receiving the service.

"SMITH said he had one man in Washington who goes in and out of the White House every week, and then coyly added, 'I can't tell you his name.' He said that FDR is getting to be 'theold man', and that politicians were playing up to Vice-President TRUMAN, apparently figuring that in the event of FDR's death, TRUMAN will become president. He intimated, however, that HARRY HOPKINS was the 'big man.'

"He listed as 'friends in the press on our side', the Chicago Tribune, New York News, and Washington Times-Herald.

"SMITH said the scheme being used against him and his followers has been the denying to them of meeting places. He related then his meeting in Chicago on March 15th, when a Jewish bloc vowed he would not speak in the city, and that of 21 auditoriums sought, each one refused to allow him to use the hall. The meeting was held however, in a labor union auditorium which was given a pre-meeting dousing with "stench-bombs."

"The Jews of America, said SMITH, should not fight against America First, because it is in America that there is any hope of survival for them."

The published newspaper accounts reflected nothing concerning the meetings or of the address by SMITH in addition to that set out above, except that it was noted that the Buffalo Evening News for April 7, 1945, characterized the group as related to America First, and in the Evening News report of April 9, 1945, Mr. LAWRENCE ZIMBARIS referred to the Congress as a "subsidiary of the America-First Party".

[redacted] stated also that America-First literature consisting of the platform of the America-First Party, the Cross and the Flag, and other items published by the Cross and the Flag were distributed at the meeting. b7c b7D

BU 14-7

ENCLOSURES TO DETROIT: Flyer entitled "WARNING", signed GERALD L. K. SMITH, facsimile signature.

February issued of the "CROSS AND THE FLAG".

PLATFORM of the America-First Party.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

4-750 (2-7-79)

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ESB:mn

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL TOM C CLARK May 9, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director - Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY

EX-18 - 717

Reference is made to our previous correspondence concerning the above-captioned matter.

For your further information in connection with this case, there is attached herewith a copy of the investigative report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] dated April 24, 1945, at Buffalo, New York, captioned as above.

b7c

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6-19-81 BY SP4 MAC
#88.444

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
MAY 9 - 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUN 2 1945

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[redacted]

May 17-45.

Office of the F.B.I.
Washington D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/82 BY SP-8CIS/AC

Gentlemen:-

I am enclosing an article taken from the Reader's Scope magazine of March, ult. This may seem like child's play on my part in sending you this, as your office is no doubt well informed on all such items. The author states, however, in the last paragraph, page 23, that such activities might well receive the attention of the Federal Government. That is my reason for taking this course. Respectfully

RECORDED & INDEXED
EX-28 62-43818-71
MAY 25 1945
EX-23

[redacted]

★★ They don't stop and they don't wait, these people who want to undermine American Democracy. Now they're after the veterans!

VETERANS BEWARE!

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/13/82 BY SP8BTJ/MC

Kevin Mullen

On October 2, 1944, a soldier stepped off a train at Buffalo, walked out of the station and took a cab. Nobody paid any attention to him; he was just another soldier, a somewhat plumpish chap of medium height with a nondescript face. But he was not just another G.I. on his way to attend to his own or his government's business.

This was George Vose, advance scout for Gerald L. K. Smith, "nationalist" leader and rabble-rouser extraordinary. And his business had interesting implications for all of us.

Vose came to Buffalo to contact and organize mustered-out war veterans under Gerald L. K. Smith's leadership. As this is being written, Vose is working in the Detroit area, doing what he did in Buffalo—setting up a "central committee" of seven ex-servicemen in every city where he can find seven unsuspecting veterans from among the thousands now coming out of the armed forces. Up until December, Vose was still in the uniform of the Army, and he, as well as Smith, was carefully hiding the fact that he had been dishonorably discharged on charges of attempted embezzlement. He had been unceremoniously dumped by the Army last summer after being released from Fort Custer Hospital, Battle Creek, Michigan, upon recovery from a minor leg ailment. On August 29, 1944, Gerald L. K. Smith trotted Vose out on the platform of the "first national convention" of the *America First Party*, which Smith heads.

Vose was accepted with hysterical applause by Smith's key organizers as head of the drive to set up the "Nationalist Veterans of World War II." Then Smith took Vose with him on a country-wide tour, introducing him to native fascist leaders. In September, he brought him east and introduced him at rallies held in Baltimore, Philadelphia, Buffalo and Boston. Following each rally, Smith and Vose met with a handful of the most active local "nationalists" and laid the groundwork for a return tour by Vose during which Vose could meet secretly with ex-servicemen gathered together by local leaders.

Vose went first to Buffalo, then to Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore. In each city he established the framework for postwar organization among the returning war veterans, setting up Smith's "central committees" of seven picked

-718

"That this nation under God shall not perish from the earth"

Protestant War Veterans

United States

148 VERMILYEA AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

Terramare Office.
KronenstraBe I.
Berlin, Germany

July 28th-1939.

Gentlemen:—

Many thanks for the books on Hitler and the New Germany, they are already out in circulation, I gave them away at meetings I was addressing on the subject of keeping America out of another alliance with Great Britian and France and going to war against Germany.

If you writers and newspaper people over there in Germany only knew how hungry the American people were for the real news from your Country, you would see that this was supplied them...and I dont mean German Americans.

The American people...are being fed a lot of lies, but they don't know how or where to get the truth, I feel that it is your duty over there to get it over to them here.

Send me any other literature that you have on hand.

Cordially Yours,

Edward James Smythe

Above is a reproduction, (set in type for the purpose of legibility) of a letter written by Edward James Smythe which shows how he cooperated with the Nazi propaganda services. The original letter is at the offices of Reader's Scope.

ex-servicemen already discharged from the armed forces.

Smith's method of enticing servicemen is subtle and appealing. The fourth clause in Smith's *America First Party* platform reads: "*Veterans:* American money for American veterans! Stop the foreign looting of our public treasury. $1,000 each for mustered-out veterans having served one year, with proportionate sums for those who have served more or less. Extensive program for education, rehabilitation and employment. Stop international boondoggling. We are spending on the South Americans alone enough to give $1,000 bonus to 6 million veterans.

"Veterans should have the first chance to homestead land confiscated by the Federal Government after those who have suffered mortgage foreclosures have had an

opportunity to repurchase."

While Smith thus lays the groundwork through his speeches, circular letters and personal contacts, his agent Vose is busy setting up the actual machinery for a returned-veterans organization.

But they didn't have the field to themselves. In this business of trying to recruit veterans there is competition among the American fascist leaders. Long ago Charles E. Coughlin got the jump on Smith in this crusade. The Detroit priest works in a more subtle, but equally effective fashion. Early in 1942 he launched a scheme to line up the servicemen by the formation of his "St. Sebastian's Brigade."

Up until November 1944, Coughlin had enrolled more than 400,000 servicemen into this organization, meanwhile collecting about $700,000! His operation works thus: mothers, wives and sweethearts of servicemen are urged to "enroll" the names of their loved ones at Coughlin's Royal Oak shrine. The "contribution" for each name enrolled averages $3. In return, Coughlin prays to St. Sebastian, the soldiers' patron saint. He contacts the men whose names have been enrolled by mail, sees that the women constantly write the boys about Coughlin's concern for their physical and spiritual safety.

Viewed superficially, one can see no harm in Coughlin's professed solicitude for the soldiers. But those familiar with his past activities and the critical attitude of the Federal authorities toward his banned publication *Social Justice*, have good reason to believe that his ultimate purpose bodes no good either for the servicemen or the country at large.

Another smooth operator, Joe McWilliams (who has tangled with the law on numerous occasions), also uses the real or imagined grievances of servicemen for his own purposes. He and his aides have circulated tens of thousands of leaflets calling for a flat $7,800 bonus to each mustered-out serviceman, and he makes it seem reasonable by demanding elimination of government appropriations for what he calls "boondoggling New Deal projects."

McWilliam's $7,800 mustering-out pay plan got a tremendous boost when the *Chicago Tribune* lauded the "plan" in its May 6, 1944 issue. McWilliams promptly reprinted the *Tribune's* laudatory spread and sent it to servicemen's mothers all over the country. He calls his come-on racket the "Servicemen's Reconstruction Plan." He gets all the money he needs from wealthy fascist-minded members of the Chicago Lincoln Park chapter of *America First* which refused to disband after Pearl Harbor.

At a meeting of his followers in Kimball Hall, Chicago, a few months ago, McWilliams boasted of his servicemen's plan: "Already we are making progress in Chicago, Milwaukee, in Detroit. Soon we'll sweep the country like wildfire . . ."

Each of the leaders of this movement—Smith, Coughlin and McWilliams—uses the issue of mustering-out pay as a snare for the servicemen. The desire of the ex-soldiers for a substantial financial start when they return to civilian

NOVEMBER, 1944

EDITORIAL COMMENT

by Gerald L. K. Smith

VETERANS! VETERANS! VETERANS! We are now getting ready to organize the veterans of this war into an organization known as the Nationalist Veterans of World War II. If you know a veteran of this war who is a Nationalist, send his name in at once so that he can be informed when the time comes to launch the campaign for expansion. Send the names of all veterans to THE CROSS AND THE FLAG, Box 459, Detroit, Michigan and we will see that the names are turned over to the organization committee headed by George Vose, recently mustered out of the army hospital at Fort Custer.

The above editorial comment is taken from Gerald L. K. Smith's notorious anti-war, anti-semitic, anti-United Nations magazine, THE CROSS AND THE FLAG. It appeared on page 471 of the November, 1944 issue.

life is understandable and no patriotic American will begrudge them all that America can provide. Unfortunately, however, many servicemen will probably be misled by the irresponsible promises held out to them by men like Smith, Coughlin and McWilliams. The extravaganzas outlined by these demagogues have no basis in reality. They are economic fallacies. They are not realizable objectives (such as the GI Bill of Rights) and are put forward obviously for purposes other than safeguarding the interests of the returning soldiers.

It is the classic technique of the demagogue to promise large sums of the government's money at some future date while he takes in the money of the unsuspecting for his own account now.

William Kulgren, a lesser light, is another who has ambitious postwar plans. One of the defendants in the recent Washington, D. C. sedition trial, Kulgren publishes *America Speaks*, an incredibly vicious paper which is widely circulated. Kulgren's line is preachment of outright falsehoods to the World War II servicemen and their families, declaring that President Roosevelt knifed World War I veterans and fought against the 1935 soldier bonus bill. Kulgren appeals to the servicemen and their families to join his anti-semitic movement and band together to assure proper bonus pay for the soldiers of this war. Naturally, he proposes to head the movement.

Others such as Edward James Smythe, also a sedition trial defendant, are busily shouting the phony merits of their own outfits. Smythe heads the Protestant War Veterans, headquarters at 148 Vermilyea Avenue, New York City. He proposes to exclude all Jews and Catholics.

Smythe launched his outfit to inveigle Klan-minded veterans of World War I, but he plans to get in on the World War II racket unless the government puts him in a Fed-

eral penitentiary. He makes no bones about his postwar plans and says so publicly. Even the Federal courtroom where he was being tried, along with twenty-seven others, was not too sacrosanct for such boasting on the part of Smythe. He is not over-subtle, and the accompanying reproduction of his letter, on the letterhead of his Protestant War Veterans, addressed to "Terramare Office, Kronenstrabe I, Berlin," is an indication of Smythe's methods.

The fifth column has selected America's motherhood as its chief means for reaching the minds and hearts of our fighting men, and an unusually effective method this is proving to be! Investigators of the fascist network have dubbed this mothers' movement "momism." Over half a million mothers of soldiers have been ensnared in the "Mothers" racket, and while many are fascist-minded by distorted convictions, the great majority are simply innocent women who have been edged into the growing movement by other mothers who have received their baptism in the old roaring days of America First, the Christian Front and similar groups.

Native fascist chiefs, like Gerald L. K. Smith, boast that when our 11,000,000 servicemen are mustered out, they will seek leadership of the "nationalists." This is nonsense. The overwhelming majority of our boys in the services are patriotic, democracy-loving Americans and they will spurn these overtures. But it would be a mistake to underestimate the destructive abilities of Smith, Coughlin, Kulgren, McWilliams and their female counterparts who head the "Momism" movement. They don't expect the majority, or even a sizeable minority, of the servicemen will adhere to their destructive principles when they come home. They will be satisfied if they can influence and organize one serviceman out of every few hundred; a storm troop mob of 50,000 to 100,000, organized into well-knit companies throughout the country will more than satisfy them. Hence such activities as Mr. Vose's and others of his kind at the present time. The framework is now being established.

The native fascist leaders yearn for chaos after the war. They dream of strikes and brutal strike suppressions. They chortle with glee while the war continues and our boys overseas are fed with anti-labor propaganda by our newspapers and other publications, for that enrages GI Joe and prepares his mind for the things the fifth column chiefs plan when he returns home.

The agitation of the Smiths, Coughlins and the rest can be counteracted most effectively by a broad educational campaign aimed to show their spiritual links with the foes of our nation, together with a constructive job-program to give economic security to returning veterans. Meanwhile, their activities might well receive the attention of the Federal Government's law-enforcement agencies.

* * *

Aladdin's Lamp Is Lit Again

Waldemar Kaempffert

★ Postwar electronics will shop for you, cook for you, transport you, bring you the hand-clasp of a distant friend—do just about everything but kiss your girl and raise your babies!

Condensed from Argosy

REMEMBER Aladdin's Wonderful Lamp? Remember how, whenever it was rubbed, Aladdin's slave made a palace spring from the ground or produced bags of precious stones?

The lamp is here. You can buy one for as little as twenty-five cents or as much as $1,250, depending on what you expect of it.

Of course, it will not build palaces overnight or present you with diamonds. But it will cook for you and rock the baby. It will detect a burglar climbing your porch, see through fog, stop an elevator at the right floor. It will open the garage door so you can drive in. It will cure *some diseases.*

This Aladdin's Wonderful Lamp is the electron tube. It comes in about two thousand different types and sizes. Look inside your radio set and you will see at least two types. They are little bulbs, and they glow with a dull light. Why are they called electron tubes? Because they juggle electrons.

And what are electrons? Particles *much smaller than the smallest* atom. A current in a wire is a flow of electrons. A flash of lightning is a sudden burst of them. Electricity comes in electrons. It took about two thousand years of experimenting and thinking to find that out, and now that it has been found out we have the electron tube, the most important, the most versatile, the most sensitive, the most useful tool ever invented.

To put electrons to practical use as electricity they must be torn out and set free. Heat does that. You can heat a piece of iron until it glows white and thus release electrons, but you can't do anything with them. Shoot a minute electron into the air and it is stopped at once by a gigantic air-atom, as if by a wall. Hence the first step is to get rid of the air. That is why tubes are necessary—vacuum tubes. Inside a tube is a filament much like the electric lamp on your desk. Turn on the current to heat the filament, and the electrons are shot out like bullets at a speed that may be anything from 25,000 to nearly 186,000 miles a second. You see now why the tubes in your radio glow. It is not the light that is wanted, but the heat that goes with the light—the heat that drives out electrons from the filament.

Some way of controlling electrons is needed before they can be put to work. There is also a metal grid and a metal plate within the tube. Between the two is the filament. The electrons stream from

Copyright 1944, Popular Publications, Inc., 205 East 42nd Street, New York, N. Y.

[redacted]

RECORDED

718

June 2, 1945

EX-72

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

This will acknowledge receipt of your communication dated May 17, 1945, with enclosure.

The material which you have submitted has been carefully reviewed, and I want to thank you for your interest and courtesy in writing to this Bureau. In the event you receive additional information which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, I want you to feel free to communicate with the Special Agent in Charge of our Saint Louis Field Division which is located at 423 United States Court House and Custom House, Saint Louis, Missouri.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/23/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

b7c

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
JUN 2 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUN 12 1945

Federal Bureau of Investiga...

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
May 8, 1945

DECLASSIFIED BY 6
ON

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - Sedition
(62-43818 and ~~[illegible]~~)

[redacted] b7c

Dear Sir:

The following is pertinent information received from [redacted] b7D
[redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, concerning the Subject's activities during the period from April 21 to May 6, 1945, inclusive.

SMITH left Detroit on the evening of April 21st for an extended trip to the West Coast during the course of which he made speeches to his followers at meetings held in Chicago, St. Louis, Denver, and Salt Lake City. He planned to leave Salt Lake City at 11:40 p.m. on May 4, 1945, and was to arrive at San Francisco on the morning of May 6, 1945. Informant did not know where SMITH planned to stay while in San Francisco but believed he would receive his mail at the St. Francis Hotel in that city. He plans to spend several weeks in San Francisco "observing" the activities of the United Nations Conference now being held there. While on this trip he has maintained contact with his Detroit office by mail and long distance telephone and has continued to direct the operations of the office. b7c

He is continuing publication and distribution of various types of literature. The pamphlet "Whose Concept Is It?", supposedly written by a Mrs. BERTHA GLEBE of Dayton, Ohio, has received wide distribution through his sources recently as has a book written by "Americanus" dealing with post-war settlements. His monthly magazine "The Cross and the Flag" ran 11,000 copies for the May issue and informant believed that these copies were all used in distribution to subscribers and contributors.

Among his donors informant noted [redacted], and [redacted] Informant learned that on April 26, 1945, SMITH's donations through the mail totaled $19.50 and on May 2 and 3 the contributions were $22.00 and $23.00 respectively. SMITH has received mail in recent weeks b7c

COPIES DESTROYED
205 OCT 13 1954

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/82 BY [illegible]

50 MAY 31 1945

62-43818-719

FILED

Letter to the Director
May 8, 1945

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH,
with aliases; THE
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY -
Sedition

from Senator NYE, Congressman WOODRUFF of Michigan, Congressman HAGEN, HARRY TRUMAN, who was SMITH's candidate for vice president on the America First Party ticket last fall, [redacted], and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. SMITH told informant that this latter letter was in reply to one which he sent to J. Edgar Hoover recently relative to allegedly discriminating against SMITH, in Philadelphia. Informant did not learn the contents of this letter. The letter was forwarded to SMITH at San Francisco.

Informant stated that on April 24, 1945, SMITH's office received a call requesting that SMITH contact [redacted], phone [redacted]. This information was relayed to SMITH at St. Louis by wire.

SMITH has indicated to informant that some "little newspapers" are now printing items distributed by his newly organized Nationalist News Service. He also told informant that he was making a list of the people who had answered a questionnaire which he sent out some time ago, one of the questions of which inquired as to whether the person could come to Washington if SMITH requested him to do so. SMITH stated he was saving these names since he would "need them for the debates in Washington". Informant did not learn what debates SMITH had in mind but believed probably he had reference to the discussions which would occur in Congress when that body considered the proposals presented at the San Francisco conference.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]
62-1126

AL
b7c

4-750 (2-7-79)

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XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

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62-43818-720

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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: MAY 22, 1945

FROM : SAC, KANSAS CITY

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Reference is made to the letter of April 3, 1945, from the Detroit Office to the Bureau, a copy of which was furnished to this Field Division.

A review of newspapers and inquiries of other sources of information in Kansas City have failed to indicate that GERALD L. K. SMITH held a press conference at Kansas City, Missouri.

In the event information is received at a later date concerning any activities of SMITH in the Kansas City Field Division, the Bureau, as well as Detroit, will be immediately advised.

This case is being continued in a referred upon completion status in this office.

[redacted] b7c

100-3598
cc - Detroit

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/13/82 BY [illegible]

RECORDED

62-[illegible]-721

EX-44

MAY 24 1945

57 MAY 29 1945

4-750 (2-7-79)

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62-43818-722

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

67D

Chicago Christians Victorious

ATTEMPTED BLOODSHED IN CHICAGO

On the 15th of March Christian Americans in Chicago took up their crosses in behalf of their Christian ideals. As many of the readers of this magazine know, Communists, anti-Christians and certain hysterical Jewish elements in Chicago, announced to the world that I would never be permitted to speak in Chicago again.

BRIEF STATEMENT OF WHAT HAPPENED

Our Chicago committee rented Temple Hall, owned and operated by a unit of the American Federation of Labor and of the Chicago Federation of Labor. This did not mean that these groups were underwriting my philosophy of life—it did mean, however, that these outstanding labor leaders favored the Constitution of the United States, which guarantees to all law-abiding Americans freedom of speech and freedom of assembly.

The moment that our meeting was announced, J. I. Fishbein, editor of the Sentinel (largest English language Jewish weekly in America) inaugurated a campaign of character assassination and vilification, the like of which I have not experienced since the assassination of Huey Long.

First, the Chicago Labor Union received over 200 telegrams, many of which threatened bloodshed. The Union also received telephone calls threatening the destruction of their building if I was allowed to speak.

The Union called a meeting of their membership and announced that they were going to take a stand on the side of free speech and free assembly. They said that they were not underwriting the philosophy of Gerald L. K. Smith, but they were underwriting his right to speak and the right of his people to assemble.

This decision on the part of the local union made Fishbein and his compatriots furious. A compilation of the names of those who sent the threatening telegrams and the messages of protest reveals that they were 93% Jewish. I have the name of every one of these individuals in my personal file.

GUNMEN INVADE TEMPLE

On the afternoon before the night of the meeting, three hoodlums broke into the Temple, which as a building is a thing of beauty, assaulted the janitor with a gun and exploded six stench bombs. They warned the janitor that there must *not* be a meeting that night. Threatening telephone calls continued to pour into the Union Hall. The building was guarded during the remainder of the afternoon by 25 police, some with sawed-off shotguns. In the meantime our Chicago committee, with the co-operation of the police, used a counteracting chemical on the building, and the effect of the stench bombs was destroyed.

LYNCH MOB ARRIVES

At 8 o'clock a mob moved in and attempted to take the hall away from our America First people. They were armed with counterfeit tickets which were readily detected. They formed a picket line and [illegible] chorus—"Down with Smith"—"Hang Smith"—"Shoot Smith"—"Kill Smith"—"To Hell with Smith." Their language was so vicious that it reminded me of a familiar language which many of us have been reading from the New Testament recently, especially in studying the psychology that was developed among the mobs shortly prior to the crucifixion of our Lord. It must be remembered that the same evil mentality which crucified Christ, now desires to crucify everything that looks Christian—even Christian Americanism.

Our people refused to be intimidated. They came in and filled up the hall. I was escorted to the platform by two veterans of this war, while deep in the hearts of Mrs. Smith and myself was the thought of our only son, Gerald, Jr., who has been a casualty twice in this war, and is now in a hospital in Burma.

The meeting was opened by Mr. Frederick Kister, a veteran of this war with an honorable discharge, who spoke fifteen minutes and presented me. I spoke for two hours and fifteen minutes, devoting my message to the same principles as are enunciated in this magazine.

SENSATIONAL FACT!

While I spoke, the mobsters outside (at least 90% Jewish) knocked most of the windows out of the building, even in spite of the police. The audience did not move, but sat in rapt attention.

The place was guarded by at least 50 police, and more than 100 were prepared for an emergency call. I warned the good Christians assembled that a move was on foot to agitate our people beyond self-control. I urged them to be peaceful and not respond to the vulgar insults of this uncouth mob.

It is a fact, however, that as our people left the hall, they were actually spat upon. Even so, they made no response to these insults. The enemy had failed to incite our good people to riot.

Shortly before the end of the meeting I received a message from the police detectives to the effect that they were convinced that there was a definite plot to do me great injury, perhaps kill me. A car, well guarded by police, met us at the stage door and Mrs. Smith and I were returned safely to the hotel. The meeting had been a great triumph for Christian Americanism.

The above is a mere outline of the story. I will discuss other details in my monthly letter which goes out to loyal supporters all over the United States.

AN APPEAL TO JEWS

Surely there are Jewish leaders in America whose attitudes are not represented by the Chicago Jewish *Sentinel*. Surely the employment of the threat of bloodshed and the actual use of stench bombs, bricks, stones, and guns is not pleasing to all Jewish leaders.

I challenge the Jews of America who love peace and who seek goodwill to seize leadership and repudiate such men as J. I. Fishbein, and those who formulate the editorial policy of the Chicago Jewish Sentinel.

Mr. Fishbein is now engaged in a campaign to smear the officers of the American Federation of Labor (Chicago unit) and to brand as Nazis and traitors all Christian Americans who believe in the principle of America First. God save America. God save the Jews from the leadership of such men as J. I. Fishbein of Chicago.

Gerald L. K. Smith

Important Note: If anyone reading this article does not receive my monthly letter and would like to receive the letter which will contain more details concerning the Chicago episode, as well as other activities, please make a written request to me, and I will send you the full letter dealing with the Chicago situation.

This circular may be had in quantities at the following rates:
100 copies, $1.00 — 1000 copies.

Address communications to GERALD L. K. SMITH, POST OFFICE BOX 459, DETROIT 31, MICHIGAN.

ENCLOSURE 62-43818-72

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

EPB:mn

-723

SAC, San Francisco

May 21, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director - Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
Internal Security; Sedition

Reference is made to your teletype dated May 12, 1945, wherein you advised that [redacted] Your teletype also requested advice as to the action, if any, desired of your office in connection with this matter.

b7

[redacted] However, you should continue to keep the Bureau and the Detroit Field Office advised of Smith's activities while in San Francisco

b7

cc - Detroit

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mr

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
MAY 21 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

To: 62-43818 COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

ROUTINE

Transmit the following message to:

MAY 25, 1945

SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

GERALD L. K. SMITH, THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY, INTERNAL SECURITY, SEDITION. REBURLET MAY TWENTYONE, LAST. IMMEDIATELY SUBMIT REPORT REFLECTING RESULTS OF COVERAGE SMITH'S ACTIVITIES TO DATE. DEPARTMENT PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN DATA SHOWING POSSIBLE VIOLATION SECTION FIVE, TITLE EIGHTEEN, USC.

HOOVER

CC: DETROIT (BY MAIL)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/13/82 BY SP-8875/mkw

-724

SENT VIA 5-19 P M Per

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
May 31, 1945

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

DECLASSIFIED BY [illegible]
ON [illegible]

Dear Sir:

[redacted] b7

A copy of this letter is being sent to the San Francisco Field Division and to the Los Angeles Field Division in order that they may be advised of SMITH's present whereabouts and ultimate plans and may in turn advise the Bureau and the Detroit Field Division and any other interested field divisions upon learning of SMITH's plans for the return trip to Detroit.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

cc - Los Angeles (AIR MAIL)
San Francisco (AIR MAIL)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/13/82 BY [illegible]

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

RECORDED
INDEXED
28

EX-44

50 JUN 4 1945

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

FROM : J. K. MUMFORD

DATE: 5:30 p.m., 5-26-45
JKM:lem

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA - Current Events Group

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. T
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Koser
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumfor
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

I called ASAC Hinze at Philadelphia and referred him to a call I made to SAC Sears on April 26, 1945, about a letter we had received from Gerald L. K. Smith, in which he alleged we had done something about his civil liberties, enclosing for us a copy of a letter written by the State Secretary of the POS of A to Lillian Parks, Secretary of the Current Events Club, in which Helms said that "several complaints have reached us against your holding meetings in our building through members of the FBI and otherwise," and therefore Smith stat he was compelled to cancel the lease. Hinze was advised we answered Gerald L. K. Smith, but before doing so I called SAC Sears and asked him whether anybody up ther had "put the bite" on the management about having these meetings. Sears said that SA [redacted] had visited [redacted] concerning that group last summer, and that it was alleged that he had said to Helms apparently that the group was anti-Semitic, pro-Nazi, and that the POS of A might be better off without them; however, [redacted] at the time was on a plant, Sears had not had a chance to talk with him, but stated he would talk to him and ascertain whether he actually said anything or not.

Mr. Hinze was told that now Lillian Parks has written in demanding an explanation of the same kind and referring not only to the letter from the POS of A but also to the letter we wrote back to Gerald L. K. Smith; that we had received a teletype from Philadelphia dated May 25th, pointing out that the National Blue Star Mothers of America were to have a meeting at which they were going to have Helms testify t he had to cancel their lease because of FBI pressure.

I instructed Mr. Hinze to call the Bureau by 10:00 a.m. Monday, clearing up the following matters: 1. The Bureau should be furnished the results of the interview with the Agent - did he or did he not tell Helms they would be better off without this group, etc. What about the allegation another Agent is supposed to have contacted him more recently, visited the janitor and looked over the place, but made no comments concerning the Current Events Club? 2. Philadelphia wire of Ma 25th says they were to have a meeting and have [redacted] testify as to the pressure of the FBI. What happened to the meeting?

For his further information, ASAC Hinze was advised we had a teletype from San Francisco stating they had picked up information that Gerald L. K. Smith, apparen in referring to a magazine article, said that one feature should be a photostatic copy of the Philadelphia letter, and one of the "J. Edgar Hoover letter" with the background story.

ACTION: ASAC Hinze said he would check on this matter and call the Bureau.

RECORDED 162-43818-727

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/80 BY SP-8BKS/mk

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/19/82 BY 8834 SMC

TO : MR. D. M. LADD DATE: 9:55 a.m., 5-28-45

FROM : J. K. MUMFORD JKM:lem

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA (Current Events Group)

Mr. Tolso
Mr. E. A.
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffe
Mr. Glevi
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nich
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carso
Mr. Hendo
Mr. Mumfo
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Tele. Roo
Mr. Nease
Miss Beah
Miss Gand

ASAC Hinze called from Philadelphia, pursuant to my request, to furnish information regarding the allegations made by Gerald L. K. Smith and by Lillian Parks, Secretary of the Current Events Club that the FBI had brought pressure on the POS of A to cancel leases in their hall held by Smith and by the Current Events Group.

Hinze stated SA [redacted] had furnished the following data: Some time last May or June, [redacted] went to see Helms, told him we were interested in the Blue Star Mothers, who had at that time made arrangements to meet at the POSA Hall under the name of the Current Events Club [redacted] Helms asked why were we investigating them, and [redacted] says he generally told him they were a holdover from the pre-Pearl Harbor America First Committee and had apparently the same aims. [redacted] said he believed he also told him they were believed to be contacting servicemen and talking to them in such a way as to try to make them less enthusiastic about fighting the war. Helms at that time showed [redacted] the lease that they had signed and asked [redacted] if he wanted to have them thrown out, and [redacted] said that he did not want that; that he was pleased to have them permanently located somewhere where we could watch their activities. [redacted] pointed out his contact with Helms was just after William Lyman, one of the 33 seditious conspiracy defendants, had come to Philadelphia and had made an inflammatory speech to the women, and as a result the Bureau had given instruction to follow their activities as closely as possible. Mr. Hinze stated he assumed [redacted] when he went up there, gave them as little information as he possibly could to what we were doing; that they had checked and ascertained [redacted] was the only man that actually had contact with Helms; that [redacted] didindicate something about the na of their organization and some of their aims, but in talking to Helms, he said, he was very circumspect; that he did not make any charges that they were unpatriotic or that they were seditious or anything like that (that was what we were [illegible]

Mr. Hinze stated this meeting was held last Friday - a hearing before Judge Curtis W. Bok, Common Pleas Court, and a temporary injunction was issued restraining the Patriotic Daughters of America from preventing the Blue Star Mothers (Current Ever Club), from having their meetings there (in the POSA Hall). Helms did not testify at all; it was all done by the Blue Star Mothers. Parks in her testimony said the Helms had told her that FBI men were hanging around on fire escapes and in closets Later on, one of the informants said she also made the statement (but there seems be some question as to whether she gave this as testimony or whether it was just a statement made out loud in the court room later on) that the FBI had put pressure on the mayor in this matter. Mr. Hinze stated letters had been forwarded to the Bureau by Philadelphia indicating this thing all seems to have occurred following

JUN 7 1945

appearance of Parks in the mayor's office, objecting to a certain United Nations Council Meeting in Philadelphia and indicating that Mayor Samuels, who has a Jewish secretary named Rosenberg had been putting some pressure on her. [redacted]

Mr. Hinze quoted parts of Philadelphia letter to the Bureau dated May 2, 1945: [redacted]

ALL
b7D

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tam
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gavin
Mr. Lead
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tam
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Lillian Parks, Secretary,
Current Events Club,
1113 S. 54th St.,
Phila., 23, Pa.

May 14, 1945.

John Edgar Hoover, Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
United States Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/82 BY SP8BCL/mb

My Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of a letter this morning from the Reverend Gerald L. K. Smith enclosing a photostatic copy of a letter dated April 26th from the Federal Bureau of Investigation over your signature. You state in your letter to Mr. Smith that at no time have you ever attempted to interfere with an American's right to his civil liberties. In this connection, we would like to point out to you that due to pressure being brought by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Mayor's office in Philadelphia we have been denied our constitutional right of free speech. In fact, our lease has been terminated by the P.O.S. of A. because, so they state, we were having the Reverend Gerald L. K. Smith as a speaker at our meeting.

I am enclosing herewith a copy (photostatic) of a letter received from the P.O.S. of A., which definitely points to the Federal Bureau of Investigation as being the prime factor in causing us to lose our inalienable right of free speech and free assembly.

RECORDED

We would welcome any investigation you would care to make, and if you find we have been amiss in our understanding of our fundamental rights as free Americans, we stand ready to pay the full penalty. The alternative would be a clean bill of health by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Very respectfully,

(Mrs) Lillian Parks
Secy

ack 53/3 5 21

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JKM:EOD

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: May 28, 1945

FROM : D. M. LADD

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA (Current Events Group)

Mr. Tols
Mr. E. W
Mr. Clem
Mr. Coff
Mr. Gav
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nich
Mr. Rose
Mr. Trac
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Cars
Mr. Hend
Mr. Mumf
Mr. Jone
Mr. Quin
Tele. Ro
Mr. Neas
Miss Bea
Miss Gan

Set forth below is a brief summary of recent developments involving Gerald L. K. Smith; the Blue Star Mothers of America (Current Events Group); the latter's landlord in Philadelphia, one C. B. Helms, State Secretary of the Patriotic Order Sons of America; and the Bureau.

Under date of April 13, 1945, C. B. Helms, State Secretary of the Patriotic Order Sons of America, which has a building at 1317-19 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, addressed a letter to Mrs. Lillian Parks, Secretary, Current Events Club, same address, stating: "Several complaints have reached us against your holding meetings in our building, through members of the FBI and otherwise. Today they advise us the Reverend Gerald Smith is to speak here this evening. I am compelled under the circumstances to cancel the lease and advise you that we cannot permit your meeting here this evening if Mr. Smith is to be present or deliver an address." Mrs. Lillian Parks, [redacted] promptly sent a copy of the letter received from Helms to Gerald L. K. Smith, who forwarded a copy to you with a letter containing the following comment:

"1. There had been no arrangement for me to speak in Philadelphia as the letter suggests.

"2. I am convinced that no representative of your Department attempted to coerce the management of the building referred to in an attempt to prevent my speaking in Philadelphia.

"3. I have confidence in you to believe that you would not participate in any plan to deny an American citizen his civil liberties.

"It is my personal opinion that someone in Philadelphia is impersonating a representative of your Department."

RECORDED
EX-6

A check was made with SAC Sears at Philadelphia, who subsequently advised that in connection with the investigation the Bureau has had pending for some time relative to the Blue Star Mothers of America and its group using the name Current Events Club, [redacted]

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205 OCT 13 1960

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8 CTJ/mlm

b7c
b7d

Memorandum for the Director

[redacted] Special Agent [redacted] has advised he told Helms we were interested in the Blue Star Mothers as a general matter because they were alleged to be a holdover from the pre-Pearl Harbor America First Committee and were contacting servicemen and talking to them in such a manner as to make them less enthusiastic about fighting the war. He recalled that Helms showed him the lease the Current Events Club (Blue Star Mothers) had signed and asked Agent [redacted] if he "wanted to have them thrown out," whereupon [redacted] specifically said he did not want that and, in fact, expressed the opinion that he was pleased to have them permanently located somewhere where we could watch their activities. [redacted]

In view of the contents of Helms' letter to Mrs. Lillian Parks, SAC Sears had Helms contacted, and Helms stated that he had numerous telephone calls regarding the Current Events Club and progressively became more and more annoyed; that on April 13, 1945, he received an anonymous telephone call advising him that Gerald L. K. Smith was going to address a group that evening and he thereupon decided it was time to take some action and wrote the reference letter. Also on the same date Helms called [redacted] Secretary to Mayor Samuels of Philadelphia, and advised him of the telephone call and suggested that squad cars and detectives be sent there. [redacted] then told Helms that the instant group were trouble makers. Helms also advised that the wording of his letter to Mrs. Parks was not exactly correct in that the FBI Agent who had contacted him had made no complaint about the group but had merely stated it was reportedly anti-Semitic and reportedly pro-German. He also stated that no Agent had told him Smith was going to speak but that his only information was the above-mentioned telephone call. It was also learned at that time that Helms also sent a letter to Mayor Samuels referring to his conversation with [redacted] in which he said: "I can only say that Agents of the FBI had advised me they were pro-Nazi but my informants tell me this is not the case but they are a group of Catholic ladies..... opposed to the so-called New Deal and to some extent in opposition to radical Jewish elements." Mr. Sears stated that he would see to it the letter to Mayor Samuels caused no embarrassment. It does not appear from the above that the actions of the Bureau Agent were in any way improper but, on the contrary, he handled the matter very discreetly [redacted]

A reply was thereupon prepared to Gerald L. K. Smith acknowledging his letter and stating:

"You may be assured that the assumptions you set forth in your letter of April 18 are correct; i.e., no representative of this Bureau has at any time attempted to coerce the management of any building to prevent your speaking in Philadelphia or engaged in any activities designed to deny an American citizen his civil liberties. I appreciate your bringing this matter to my attention so that you will have no question concerning the policies of the FBI."

A report has just been received from Salt Lake City, which covered a meeting addressed by Gerald L. K. Smith on May 3, 1945, at which he said he had that morning received your letter of reply quoted in the paragraph immediately above. He commented to the audience that he was personally acquainted with you and then read your letter. He commented that it was "a fine letter" and said, "Give Mr. Hoover a hand," whereupon there was enthusiastic applause for you.

On May 25, 1945, a teletype was received from San Francisco advising that [redacted] b

Under date of May 14, 1945, a letter was received addressed to you over the signature of Mrs. Lillian Parks, Secretary, Current Events Club at Philadelphia, enclosing a copy of the letter referred to hereinbefore dated April 13 from Helms cancelling the lease and in which she referred to the above reply to Gerald L. K. Smith. Mrs. Park's letter, however, misinterprets you in that she says that you said in your letter to Mr. Smith "that at no time have you ever attempted to interfere with an American's right to his civil liberties," and she goes on, "In this connection, we would like to point out to you that due to pressure being brought by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Mayor's office in Philadelphia, we have been denied our constitutional right of free speech." She continues by referring to the letter from Helms and stating that it "definitely points to the Federal Bureau of Investigation as being the prime factor in causing us to lose our inalienable right of free speech and free assembly," and she asks for an investigation to clarify the matter or, "The alternative would be a clean bill of health by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. A letter of reply was prepared under date of May 17, 1945, and sent to your office, where it was held until the return to me on May 26, 1945, for this clarification of the entire matter.

Under date of May 25, 1945, a teletype was received from Philadelphia advising that it had been confidentially learned that all members of the National

Memorandum for the Director

Blue Star Mothers of America had been requested to attend a hearing on the cancellation of their lease by the Patriotic Order Sons of America Building scheduled for that morning at the City Hall before Judge Bok and at which it was expected that C. B. Helms would appear and testify he had to cancel the lease because of FBI pressure. It was stated that if this testimony was received, the Mothers group plans to sue the Government. Advice has now been received that Helms did not appear and testify but that at the hearing Mrs. Parks stated that Helms had told her that FBI men were "hanging around on fire escapes and in closets" and that the FBI had put pressure on the Mayor in this matter. The Philadelphia Office has further advised that Mrs. Parks has indicated she did not think this matter was so much a result of action by the FBI as it was the "Jewish Gestapo," which she calls the Anti-Defamation League. Also a Mrs. Brown of the Current Events Group has indicated on several occasions that she believes the persons responsible for the letter cancelling the lease were "the Jewish Gestapo in Philadelphia, which has nothing to do with the FBI." It has also been alleged that [redacted] is very active in the Anti-Defamation League. Judge Bok ordered the lease continued in effect and that the Current Events Group could continue to hold their meetings in the building.

ACTION:

It is recommended that the attached letter, which has been redated, go forward to Mrs. Parks as the reply to her incoming. It appears that the answer to Gerald L. K. Smith has proved most fortunate and that this suggested reply to Mrs. Parks is least apt to be of any use to her to use to the embarrassment of the Bureau but still is sufficient to forestall any possibility of a charge that we have evaded the issue raised.

Attachment

Just as I suspected we are merely making a "play on words". Our Phila office used bad judgment in confiding too much in the contact who both to the Mayor & this outfit stated what our agents said or did. It would be much better for us if at least in our own family we faced facts & didn't try to "whistle in the dark".

JKM:EOD

RECORDED 62-43818-730
EX-1

May 30, 1945

Mrs. Lillian Parks
Secretary
Current Events Club
1113 South 54th Street
Philadelphia 43, Pennsylvania

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8 [redacted]/ma

Dear Madam:

This is in reply to your letter dated May 14, 1945, enclosing a copy of a letter dated April 13, 1945, which you say was sent you by the State Secretary of the Patriotic Order Sons of America.

Please be advised that at no time has any complaint been made by a representative of the FBI concerning the holding of meetings by your organization in the building at 1317-19 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc - Philadelphia (with copies of incoming)

Read to and approved by Sec'y Searles. JKM

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Miss Gandy

MAILED 9
MAY 31 P.M.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-MAIL ROOM
MAY 31 1945

60 JUN 7 1945

P. B. Boswell

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum — UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JKM:EOD

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: May 29, 1945

FROM : D. M. LADD

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA (Current Events Group)

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

You will recall that in my memorandum of May 28, 1945, I advised you that C. B. Helms, State Secretary, Patriotic Order Sons of America, who allegedly wrote the letter Mrs. Lillian Parks is complaining of, had been interviewed and admitted that the wording of his letter with regard to an FBI Agent was not correct. Attached is a proposed answer, which has been read to and approved by SAC Sears.

Attachment

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

Memo Mears
Dalton + Ladd
5-31-45

RECORDED
EX 62-

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

JEL:HCB

62-43818-731

May 31, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. LADD

There has finally come through, and I have signed the let ter addressed to Mrs. Lillian Parks, who made complaint about action of this Bureau in connection with the Blue Star Mothers of America i Philadelphia. I am not at all satisfied at the manner in which this correspondence was handled. As indicated previously, the original proposed reply to Mrs. Parks was evasive and weak, and it appeared f the memorandum then attached to the correspondence that our Philadel Office was in error in the matter, at least to some extent. I do th matters of this kind should be more promptly and more vigorously han Also I think that a letter should be addressed to the Philadelphia O fice, indicating our displeasure at the manner in which this whole i vestigation was handled in Philadelphia. Obviously, if our Agents h been less garrulous and more discreet, the situation would not have arisen.

Very truly yours

(S) J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/82 BY SP6BTS/mc

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Gandon
Bennington
Quinn Tamm
Tease
Candy

10:20 AM
6-1-45
dbc

FD-72

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE No. 14-66

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	5-20-45	4-27,28,30-45; 5-2,3,4,5, 12-45.	[redacted] FS

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject arrived Salt Lake City at 7:00 A.M. via D&RGW Railroad 5-2-45. Held a press conference in Hotel Utah at which he stated his purpose in going to San Francisco was to head a staff of nine persons to report on the Peace Conference for twenty-one nationalist organizations and to submit a Conference report to twenty-three members of Congress, including six senators. Subject addressed an invitational meeting at the Roof Garden of Hotel Utah, 5-3-45. List of invited guests set out herein. Meeting was picketed by Communists. A shorthand transcript of Subject's speech made available by informant is set forth herein. Subject departed Salt Lake City for San Francisco, 5-4-45.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Detroit letters to the Director dated April 3, 17, and 26, 1945.

DETAILS: AT SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Pursuant to the request contained in the referenced letters, arrangements were made by the Salt Lake City Field Division through [redacted] to obtain the names of the persons invited to attend a special meeting to be held in honor of GERALD L. K. SMITH at the Roof Garden of the Hotel Utah, and which meeting he was to address. [redacted]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-732

COPIES OF THIS REPORT

5 - Bureau
3 - Detroit
2 - San Francisco
3 - Salt Lake City

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-19-81 BY SP7MAC JCO

#88-444

INVITATION EXTRAORDINARY
Not Released for Publication
For Men Only
To Attend a Most Momentous Meeting

GREETINGS TO MY FRIENDS
AND INVITED GUESTS:

"There is an outstanding American of whom H. L. MENCHEN of the Baltimore Sun said: 'GERALD L. K. SMITH is the greatest orator of this century. He begins where BRYAN, BILLY SUNDAY and LaFOLLETTE the senior left off;' and of whom LOWELL THOMAS says: 'GERALD L. K. SMITH is the most fearless and dynamic orator in America.'

"This outstanding American stands for the following demands:

America must be first in war and peace.

No compromise of national sovereignty.

Repeal Bureaucratic Fascism.

Fight New Deal Communism.

Less Money for foreign politics and more for discharged veterans.

No labor draft.

Restoration of the system of private enterprise.

"Among the topics discussed by Mr. SMITH in his addresses are: Dumbarton Oaks, Brenton Woods, Yalta Conference, Drafting of Women, The Planned Super State, The Threat of International Conscription, Secret Diplomacy, and Free Speech, etc. He is the master of every subject in his repertoire and he pulls no punches.

"It is my great pleasure to have arranged for this well informed and profound American to address an evening meeting in the Roof Garden at the Hotel Utah, on Thurs., May 3, at 8 o'clock. This is not a public gathering and this invitation is not released for publication. Admission is by invitation to men only. You are among the few who are given the opportunity to be present and you may invite one friend. There will be no contributions asked. This letter is your card of admission.

SU 14-66

"I regard this gathering as of historical moment to our State, for it will open up in full focus vital issues which strike at the very heart of America and at the keystone of our freedom. America is in danger, and we must not longer ignore the fact.

"By all means be present and hear GERALD L. K. SMITH, editor of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG, published at Detroit, Michigan.

"Will you do me the courtesy of advising me by return mail if you will attend, giving the name and address of your invited guest? If you cannot be present, you may hand this invitation to your proxy and notify me.

"REMEMBER THE DATE: THURSDAY, MAY 3, ROOF GARDEN, HOTEL UTAH, AND PLEASE REPLY BY RETURN MAIL.

"Sincerely yours in the service of proclaiming original source facts to preserve America,

/s/ JEREMIAH STOKES
218 Atlas Building
Phone 5-6971 "

" NAMES OF GUESTS INVITED
TO HEAR EDITOR GERALD L. K. SMITH IN THE HOTEL UTAH ROOF GARDEN
THURSDAY, MAY 3, 1945, 8 O'CLOCK P.M.
(This list is not for publication)

Mayor Earl J. Glade
Chief Reed E. Metterli
Charles R. Mabey
Rev. W. F. Bulkley
Mark Peterson
Bryant S. Hinckley
Noble Warrum
Gilbert D. Neal
Bert Brewster
Burton W. Musser
G. A. Marr
Harley W. Gustin
Edwin D. Hatch
Philo T. Farnsworth
O. F. Soule
Vernon Romney
Frederick C. Loofbourow

Commissioner L. C. Romney
Lester Wire
Bp. Duane G. Hunt
Rev. Arthur W. Moulton
Albert E. Bowen
Jack Sears
H. F. Fretchman
A. L. Fish
George Southerland
Ben L. Rich
A. M. Cheyney
D. R. Roberts
R. J. Logan
Sidney G. Reid
H. J. Bindh
George R. Corey
Harvey R. Cluff

SU 14-66

William Low
Knox Patterson
Orval Adams
James W. Collins
Frederick E. Smith
R. C. Milton
Stanley J. Stephenson
Charles N. Fehr
A. N. Johnson
James Wade
J. D. Shilling
James Ivers
A. G. McKenzie
C. R. Leyson
Marion Greenwood
B. P. Manley
Horace Sorenson
Charles S. Martin
Dr. Adam S. Bennion
Dr. Howard S. McDonald
Dr. James T. Moriton
Dr. H. H. Wilkinson
Dr. Charles R. Cornwall
State Commander Am. Legion,
Victor Sott
Commander Am. Legion, S. L.
Post No. 2
Harold M. McNeil
Commander Post 499, Jack
Anderson
Lionel J. Bradford
R. H. Ludlow
George Wallace Cox
L. Calvin Pond
Mayor J. Bracken Lee

Claud T. Barnes
Joseph M. Knight
H. H. Chamberlain
Walter Coscriff
George E. Spencer
Gus P. Bachman
S. L. Billings
Nathan O. Fulmer
George Snyder
F. S. Mulock
W. J. O'Connor
S. D. Lampkin
B. P. Manley
Sterling Nelson
George T. Hansen
Lynn R. Fairbanks
George J. Cannon
J. H. Bachman
Dr. Philo T. Farnsworth
Principle Lorenzo D. Watch
Dr. C. N. Jensen
Dr. W. H. Byott
Dr. E. W. Lambert
Adj. A. S. Worsley, Am. Legion
State Commander V. F. W.,
G. H. Woffe
Commander Post 3586, V. F. W.
Don C. Names
Marion C. Nelson
Andrew Anderson
Reed M. Broadbent
Sylvester Broadbent
W. E. Sheetz

It was ascertained from [redacted] b7d that hotel reservations had been made at the Hotel Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah for the Subject and his wife and his secretary, [redacted] for the night of May 2, 1945.

Through [redacted] it was learned b7d that the Subject proposed to conduct a press conference at the Hotel Utah at 9:15 A.M. on May 2, 1945, to which all members of the press were invited.

SU 14-66

Since the meeting was to be held in a public foyer of the Hotel Utah and it was possible for reporting agent to witness the press conference without being conspicuous to the participants therein, the reporting agent observed at the press conference that the following persons were in attendance: the Subject and his wife; Mr. JEREMIAH STOKES, [redacted], a local attorney; the Subject's secretary, [redacted] and a reporter for one of the local newspaper organizations.

The Subject was heard to state by the writer that he was enroute to San Francisco, California as a representative of the party known as the America First Party and twenty-one other nationalist organizations; that he was to head a staff of nine persons to cover the Peace Conference to be held at San Francisco for the America First Party and the other nationalist organizations, and that he was to also make a report on the Conference of a confidential character to twenty-three members of Congress, six of them United States senators. He stated that he represented the America First Party which had a committee in each of the forty-eight states and claimed a following of approximately 112,000. He indicated that he and his following were not in favor of the present trend of the San Francisco Peace Conference and believes it is the forerunner of World War III, which will take place between Britain and Russia with both sides bargaining for the aid of the United States.

The Subject was heard to make the statement that both Britain and Russia have set up a gigantic propaganda machine for the purpose of propagandizing the United States for the purpose of securing the aid of this country in any war which might occur between them. He was also heard to make the statement that he believed HUEY LONG would go down in history as one of the country's great men and that he would long be remembered as an outstanding statesman and politician. In response to a question posed to him by the newspaper reporter, Mr. SMITH stated that the foreign policy of the United States should be one of rigid neutrality. He expressed himself as not being completely in favor of the present Conference's attitude on either foreign or domestic affairs.

It may be noted that on May 2, 1945, JAY C. NEWMAN, Special Agent in Charge of the Salt Lake City Field Division, received a written invitation to attend the meeting of GERALD L. K. SMITH at the Hotel Utah Roof Garden, which invitation was extended by JEREMIAH STOKES, Attorney at Law, Suite 511-12, Scott Building, 168 South Main Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

[redacted]

b7

In accordance with instructions, no representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation was present at instant meeting. [redacted]

This speech reads as follows:

"Roof Garden, Hotel Utah,
Thursday, May 3, 1945, 8:15 P.M.

"The speaker was introduced by JEREMIAH STOKES as the

Honorable GERALD L. K. SMITH

"Mr. STOKES, ladies and gentlemen: I assure you that it is a privilege that cannot be defined or described in words to be able to enjoy this fellowship with you people this evening, and before I enter into my address may I say this, I do not think there is any need of people having to sit back of posts; there are some good seats here in front. Come out here where I can see you.

"As some of my best friends in Salt Lake know, we are on our way to San Francisco, where we will remain until the end (if it does not last more than six weeks longer) of the United Nations Conference. As the national director of the America First Party, which hopes and prays that it will never be a party, I am spokesman, together with a staff of nine others for 21 nationalist organizations in America, and will observe the proceedings at San Francisco officially for these organizations. I shall also prepare at their request a confidential report for 23 members of Congress, including six members of the United States Senate. Members of our staff and myself, several of them being already in San Francisco, will report the proceedings for 81 journals with the nationalistic viewpoint in the United States of America.

"I have been in correspondence with subscribers to the magazine I edit for some time in Salt Lake. I was directed to Mr. STOKES, your chairman tonight, by a very excellent work he accomplished in the writing and publication of a dynamic book. I have read this book through, been attracted to his mind and his personality by the contents of that book. Yesterday morning I met Mr. STOKES for the first time. I wrote Mr. STOKES and said, 'It will be necessary for us to pass through Salt Lake in order to reach San Francisco, and I should like to stop off, pay you a visit, and invite eight or ten of your friends to come over to our room at the hotel and have a chat.'

"He countered with the proposal that a small room be arranged here at the hotel and some interested citizens be invited in for a round-table discussion. Your presence here is the consumation of that suggestion which Mr. STOKES made and to which I readily agreed.

"We addressed a large audience in the ballroom of the La-Salle Hotel a week ago Sunday. We came on Tuesday night and addressed a packed auditorium in St. Louis at the city auditorium. In fact 800 people stood and several hundred were turned away. We came on, and last Monday night had the pleasure of addressing some 1,000 people in Denver, Colorado. Our activities in recent years have been confined mainly to the great industrial areas and the rural areas bounding these industrial areas, reaching from St. Louis to Boston, to Minneapolis down to Chicago, Detroit, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia; and because of the fact that many of your people are meeting us for the first time I will take the liberty of discussing a few personal details that might not otherwise come out in an address.

"Mr. HARRY DAVENPORT, one of the editors of Colliers' Weekly magazine, made a review of our activities last year. Of course the article was not friendly, because it was prepared for a journal not friendly to our national activity and journal; but, even so, Mr. DAVENPORT said that his survey demonstrated that we had at least 3,000,000 enrolled followers. The density of our following in the area I have discussed--it may interest you to know that in our home state we have 112,000 followers enrolled, 21 clerks and stenographers who confine themselves strictly to handling our mail and sending out our literature. The nationalist movement in America, although it has been smeared and persecuted by propagandists who are using the money we have given to foreign nations to oil up a technique to loot our public treasury have attempted to brand those who love our country most as traitors to their country.

"I know that as a young man growing up in the home of a minister--I come from four generations of gospel preachers--I never thought that the time would come when a plain old-fashioned middle-western Christian would have to prove that he was not a traitor to his country because he felt that his own country should come first. I have not apologized for the words 'America First.' THEODORE ROOSEVELT said, a man who loves another country as much as his own is on a par with a man who loves another woman as much as his own wife.

"Someone asked me if we thought we would ever elect a man President, and I said we already have, GEORGE WASHINGTON, concerning whom it was said he was first in peace, first in war, first in the hearts of his countrymen--with friendship for all nations but entangled alliances with none. You heard me say a few minutes ago I hoped the America First party would never be consummated as a mechanism beyond an educational movement. I hope that in the days immediately ahead when parties begin to see the handwriting on the wall, when censorship is lifted, when Yalta is revealed and the truth about Pearl Harbor comes out, and nationalism becomes a natural--I trust that both the old

"parties will embrace nationalism and America Firstism as a practical political gesture. (Applause.) I believe that nationalism when truth begins to be revealed in America will be a natural, so natural that both political parties will opportunize on its philosophy and get votes. But if they sell out to the foreign propagandist and continue to cooperate in a program of looting the treasury and finance everybody but Americans, then we will have the foundation for a great nationalist party that will be unashamed to elect an American who puts his country first. STALIN puts his country first, CHURCHILL puts his country first. Why haven't we sense enough to put America first? (Applause.)

"Now every once in a while--in fact I never hold a meeting, except, of course, I could have hold a little committee meeting out on the roof, when I am not picketed by the Reds. I think I am slipping when I am not picketed by the Reds and somebody wants to bring up and question the patriotism of G. L. K. SMITH.

"While I am on that subject, I do not want any superpatriot heckling this meeting tonight. My only son, GERALD L. K. SMITH, Jr., is a buck private. He had six years of military training. All his classmates are captains and lieutenants, but you could not imagine his being much more than a buck private; and he volunteered for a suicide engagement and served with what has been considered the toughest outfit of this war, and I am not coloring it. Every military man will say that there has not been a tougher groups than Merrill's Marauders in Burma, and out of his group over 200 were killed and most of the rest were casualties. My son has been a casualty twice. He was surrounded by the Japanese and did not have a bite of food for 14 days, but recovered in the jungle and then became a casualty with wounds and recovered in the jungle, and then was brought back to a rest hospital and recovered...after his outfit had opened the Stillwell Road; and he is now in a clerical job in a big hospital in Burma. He has a presidential citation , and the purple heart, and the combat medals, and was on a ship that was torpedoed. So as far as this war is concerned and anybody getting killed, the SMITHS are doing as well as anybody else. Someone said the SMITH'S won the last war, or at least there were enough SMITHS that it looked like it. I am not bragging. My boy is no better than yours. But I will not have anybody stand up and impugn the patriotism of our family, and I say this regardless of who is to blame for a war, or who got us into a war that could have been avoided. When we are in it, there is only one way to end it, to win it. And then if we have any sense to learn some lessons, we should learn on the basis of what we have experienced.

"Some little personal details about the history of the Nationalist movement. When Pearl Harbor came, the politicians, bureaucrats,

"new dealers, communists, beat the drums and thought they would make it a disgrace to say 'America First,' and we were all supposed to crawl under the bed and not have anything to say in defense of America. If anybody said, 'America First' brand him as a traitor, report him to the F.B.I., harrass him and denounce him as a seditionist! And, by the way, I think I owe it to tell you a very interesting experience, which may be of value to you, that they had the last few days. The communists have developed a technique. You may get some calls yourself, of people telephoning good Americans and using coercive language and exploiting the term F.B.I. Someone may call on you and say he represents it, or imply that he has talked to the F.B.I. That has been a technique of coercion across the United States, in an attempt to silence real Americans. For instance, in St. Louis, an outstanding young student of seminary there sponsored my address before 200 young ministerial students. He was called in by an individual not in sympathy with my philosophy and told, 'You are being investigated by the F.B.I.' The young man, instead of being coerced, went right down to the F.B.I. and found it in charge of a fine Christian gentleman, who assured him that he had been misinformed, and that he had no desire to interfere with his civil rights and liberties as an American.

"Well, a group of mothers of veterans of this war formed an organization in Philadelphia called the Blue Star Mothers of America. They have a headquarters and a meeting place. They have a lease on a building. The word got out erroneously that I was going to speak there. I had spoken under their auspices, but I was at the time in another part of the country. 'We understand that GERALD L. K. SMITH Is to speak with you, and because of complaints that we have received from the F.B.I., we will have to cancel your lease.' I photostated the letter which they sent to me, and wrote a letter to J. EDGAR HOOVER, Number One Man in the F.B.I. I said, 'Dear Mr. Hoover;' (I know him personally.) 'I am sure that this man has been misinformed and that some radical is posing as an agent of the F.B.I., and coerces Americans and denies them the right of free speech. I would like to have this investigated, and would appreciate a reply to this letter.'

"When I landed in Salt Lake City yesterday morning, my mail being forwarded from Detroit was here, and among it I received a personal letter from J. EDGAR HOOVER. Isn't that interesting? I immediately had the letter photostated, in case I should lose the original, and I am going to read a letter I received not last year, or six months ago, but yesterday morning, from Mr. HOOVER, with his own original signature on the letter:

"'Dear Mr. SMITH: I am in receipt of your letter dated April 18-19' (I sent him one, the letter, and the other, the photostat, be-

"cause I did not have time to get the photostat the first day.) 'You may be assured that the assumptions you set forth in your letter are correct; that is, that no representative of this Bureau has at any time attempted to coerce the management of any building to prevent your speaking. Nor have they engaged in any activities designed to deny an American citizen his civil liberties. I appreciate your bringing this matter to my attention, so that you will have no question concerning the policies of the F.B.I. Sincerely yours, J. EDGAR HOOVER, Director.'

"Now, isn't that a fine letter? Give Mr. HOOVER a hand. (Applause.)

"I do that in this community, where I know that you people might be coerced by a technique. Let me say to you old-fashioned Christian Americans, the communists have better technique; they are away ahead of you. You have been so busy paying taxes and keeping up your church and your young people's societies and the Red Cross and the constructive interests of your communities that you have not had time to school yourselves and skill yourselves in the Oriental conspiracies that are practiced by those haters of Christ and America; and I warn you as a committee tonight, unless you wake up and learn the science of those who operate against our institutions, you can well anticipate the day when Christian Americans will not be permitted to assemble as we assemble here tonight. I am going to make another prophecy, though there are those who will pooh-pooh what I am about to say. The day is close at hand when all the other frills that constitute essential issues between democrats and republicans and the rest will disappear and the line will be drawn and the issue will be one issue--Christian Americanism, or atheistic communism! That is the issue that will come mighty quickly.

"I discussed this question in Detroit with a student of affairs the other day, who said, should we happen to have a break with STALIN, should the Communist Party of America turn against the foreign policy of the United States, the end of the party line would be opposed to our practices, we could not turn one wheel in the City of Detroit. The Communist Party has so completely blocked up the leadership and labor organizations in our city that it would be impossible for us to manufacture one gun, wheel, jeep, truck, or one airplane, if they had any thought that it would be used against Communist Russia. The day is close at hand when as the penalty of war, civilized humanity can never expect to be rewarded with the kind of slaughter the world has carried on the last few years. When the war closes and 13 million men come back and no jobs! Politicians will talk about 60 million jobs, but let me remind you that when I left Detroit ten days ago, we were laying off from two to five thousand men a day, and the Federal employ-

"ment Commissioner said he anticipated 200 thousand unemployed in the City of Detroit alone within sixty days or fifty days from now. If we have 200 thousand unemployed by July 1 in the City of Detroit, with 13 million men in the armed services, what can we expect when these men start returning?

"The communists are already and set to blame this situation on our American way of life and government. The communists have so independent enterprise that they have not permitted business to set up a reserve or to use risk capital on the extension of private enterprise, so that the minute contracts are cancelled--And I was in Washington the other day, where we operate a news service, and one of my informants told me he is in an office where there is a stack of telegrams that high, ready to cancel war contracts just as soon as it is certainly known that the Germans have capitulated. The Reds are all set. They have fanatics down the street handing out circulars against GERALD SMITH, or anyone else that attacks communism in America, ready to prove to the returned servicemen that American private enterprise has failed, and that the only thing to Save America is communism! What will Christianity do, or Christian Americans do? Will we stand with our hands to our side? afraid to meet with GERALD SMITH or any courageous crusader who is not afraid to cry shame on such cowardice? God save America from such leadership. It will not be the communist who will lift the red flag, but it will be your cowardly, yellow indifference to what you should do as Americans. (Applause.)

"Now, I call your attention to the fact that I know my calling in this respect. I am in the vanguard. I stood out where the mud flies, on purpose. And I said to some of the leading nationalists, 'I will step out and we will see if a man can live and preach the real Christian Americanism.' As a result, I have suffered all the techniques of character assassination. I have been smeared by the most expert smear-machine in the world. I have been branded as a rabble rouser, a lunatic, racketeer, cheat, traitor, Nazi, Facist--every name, every title that the smear-machine can give one who loves America has been given to me. But I am still here. The circulation of my magazine increases. My following now is numbered beyond a million. Never have we been encouraged as we are at this very time. You know, there is a wonderful thing about being smeared. Take Mrs. SMITH here, she has been my wife 23 years, and she does not need to worry where I spend my nights; she knows it would be on page one the next morning! So we have lived through that.

"I want you to know here in this little meeting--of course I do not accept this meeting as a closed or secret meeting--there are no secrets, and we have none. I have no desire to keep the Bible a secret,

"or the Constitution an American tradition secret, although I know a lot of members of the United States Senate and Congress who have attempted to keep the Constitution a secret for the last twelve years.

"I want to report on some of the nationalists that you respect. You will be happy to know that I spent half a day just a few weeks ago in the home as the guest of HAMILTON FISH, who was defeated because he was opposed by every political organization that raised money, including THOMAS E. DEWEY, EARL BROWDER, and FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT; and they had to abolish his congressional district to defeat him. They took all of his counties outside of one, and put a whole set of new counties where he didn't know anybody into his district. I do not want to reflect on the deceased, but we must admit that our former President was rather a smooth politician, and that was his home district! And he did not want Mr. FISH to represent him any more. So he, in cooperation with others, abolished Mr. FISH'S district, and Mr. FISH was retired temporarily from the United States Congress, But he will go back the next time there is an election. (Applause.) He has not relaxed but is the same--only more so. I said to him, 'I had dinner with Charles Lindbergh in Detroit.'

"Mr. Fish said, 'I had dinner with him three weeks ago.'

"'How does he feel?' I said.

"He said, 'He feels the same way as always, except more so.'

"You will be glad to know that. (Applause.)

"And you will be happy to know that I dropped in the other day and had an almost all day's visit with the eminent United States Senator, BURTON K. WHEELER. Although I am smeared, I enjoy the friendship of those great Americans. We are counting on Mr. WHEELER to lead the fight against the Breton Woods steal, Dumbarton Oaks, the Crime of Crimea, and the Fraud of 'Frisco. -- I will come back to those in a few minutes and discuss them frankly.

"As we look ahead, may I say that no one has ever won a victory by emphasizing negativeness. You can be against this or that and the other thing, but someone says, 'What are you for?'

"I am for Christianity and the Constitution. Can you think of anything more than that? And I pause here just a few moments to pay my tribute and give you my definition of the American system of Government.

"One hundred fifty years or more ago, a little group of God-guided men assembled to preserve something that thus far the world had never known--the preservation of freedom. They had come from the four corners of the earth where their ancestors and neighbors had been crushed in peonage, crucified in ghettos, crowded into merciless fields of slavery, regimented by the Hohenzollerns, banished by the Czars, and crucified upon the cross of religious persecution. Finally they determined that they would seek what thus far no race had ever known, freedom, and they set out on the high sea. They said, 'We would rather sink to the bottom of the sea seeking freedom than to endure this crucifixion longer.' They found their way in the forests. Food was not plentiful. They faced the savagery of the Indians, the winter blasts. They came up the Mississippi enduring the pestilence. But they dedicated themselves to a freedom which no man had been able to estimate prior to this time, freedom to worship God, to speak, to write, to print, freedom! They said this thing is too good to surrender. We must not risk its loss. We must not trust it even to ourselves to provide a pattern for its preservation. So God loaned them, as you said, Mr. STOKES, in writing, for the generations unborn as well as their own, that which we now know as the Constitution of the United States.

"They said, we must balance it and check it to the point where no man or little group of men will ever be able to destroy this freedom. They provided the legislative branch, the judicial, the executive. They provided a lower House in the legislative branch, to come every two years fresh from the people, representing the current sentiment of the people, where that sentiment be fickle or sound, so that at all times the execute, the Senate, the judiciary, and the students of national affairs could look at the lower House of Congress and say, "There is a portrayal of the sentiment of the people."

They said, 'We will not deny any man the right to run for Congress on any kind of platform, whether it be his own or reasonable or unreasonable. He can say anything he wants to the people, and they will elect. But we will have an upper house, more conservatively chosen, where no measure can be hurried through hysterically; so that a privilege now known as a filibuster was provided. If necessary, a man can expose an attempt to betray our traditions long enough to enlighten our people and warn them, before it is permitted to pass the Senate. And they said, even then it must be signed by the Chief Executive.

"But if a great hysterical wave sweeps across the nation and engulfs the Lower and Upper House and the Senate, so that injustice is done to little and helpless people--a Negro in the South, a Jew in

"Memphis, or a section hand in Illinois, if he can demonstrate to the third branch of Government, the Supremest Court, that one or any one of the privileges guaranteed to him under this Constitution has been taken away from him, even though the law which robbed him of that libery had passed the lower and upper Houses unanimously and been signed by the President, if he can demonstrate to the High Court that he has lost one privilege under this Constitution, then that law will cease to be a law.

"Do you know where that philosophy came from? It came from just one place, Christianity. Christianity always taught the human race the meaning of the dignity of the human soul, and the value of one human soul. So valuable, said our beloved Master, is one human soul that we must be willing, if need be, to leave 99 others and go in search across the face of the earth for one that is lost. Be not deceived; respect for the dignity of the human soul, the spirit of democracy, the dynamics of our Republic, the glory of our Constitution, the permanency of our American traditions, the light of our liberty, finds its heart in the teachings of Christ.

"That is why I shocked the nation. The preacher can bounce around in the pulpit and talk, but if you step out in the highway and byway and talk about Christ First in America, then watch dynamite explode. That is what got me into controversy when I challenged my three million followers with this slogan, Christ First in America. Over night Jewish journals branded me as an anti-Semite. May I say this to you, I think it must be accepted that America is a Christian nation. At least, America became great while a Christian nation, and America is doomed unless she remains a Christian nation and improves her Christian attributes as a nation. (Applause.)

"May I say this, I will die, if need be, to provide the right and the liberty for a Jew to worship in his shrine, his synagogue. But may I say this, I cannot fail to believe that Christian ethics made America. If Christ had been first in Europe, there would have been no chaos. If Christ had been first in Russia, there would have been no Communism. If Christ had been first in the world, there would have been no war, and our loving sons would have been at our side tonight. (Applause.)

"That may sound ambiguous to some and nebulous to some, but I am not the first to voice such sentiments. They sprang from the bosom of our first President, GEORGE WASHINGTON, who wrote prayers for his church; and from the heart of JEFFERSON and LINCOLN, and the rest.

"Why and how could any man in this beautiful community, which has been God's reward to those who pioneered heroically in the face of danger and in the hazard of wilderness and disease--how could anyone deny that the shortest course to national abundance is to assert one sincere law, "For God Almighty and His Eternal Personification on earth, Christ?" And I think, inasmuch as I am not a Mormon, I can read from the Book of Mormon without being accused of bias. I am going to point out one sentence, if anyone tells you that GERALD SMITH was the first or one of the first (or whether first or not made himself obnoxious by) talking about Christian Nationalism. I will call your attention to a verse on page 874 of this particular volume of the Book of Mormon.

"'Behold this is a choice land; and whatsoever nation shall possess it shall be free from bondage, free from captivity, free from all other nations . . . if they will but serve the God of the land.' And does it say God in some general, flattering way? If there is any man for whom I have contempt, it is a person who will stand up in a political meeting and close his prayer in God's name--ashamed to use the name of Christ. (Applause.)

"And this is what it says, "and serve the God of the land, who is Jesus Christ, who hath been manifested by the things which we have written." -- So maybe all you Methodists can call me an isolationist, but I do not want any Mormons calling me an isolationist. (Laughter.)

"So under this system of checks and balances, which guaranteed liberty and freedom of speech, and freedom of the press, and freedom of assembly to the humbles of our land, peasants became industrial giants, the sons of blacksmiths in the Old World became millionaires, the little became great, farm hands became bishops, and the sons of the lowly became the rulers of the land. They drained the swamps, opened the deserts, cleared the forests, and turned this land, dedicated to Christ's name, into a land flowing with milk and honey.

"Under this system they set up, if Congress goes haywire, we still have the President and the Court, and if the Court goes haywire we will have the President and the Congress, and if they go haywire we still have the Court. There was a time here--two or three times in the last two or three years--when it looked as if they had all gone haywire at the same time! We had violated a tradition made rich by WASHINGTON and JEFFERSON, by allowing one man to serve more than two terms. Regardless of our politics, I think one of the first laws that should pass when TRUMAN gets things straightened out, is a law forbidding any American to serve as President more than eight years. (Applause)

"Is that because I was against ROOSEVELT? No, I would oppose more than eight years for ABRAHAM LINCOLN, THOMAS JEFFERSON, CALVIN COOLIDGE, or anyone else., Why? Because the moment you pass the eight-year mark, your old men in the Supreme Court begin to die off and resign, and the appointive power of the President and White House becomes too great, and a Supreme Court is colored to satisfy the philosphy and political opinion of a President, and a Lower and Upper House of Congress colored by corruption, and we have seen our Congress a rubber stamp.

"Will you forgive me if I recite one little personal experience? My life has not been exactly undramatic. I grew up with the first outstanding statesman in America in modern times to be completely smeared, the late United States Senator HEWEY B. LONG, (Applause). I was with him when he was killed. The man that shot him tried to shoot two people, HEWEY LONG and me; and fortunately or unfortunately, some people would say unfortunately, he only got one.- And it was my honor to deliver the funeral oration over his grave, which, incidentally, was the largest public funeral ever to be held in the United States, in case some of you believe the newspaper. WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT said. 'He was the greatest legal mind to appear before me while Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.' If you want to know why he was smeared, every important editor south of the Mason-Dixon Line was on the payroll of the United States Government, and the publishers and editors of 23 papers had big fat jobs on the payroll of the United States Government, for which they did not have to do a thing. One of them was on the aeronautical commission! Mr. LONG was the first outstanding political leader in the South to break with a Democrat in Washington because of New Deal tendencies. Someone said he was an opportunist. I was in the room when Mr. LONG was offered twenty thousand jobs if he would stick to the machine and stay with Mr. ROOSEVELT.

"Whether you like me or not, I have been in this against the New Deal machine from its inception. I went across South Carolina and the South attempting to enlighten some of the blind leaders of the Solid South, and I was successful in doing so. In fact, many of the opponents of the New Deal from the South started their opposition in those days. For instance, we went into South Carolina. One Governor had just been elected, a young mill hand, elected on a popular wave to elect a poor mill hand. But he was not as poor or humble as they advertised, or as ragged as the vote getters said. But he was a good, clean young fellow, Gov. OWEN JOHNSON, now in the United States Senate. I said to him, 'Governor JOHNSON--', this was back in the heyday of the rubber stampers, 'why do you remain a part of the Solid Sucker South? Do you realize that last year in Pennsylvania they got

"$152 a head out of the Government because Pennsylvania was doubtful, and South Carolina only got $31 a head?"

"He said, 'What do you think is the cause of that?'

"I said, 'The most ungodly program of corruption the world has ever known--TAMMANY comes to America, all over America.'

"He said, 'How do you think we can correct it?'

"I said, 'I am interested in demonstrating to you what a crooked set of thieves we have in power in Washington.'

"He said, 'How?'

"And I said, 'By showing you simply how simple it would be for you to increase your appropriations from the United States Government.'

"He said, 'How could you do that?'

"I said, 'It would be interesting to see what would happen if you would entertain Mr. LONG two hours in your office....I think they will offer you the world by the tail, for fear they might lose South Carolina to HUEY LONG.'

"He said, 'Will you arrange it?'

"And I said 'I will, as a laboratory test, to prove what these rascals are doing.'

"Because only about that time, you remember, HARRY HOPKINS had been out on Long Island and interviewed ARTHUR CRACH, columnist for the New York Times, who quoted him as saying, 'We propose to stay in power this way--spend, and spend, and spend; tax, and tax; and elect, and elect.' He was right in every particular except the last one, and he should have said, 'Elect, and elect, and elect, and elect,' but that was back in the middle thirties.

"I arranged for Mr. LONG to visit the Governor of South Carolina. We went there together. The press was not allowed. It was very mysterious. They talked about fishing and hunting for two hours! Nobody knew what was going on. He came out and took the train for Washington. I said, 'We are making a laboratory test to prove something.' Nobody let the cat out. It was between us three. Thirty days later I dropped in and asked the Governor what had happened. He

"said, 'It has meant $50,000,000 to us already. They want to bridge all the rivers, build a new post office in every town. The President's mother has been in Washington to a garden party, and Eleanor has been here twice, and HARRY HOPKINS calls me up every day.' (Applause.)

"Ladies and gentlemen, that is the way they got the Congress.

"I am sorry to say that they did such a good job on Mr. JOHNSON that they still have him, and that is why he went to the United States Senate. Then they put all his relatives on the pay roll--his mother-in-law, sister-in-law, brother-in-law. He cannot vote straight when he has those relatives on the pay roll. They don't have to call a Congressman up. The White House gang only has to call up the relatives and say, 'If you cannot handle that Congressmen uncle, brother-in-law, son-in-law, of yours, we will fire you.' Imagine 23 relatives about to be removed from the pay roll! And with that system, ladies and gentlemen, if it were not so tragic it would be humorous. They have robbed us of our Congress, cheated the electorate, committed treason, used the public treasury to corrupt the Congress to keep a man in office four terms, and to rubber stamp any attempt of the Supreme Court of the United States. The only reason the Supreme Court ever makes a good decision now is that they are so jealous of each other that they issue obstinate opinions just to demonstrate that they do not like the other fellow. I happen to know two of them who do not speak to each other at all. But it was not supposed to be that way. They were all intended to be New Dealers, to approve any bill by the political machine. But God reaches in when men cannot always do so, and the people have been protected from time to time by Congressional decision, by Court decisions, and by the rise of a public sentiment here and there which has tempered this attempt at tyranny over our people. Under this system we became the greatest nation on earth.

"I heard ROOSEVELT talk in New York when they were trying to put in 110 departments. He said, 'We have streamlined airplanes, and why not a streamlined Government?'

"I said, 'We do not want a streamlined one; HITLER and STALIN and the Emperor of Japan have a streamlined government. They can get mad at you at 6 o'clock in the morning and have your head off right after breakfast. But under our system we have a legislative upper house, lower house, Supreme Court, and everything down to a County Court. Now, if STALIN gets mad at you, your head can come off in 15 minutes, but by the time the President of the United States gets down to the Sheriff and gets to you, he may be mad when he starts, but by that time he will either be cooled off or we will have a new president. (Applause.)

"Do not let anybody steal your county government on account of saving taxes, or to streamline something. I always want a sheriff who had to look me in the face on his way to the barber shop every day and ask for my vote every four years. If you can get a man behind a desk who can make a rule without appearing before the electorate and giving an account of his deeds, we will have tyranny.

"Now I will discuss for the next few minutes what I consider to be the three most pertinent issues, the three great problems all good Americans must face: First, the problem of tyrannical bureaucracy; second, the threat of American Communists in America; third, you must face the conspiracy of the super state. Oh, someone says, what do you mean by that, those three threats: Bureaucracy, Communists and super-state?

"The tide is beginning to turn, and I do not want anybody here to think I am indulging in any undignified rejoicing over the passing of a President. In fact, if I wanted to consult my own mind, I could have desired that anyone who had led us into this bureaucracy could have lived another twenty years to witness with his own eyes what might have been done with that bureaucracy. No one here objects to rationing or economy necessary to feed our soldiers or meet our military needs, but we do not like tohave it abused by bureaucratic parents. I was listening on the radio to ELEANOR ROOSEVELT and Secretary WICKARD, who said, 'We will have to tighten our belts, go without meat, go without coffee, and everything else.' And sure enough, it came. We saw the mill hands of the steel mills of Pittsburgh carrying jelly rolls instead of beef sandwiches into the factory. A few days later an enterprising reporter in Chicago went out to the old WICKARD home, and the old man was out there, CLAUDE'S father, an old-fashioned Hoosier, who had not learned to lie yet.

"'Are you Mr. WICKARD, senior?' the newspaper reporter said.

"He nodded, and the reporter said, 'Is rationing bothering you?'

"'Not a bit; we were looking for it.' (His boy was the midwife that was there when it was born.)

"'Are you all set?'

"And he said, 'Just come and see.' And they went out to the deep freezer there, and I figured up later that according to what the newspaper reported, which has not been denied, they had as much pork and beef as my stamp book will allow my family for seven years--800 lbs of butter, 900 lbs of lard, and something from 9-to-1600 lbs.

"of fresh pork, beef, and veal. He said, 'We just sent CLAUDE 50 lbs. of butter, and two Sunday nights before that the Secretary of Agriculture said, 'We will have to go without, tighten our belts, and go hungry when necessary.'

"Ladies and gentlemen, why do they hate GERALD SMITH? I may not speak the truth that will be received in popularity in this particular hour, but it is like the grain of corn which is planted; it will be green tomorrow. They hate me because I dared say that TICKARD should be in the penitentiary at Atlanta. That is not a way to gain popularity among politicians in power.

"HARRY HOPKINS was paid $2,800 to write an article for the American Magazine to tell us how hungry we were going to get before the year was out. And he said, 'We will all be drafted, our sons and daughters and we will have to work wherever they send us, and we will have to go without meat, butter, lard, and milk. About that time he got married. (I thought he was ready to die.) And the largest newspaper in the City of Washington reported that they were sitting around the White House at night, and Mrs. HOPKINS (the new one) said to BARNEY BARUCH, 'You haven't given us a party yet.'

"And he said, 'I will raise that any time you say.'

"The Washington Times-Herald, Washington, D. C. newspaper reported these facts, that BARNEY arranged the party down at the Carlton Hotel, and served perfume at $40 an ounce to every lady there, seven kinds of meat, 22 kinds of food and champagne. I am not a connoisseur of champagne, but they say it was the best champagne made this century; even the French do not have any left--HITLER'S gang drank it all up; but BARUCH had plenty of it, and they said they served $2500 worth of champagne, 22 kinds of food, 7 kinds of meat--at a cost of something like $110 a plate, in honor of the man who only a few days before had written in a magazine that we must go hungry and starve.

"We expect an AL CAPONE and his gang to live like that, but by the grace of God we do not have to be governed by men like that.

"You wonder what I think of TRUMAN. No man should be condemned until he has had a chance to perform, and up to now his performances have been indeed inspiring. He is reducing the budget, has kicked HARRY HOPKINS out and kicked BARUCH in the teeth, and is appointing some old-fashioned Missourians on jobs. His home town, Independence, Missouri, suits me, and I like all these tobacco-chewing rebels that were on the southern side, even though my folks fought on the northern side. He was raised in the Baptist Church in Chicago, and if that does

"not make a common man, I do not know what does. If we can keep him from being kidnaped by the most unconscionable gang of thieves the world has ever known, he will make us a great president.

"We saw the tyranny of bureaucracy reach out. It did not have its hand on our throat, but it was right behind our collar button. A few weeks ago when the manpower bill was defeated, we had a narrow escape. They told us it was an emergency war measure. Then JIMMY BYRNES resigned and let the cat out of the bag. It was a plan of peace-time mobilization. If they did not like you, they could deny workers to your factory, close you up, and furnish your men to the people they liked. They could have taken your daughter out of your home and sent her to Birmingham, or disorganized your community and scattered your citizens to the four quarters of the earth under this plan of universal conscription which they had advertised as manpower war measure. But it was a plan for peacetime mobilization, and Senator JOHNSON, who had written the bill, rose up and repudiated it and declared that he was the victim of a superconfidence game originated in the White House, and the bill was defeated.

"Kneel down and thank your God that HENRY WALLACE is not the President of the United States. (Applause.)

"I will speak another two minutes on bureaucracy, to give you a little idea. I have a friend, pastor of a great church in Pontiac, Michigan, and the rats got hold of the ration board and would not give him gas to call on his sick. And the head of the ration board said, 'We do not need the church; it is not fundamental to the war effort, and the quicker we put you preachers out of business the better it will be for America.' We saw those signs of tyranny creeping up all over the United States of America, and found little peanut-headed bureaucrats all over the United States taking joy in cracking the whip in a sort of sadistic glee as they used the weapon in their hands to declare their authority over you and me.

"They would not let the missionaries have enough gasoline, or the preachers, but the other day Lord HALIFAX was entertained by the Governor of Oklahoma in a coyote chase, and they brought out 200 dogs and 300 automobiles and chartered 11 airplanes with radios to tell the people on the ground where the coyote was. Eleven airplanes, 300 cars, and 200 dogs to chase one poor little coyote for Lord HALIFAX. And we will look a preacher in the face and say, 'We cannot let you have gasoline to go out 20 miles to preach in a country church where the people cannot come to town.

"Then the threat of Communism. It pains my soul to hear,

"'It is not bad,' 'There aren't many.' Do you know how many Communists took over Russia? Seventeen thousand. How many are there today? There are 180 million people and only 4 million members of the party. They are the elite. They eat the meat, and the people are held on rations. They drink 42 toasts, and the people are lucky to get any. If you haven't read W. L. WHITE'S book on Russia, better get it. He is the son of the old-time liberal editor and sage of Emporia, WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE.

"He came back from Russia and said, 'There is no unemployment in Russia--nor in the State Penitentiary of Kansas, either.' And he said, 'Their food is not quite as good, and they do not have quite as much liberty as the inmates of the Kansas State Penitentiary. If an inmate of the penitentiary insists that they ought to have a new warden, he cannot get it, but at least he does not get his head chopped off as if he insisted on a new warden in Russia.' And he went ahead to tell us the true condition in this land that has been pointed out to us as an Utopia. But WELLS said, 'It is a bunch of screwballs...meeting in a smoking room....' (insud.)

"I hold here in my hand a bound volume of a magazine, the best of its kind in America. The reason I know is I am the editor; and it is the best, because it is the only one of that kind. I carried a speech by HENRY WALLACE in the Madison Square Garden last fall celebrating the anniversary of the Russian Revolution, when 15,000,000 Christians were slaughtered, and here is what Mr. WALLACE said. 'There hung the red flag, the biggest flag in the place. There cheered the red Communists 22,000 strong,' in Madison Square Garden. As WALLACE said, 'If Russia continues 20 years the way she has the past 20, she will surpass the United States of America.' Well, I will say if he thinks RUSSIA is better than the United States, let us buy him a free ticket for Russia.

"I wish I could go on and discuss the full detail of the threat of Communism in America. They are organized and we will find they are in every corner. They are in the pulpits and in the schools. Just think, here comes an alien rat that has never done anything to prove that he is a worthy American, and writes a libelous book of character assassination called "Undercover". Somebody did it. In your State University somebody invited this man, a stranger, to come in here and deliver a lecture that you are all traitors to your country. Someone asked me yesterday what I thought of it, and I said, 'It is a wonderful book, because it lifts renegades, men like HENRY FOOD, JOHNSON of California, WHEELER of Montana, GERALD P. NYE, men like ROBERT RYNOLDS, the Rev. J. P. REILLY, pastor of the largest Baptist Church in the northern part of the United States of America, and low-down rats like McKNIGHT and you and GERALD L. K. SMITH!"

"One man said to this faker in Detroit, 'Do you think you are a better American than Mr. HENRY FORD?" That man, who can hardly handle the true rhetoric of America, said, 'Yes, I think I am a better American than that man,' -- the man that had raised that City, Detroit.

"Some poor nouveau nut in your university was foolish enough to invite that master mind to speak in your university, to run down and excoriate your Christian neighbors. Wake up! Are we going to permit this, these aliens to come in here and undercut the reputation of our people? May I enlighten you that every libel suit that has come to a head has been settled in favor of the plaintiff against him? And I have an affidavit of a man who heard CARLSON say, 'I do not give a damn what is in the book, a million will buy it at $2.50 a copy.' And the Jews were saps for that, and he played them for suckers because of their hysterical fear.

"A terrific racket is going on over this country, in order to collect money from the Jews. They only have to prove that someone in Salt Lake is growing up that will cut their throats, and 'your quota is $500.' They are being investigated, and when the Department of Justice reveals its report, it will be one of the most sensational in the history of our country.

"Yes, I recognize the strategic necessity of cooperating with a military ally, and I never said one word that would advise anyone that it was impractical to accept military aid in time of war from anyone who would help us. But I did throw out this challenge, even though we be the war allies of Soviet Russia, I will not be bulldozed by any wire-whiskered bolshevist in Detroit, Baltimore, or Washington, or any place else. Let me remind you that it is only a matter of days when the red flag will fly over two-thirds of Europe. I will come back to that when I discuss the Crime of Crimea.

"The third real issue we have to face is the threat of a super state. The plan is to get us into a world government; that is what they wanted to accomplish at Dumbarton Oaks. They held a meeting in the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, and showed a world flag. They charged $5 a plate, and they said, 'We should have a great super state, a great world government,' that would comprise the sovereignty of our nation, and they adopted a world flag. If anybody might be suspicious that this was made up as a straw-man proposition, I bought this flag and several others like it on a commercial basis from the Adam Flag Company--'The United Nations Flag'--and may I say to you tonight, if you wonder what I stand for, that as long as there is pulse in my heart and spirit in my soul and life in my body, I shall not give my consent to any flag that shall fly higher than the stars and stripes. (Applause.)

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"Someone says, 'What is the difference between a nationalist and an internationalist?' Very well, in words, the nationalist wants to keep his Government in Washington, and the internationalist wants to set it up some place outside the United States of America.

"Watch the superstate. Watch the technique of those who would like to popularize the words United Nations in place of United States, and set a congress or world parliament, where the Chinamen and Russians will have a vote and everybody in South America and in the United States a vote. In fact, Crimea said the British could have six, the Russians three, and the United States one. Do you know why they have to keep one American on the Board? To have someone to write the checks. (Laughter.)

"Now you wonder what makes a nationalist tick. What makes an American Firster? A man who has been kicked and smeared. Why do I feel sure of myself and know I am right and know that the nationalists who win the victories in the days immediately ahead? I will tell you why. There are certain potentialities that cannot be escaped. I will give you one. The Department of Justice has revealed that among the propagandists registered last year in the Government, the agents of foreign nations spent on propaganda here 125 million dollars, most of it by the British and Russians. Do you know what for they are spending most of this money? To condition us to side with them (the Russians) against Great Britain later on; and the British to side with them against Russia later on! I favor returning to the traditional policy of American neutrality to the end that we not have another blood spilling to save Britain from Russia, Russia from Britain or anybody else. Let us save America first! (Applause.)

"Well, you know nationalists are made on a wholesale basis when they start to make them. The chief editor of the New York Times, which has a staff of 200 men in Europe--and all under this one man who is my friend--came back for a furlough last fall and visited me in my home, and he said, 'GERALD, if you were in England, I think they would all join you. Do you think they have not relished the fact that the British charged us 3 million dollars rent to ride across the channel to die?'

"I picked up a government report today, and we are paying the Australians when we go in and save the islands and turn them back, $3 to $8 a tree for every palm we shoot down. We furnish the blood. Don't you think that is enough? No wonder someone has called us Uncle Sap s. That makes us America Firsters on a wholesale basis.

"I live in Detroit. We cannot get meat. The only way you can get a chicken is on the black market, at $1 a pound! But I can walk into a Canadian restaurant and the waitress will say, 'What do you want--sirloin, T-bone, pork chops, veal steak, pheasant, chicken, breast of quail? The Canadians charge Britain for all the meat they get in Canada; we donate ours. Don't you think if anybody would donate meat, it would be one of their dominions? The fact still remains that not one soldier has been conscripted in Australia, or South Africa, or in India. They tried to conscript 12,000 in Canada, but 8,000 got away. I am not discounting the heroism of the Canadian soldiers, but they do not believe in conscripting men to go across the water, although they have volunteered and died as heroically as any soldiers in this war on the many battle fields of this war.

Senator BECKER of Nebraska returned from South America and reported we had spent in "bean doggling" in South America six billion dollars, to buy the friendship of South American republics. That would pay a cash bonus of $1,000 a head for the first six million boys mustered out of the service--Brazilian, Chilean, Czechoslavakian, Italian, German, French, British, Norwegian, or Swede--before those boys who have been maimed and wounded in the winning of this war. That is what I mean when I say, "America First!" (Applause.)

"And here is a neat little thing. The other day I picked up that the British are now calling on our members of Congress to vote to underwrite the complete peacetime budget of the British Government, including the budget of the Parliament; because they think they will go down and if we are to keep them up, we are to pay all the bills. The time has come for us to stand on guard. May I say this, ladies and gentlemen, Mr. TRUMAN does not know what happened in Crimea. Neither do I, or anybody. The only man who know what happened in this country, beyond a few secrets that leaked out, was the President of the United States. Ladies and gentlemen, I have no desire to be disrespectful with the dead, or in any course way with a man who I have fought politically for the last twelve years, but no Christian or American can endorse the deals made at Yalta. One of them was the Polish deal. Russia set up a puppet government about as if they had set up EARL BROWDER in charge of the United States government. And here is a neat little thing. Three hundred thousand young Poles volunteered to fight for the allies. These 200,000 swore their allegiance to the London Polish government in exile, but now under the Lublin government these are the traitors and will be thrown into concentration camps if they return, because they swore allegiance to the ones they recognized.

"Those whose reports cannot be doubted, inform me that a deal was made to turn over into the sphere of Russian influence, Denmark,

"Sweden, Norway, Finland, the Baltic states, and reduce 8 million Germans to human slavery. Ladies and gentlemen, there are millions of people in Germany no more to blame for HITLER than I am to blame for HARRY HOPKINS. Let us assume that everybody in Germany above 14 or even 10 years of age is guilty, are we to reduce those who are yet to come to maturity, to slavery under a government that will not permit American newspaper men to find out what is happening in Russia, Bulgaria, and the rest. The reason Mr. ROOSEVELT'S death was hastened, although he had been sick for over a year, was the fact that he had to realize that he lost in the conference of Crimea. Just think, ladies and gentlemen, of having to appease STALIN with 8 million human slaves ... and send 800,000 Italians into slavery, and divide other millions among the allies according to their needs. And the system that the German slave is to work under is that he shall work for a thousand dollars a year, but he shall not be paid but his pay will go to the reparations committee in Moscow, while he continues to work in Russia as a slave. Ladies and gentlemen, it will not save the massacred Jews of Germany to bring 8 million more innocents under human slavery. And I say to you that if America ever agrees at San Francisco to reduce any human being, black, white, German, or Italian, Frenchman, or Englishman, Russian or American, to human slavery--if America finances or underwrites that with her blood and money, God will curse America; God will take our blessings from us.

"Now they come back with Bretton Woods. They lost their first engagement there. They were supposed to be able to buy up those delegates from 45 states, the way they bought up South Carolina, with the old New Deal money, but Congress refused to rush it through. It has slowed down and has not passed; and now the international money handlers are attending the San Francisco Conference without being able to raise antes and say to Mexico, 'You got only 200 million? We can raise that.' Or if Paraguay gets stubborn, 'Mr. ROOSEVELT promises 6 to 12 billion dollars...a donation to Russia if she would help us in the Orient.' STALIN knows he could go with or against Japan, he could have withdrawn from the European war or continued it, and he held a whip hand over our people. And as he moves out across Europe now, at the end of this war, and has a fifth column organized in America, someone said, 'Oh, yes, but we must have a peace organization.' Can we honor the Prince of Peace in a conference where the one who curses the Prince of Peace dominates? The first thing they did at San Francisco was agree that nobody should be permitted to pray. Can we have peace when we refuse to pray for the Prince of Peace, or share our sovereignty with a man who holds 16 million Christians in concentration camps?

"Do you remember when BERLINE, a young man in the Russian Embassy, resigned a few months ago and wrote an article for the Readers'

Digest, in which he said '16 Million still endure a living death in the concentration camps of Russia.'

"There was Dumbarton Oaks. I will tell you my experience with that. They called the conference, and brought in the British and Russians to lay down a plan for what they hoped to adopt in San Francisco; and everybody was in favor of secrecy and did not want the press in. I was sitting in church and saying, when they were to meet on Monday, why doesn't someone protest this secrecy?

"There is nothing more un-American than secret diplomacy. I hate to say it, but Mr. ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL met in 1941 out on the Atlantic Ocean and the O.W.I. reproduced that charter and sent it out to the newspapers and libraries and publications. The most shocking thing in history was when Mr. ROOSEVELT returned from South Carolina and very blasely said, 'There never was an Atlantic Charter.' And it had been photostated with a facsimile of signatures out there! Secret diplomacy!

LONG

"And I said, 'Why doesn't someone protest the secrecy of Dumbarton Oaks?' A little voice said to me, 'Why don't you do that?' We got on the train and went to Washington and went to the Willard Hotel, and called up CORDELL HULL, and his secretary answered, 'Mr. HULL is old and tired and has this conference on, but we will arrange for Mr. BRECKENRIDGE, his assistant, to see Mr. SMITH.' Mr. LONG called at 5 o'clock and said, 'I would like you to write your statement out.' And I wrote a protest against secrecy. I delivered it in person to Mr. LONG at Mr. HULL'S Office. And the next morning I got up, and Mrs. SMITH said, 'What have you got on your mind now?'

"I said, 'I am going out to Dumbarton Oaks.' I called up members of my staff, and a representative of the United Press and Associated Press, etc., and told them what I was going to do. We went out together. We went out to the aristocratic old estate, and the delegations were there and surrounded by the United States Army.

"I walked up to a young private soldier and started to walk on and be through the gate. He stopped me, said, 'You cannot gothrough without a pass.'

"I said, 'Well, I have a message for Mr. STETTINIUS.' -- I had it written out. And that we would like to know what was going on.

He said he could not take it, 'You have to file it with the State Department.' -- The guilty flee when no man pursueth.

"I asked a corporal, and he said, 'You cannot send the message in.'

"I said, 'I'm an American citizen, and I want to know what the British and Russian soldiers are doing in there.'

"A little fellow, an astute clerical type, bounced up, smiled, and I said, 'Are you going in and will you take this in to Mr. STETINIUS?' And he took it in.

"Then the Sergeant came out and I said to the Sergeant, 'I am Mr. SMITH, an American citizen. This is my wife. These are representatives of the three great press agencies of America. We would like to know what the Russians and British are doing in there.'

"People call things like that crazy, but you know the Boston Tea Party was crazy too. (Laughter). If we had had one thousand out there instead of one, or fifteen, or fifty, it might have been different. But folks would say, 'They might investigate my income!'

"Up stepped the Sergeant and they turned me over to the lieutenant and to the major. And I said to the major, 'Suppose I would run for the door--' And he said, 'We would have to shoot you.' And, I said, 'My wife? Or these boys who represent the press -- the eyes and ears of 120 million people?' He said, 'We would have to shoot him.' And I saw the major was going to fall into the trap, and I said, 'Suppose a member of the United States Senate were to run past you, what would you do?'

"And he said, 'I would have to shoot him, too.'

"And then I turned to the press and said, 'There is the paragraph for history that I have written for you this morning! Let it be said at this awful hour (I did not orate then), that we have sunk so low that a military officer has been ordered by our Executive Department to shoot a United States Senator if he dares walk into a secret conference where they are discussing a treaty, which only the United States Senate is authorized to confirm!'

"You wonder why I am in Salt Lake and Nationalism is growing, why young men are organizing themselves into groups, and why I am sure of myself, why I speak with boldness. What do you think of people with a tradition like ours endorsing a program to bring foreigners to our shores and surround them with secrecy, to shoot down people who inquire as to the secrets being discussed. That was the peace they decided on and hoped to approve in San Francisco. No wonder STALIN said, 'I

"will consent to the Dumbarton Oaks policy." The Code of Crimes, the Dumbarton Hoax, will ripen into a San Francisco [illegible] (inaudible)

"I know it is old fashioned. I believe in butter for the hungry, but I do not like what happened a few weeks ago, when they loaded up two ship loads of oleo margarine for the Russians, and their commissioner said, 'We cannot accept it; we have to have butter.' So they unloaded it and loaded up the ships with butter.

"I was in Chicago the other day. You cannot get butter, meat, or pork. But I picked up an official report showing that right now 300 million pounds of pork are being packed for the Russians. Why for the Russians? STALIN puts Russia first; CHURCHILL puts Britain first. Let us put American first. Not because we are greedy or selfish, but in the spirit of Christians, whose Bible says, 'He that careth not for his own is worse than an infidel.'

"What will we do about it? Inform ourselves and enlighten our neighbors, and mobilize everything that is good, the stars and stripes, the Constitution, Christian ethics and civilization, and an intelligent, rational preservation of our own program of democracy.

"My son is over there. I do not want him to be the tool of an international police force to put down a rebellion in India, or to keep China in line for the Imperialists, or to satisfy the whim of some power maniac. Let us not delegate power to any super state, or a delegate in a world organization to maintain an organization where the blood of our sons cannot be let without the vote of our elected representatives in Congress.

"I could go on, but I am going to discuss this: Two big secrets have yet to come out. (1) The mystery of Timoshow. -- Why have they been afraid to hear Timoshow? Why were 3,000 of our boys shot like fish in a barrel? What about every thing we saw days before the attack at Pearl Harbor, written by a young American?

"And the next mysterious story, of the young code clerk in the Embassy in London, went first as a career diplomat. His father was a diplomat, and his mother had been with him all over the world. The boy grew up a prodigy. It was easy to learn all the [illegible]. He was sent to Russia and raised a little criticism there, and was sent from Russia to London. There is nothing as hot as what I will say the next ten minutes. Men have been shot for less. And I am not trying to be melodramatic. I am telling you the kind of thing that will make Nationalism a wholesale basis. When the veil of censorship is lifted, the people will begin to hear. He was sitting as a code clerk, and his

"responsibility was to decode messages between his American government in Washington and the American Embassy in London, and he began to see messages exchanged between our President and CHURCHILL in 1939. 'Stick with me and we can rule the world.' 'Go with me into war and you and I will triumph.' Then they plotted even against STALIN, and the messages were even profane. And this young man, a Virginian, raised to be a patriot, was shocked. He realized he was bound by secrecy, but also that he was hearing terrible proof. He tried to get a passport to return home. They would not permit him to return home. He went to whom he thought was his best friend in the British Parliament, and told him what he was hearing. He recorded a copy and took to his apartment over 3,000 cablegrams between Mr. ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL, as they planned the coming war two years, a year and a half before. He told the full story to Captain RAMSEY, who rose (this is no secret--it is on the Parliamentary record of Great Britain, and only censorship kept it from America) in Parliament. As he walked off the Parliament floor, he was seized by the British Secret Service without trial, and thrown in prison, where he languished three and a half years, and was only released a short while ago. Immediately TYLER KENT was fired. As he walked down the steps of the American Embassy, he was seized by the British police and sentenced in a secret trial to be banished to the Isle of Wight, where he languishes tonight. One of the most eminent American journalists wrote that story, and I asked him when it would come out, and he said, 'GERALD, I dare not do it; it might cost me my life.'

"I said, 'Are you willing to give me a copy of that story?'

"I got on the train with it and went to Washington, and saw Mrs. KENT, the mother of TYLER KENT. And I said, 'I am going to publish this story--but not until you, the mother, say so. She signed her name--'minor corrections, insignificant detail.' She took it to the journalist in Baltimore whom I had named in this story, and said, 'I will give you $5,000 out of my humble legacy, if you will go to England and confirm what we have already heard.' He got there and went to London, and through acquaintances got out to the Isle of Wight and saw this boy and confirmed everything I told you tonight.

"And when he returned, BURTON WHEELER had a committee to see him, and they went to his home in Maryland, and shook as he spoke, and he said, 'I will not testify unless I can be guaranteed complete protection by the Secret Service Department of the United States of America.' And that awful secret is in the heart of that boy.

"If that boy was guilty, he should not have been tried in a secret court in Britain, but tried at home in an open court as an

"American citizen in the United States of America. That story will some day be told.

"A grandson of WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN only a few months ago returned from London, and it is no secret in England but is barroom gossip; it is not known to you because of censorship. But young BRYAN OWEN came across the ocean in a plane, he said, and he was talking rather glibly, 'It is the scandal of a century.' Then he returned to America, only a few hours later he died mysteriously in a New York apartment. This is fact; all that can be established by the mouth of a genial lad who went to CORDELL HULL and released this statement to the press. And only one paper was unafraid to print it, and it was printed in the first edition and removed in the second. Another paper did print two stories confirming much of the details that I have given you tonight.

"These are the great secrets that shall be exposed when the curtain is lifted.

"These are the things that will make Nationalists on a wholesale basis and make those men that have been branded as traitors, patriots in the history of your community, Mr. STOKES. These are the things that only courageous men can speak. These are the things referred to when the most patriotic of our American history said, 'Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.' I have given everything. I have suffered the assassination of character; I have been smeared, stepped on, cursed by the most highly paid character assassins in America.

"I addressed a meeting in Buffalo, New York, just as self-respecting as this one, with prayer, saluting of the flag, a high tribute to American tradition. Imagine the shock of my family and soldier son when we heard the character assassin, WALTER WINCHELL, say last Sunday night, 'GERALD L. SMITH jumped on an American flag and spit on it.' No recourse, no opportunity for reply. My spokesman in Buffalo prepared an affidavit signed by one of the leading protestants and the leading Catholic, and leading citizens who sat on the platform and knew it was fabrication. But my son and my wife had to weep as I was lashed with something ten times worse than a cat-o-nine-tails.

"Do you think we can always be crushed under this tyranny, without reaction! Out of the soul and hearts of Christian men and women there is a resounding reaction on the side of America, that under God we shall purge this nation of these reds and oriental conspirators who design against our traditions. And we will be true to the Constitution and lift high the stars and stripes. (Applause.)

"I received a letter from a beautiful Christian character down in South Carolina, 72 years old. She said, 'I heard that awful broadcast, and I am sending you something to show how little I believed it.' A few weeks later we got a crocheted American flag, estimated to contain 300,000 stitches, hand-made by this sweet woman away back in the mountains. (Applause.) Some psychologist, student of mob psychology, will say, 'That is the only trick, spring the flag.' I want to know if there is anything I can spring better than the flag. That means the Bible, that means the Constitution, private enterprise, where plow boys become industrial magnates and farm hands become President of the United States. That means a situation where the opportunity of all men becomes the opportunity of all children in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

"Now, I could walk out of here and consider that I have done something, but then we would not have accomplished anything, practically. I'd like to come in and speak like a prima dona, and walk out and speak to nobody practically, and go to a shower...I want to send you this magazine for six months or a year, and send you our monthly letter, which keeps you in touch with our program across the nation. May I say this, this meeting is not money raising, but if you do in those envelopes want to help, etc. etc. Everyone who puts in $2 or more will get the magazine. Everyone who puts in a dollar or more will get the magazine six months, and you will all get the TYLER KENT story.

"How many of you would like to have me stop off on my way back from San Francisco and give you my impression? ...."

(Probably a hundred present; a good many stopped to shake hands, pick up literature at door, etc.)

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] The writer observed, together with Special Agent [redacted], that the meeting was in fact picketed by known members of the Salt Lake City Club of the Communist Political Association, including [redacted] b7C and six University students, whose identities were ascertained through

b7D

[redacted] and [redacted] the picketing consisted of the carrying of banners which had the following phrases printed in large letters upon them:

"HITLER QUIT BUT SMITH HASN'T"
"GERALD L. K. SMITH EQUALS DISUNITY"
"GERALD L. K. SMITH, FRIEND OF FASCISTS, DON'T LET HIM SABOTAGE THE PEACE"
"DON'T BE SUCKED IN BY GERALD L. K. SMITH, HE WANTS TO GIVE THE PEACE AWAY"
"BY INVITATION ONLY ! THAT'S HOW' GERALD"
"GOEBBELS FAILED TO SPLIT THE ALLIES, SMITH STILL TRYS"

In addition, mimeographed circulars were distributed by [redacted] and [redacted] to all passers-by entering the Hotel Utah, which circulars read as follows: b7C

"GERALD L. K. SMITH

PELLEY'S SILVER SHIRT
STORM TROOPER NO. 5223

NOTORIOUS AMERICA FIRSTER

'Appeasement, obstructionism, a negotiated peace', all-out campaign against the Lend Lease Bill and against national defense; the breeding of defeatism and distrust of our leadership - these were the corner-stones on which GERALD L. K. SMITH operated.'

From UNDER COVER

HE SABOTAGED THE WAR

DON'T LET HIM SABOTAGE THE PEACE"

One copy of the circulars is being retained in the file of the Salt Lake City Field Division. [redacted] that there were approximately one hundred persons in attendance at the meeting of GERALD L. K. SMITH held in the Hotel Utah May 3 at 8:00 P.M. The Subject received limited newspaper notices, an item appearing in the Salt Lake City Telegram, May 2, 1945 quoting Mr. SMITH as urging isolation. A very small item appeared in the Salt Lake City Tribune, May 4, 1945, in which GERALD L. K. SMITH was quoted as Party Chief Sees Failure at San Francisco and the article reads as follows: b7D

"The United States must continue traditional policies set by GEORGE WASHINGTON—being friendly to other nations, but avoiding any entangling alliances—if peace is to be maintained after this war, GERALD L. K. SMITH, director of the America First Party, said Wednesday in Salt Lake City.

"The visitor, who is to address a group of invited guests Thursday night at Hotel Utah, said he believes the San Francisco conference either will 'blow up' or end in ratification of an innocuous document.

"Mr. SMITH is on his way to San Francisco, where he plans to observe proceedings of the United Nations Conference."

The day following the address made by Mr. SMITH, May 4, 1945, a small notice appeared in the "Salt Lake City Tribune" which is quoted as follows:

"GERALD L. K. SMITH, head of the America First Party, addressed about 100 persons for two hours Thursday night in the Roof Garden of the Hotel Utah, explaining objectives of the party.

"He said it is not the aim of the group to establish a political party to run candidates in elections.

"Our hope and belief', he said, 'is that nationalism will become so popular that both major parties will adopt it as a matter of political expediency.'

"He denounced the Yalta agreements and Bretton Woods plan and said when all the facts are known nationalist converts will be made on a large scale. The three most vital issues facing the country, he asserted, are bureaucratic tyranny, the communism of the American communist party and the super state."

It may be noted that the "Salt Lake City Telegram" and the "Deseret News", also published at Salt Lake City, each carried an item about the speech made by GERALD L. K. SMITH, together with information relative to the picketers and a picture of the individuals picketing in front of the Hotel Utah immediately prior to the time for the speech.

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[redacted]

b7c
b7D

Since there is no further investigation in this Field Division, this case is considered referred upon completion to the office of origin.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

SU 14-66

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Will, upon review of the information contained in instant report, advise the Salt Lake City Field Division if further investigation is desired of Subject's activities when he returns to Detroit in view of the information made available to the effect that he plans to stop off at Salt Lake City to conduct a further meeting.

SU 14-86

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

INDEX GUIDE

TITLE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY

CASE: INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

SA: [redacted] b7c

DATE: MAY 20, 1945

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b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 42

PAGES REVIEWED: 55

PAGES RELEASED: 47

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

4-750 (2-7-79)

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62-43018-733
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EX-18

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark — June 2, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, was;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY-C; SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

103875

For your further information in the captioned matter, there are enclosed herewith copies of the following investigative reports:

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Los Angeles, California, May 5, 1945;
Report of Special Agent [redacted], dated at Saint Louis, Missouri, May 11, 1945;
Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Salt Lake City, Utah, May 20, 1945.

Subject Smith's activities at the San Francisco Conference are being followed by the Bureau, and immediately upon receipt of an investigative report in this connection it will be furnished to you.

Enclosure

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/13/92 BY SP-6BTJ/mlc

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

60 JUN 15 1945

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

DN FILE NO. 100-3557

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
DENVER, COLORADO	6-1-45	4-27;5-21-45	[redacted] [redacted] LM

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, w.as. & AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY (G) SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject spoke at the Englewood Baptist Tabernacle, Englewood, Colorado, under auspices of Christian Youth for America on 4/30/45. Throughout speech he espoused "America first", claiming this country is giving all of its riches to foreigners instead of returning veterans and attacking the "Crime of Crimea," the secret deals made at Yalta to take away our sovereignty, the rationing program, Communism, Dumbarton Oaks Conference, and the San Francisco Conference. Subject read his comments on President TRUMAN, which were of a mild nature, and indicated he was reserving judgment on the President. Subject announced he would speak again in the City Auditorium, Denver, Colorado, on 6/12/45 under same auspices.

- P -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/13/82 BY SP-8000

REFERENCES: Bureau File #62-43818.
Letters from Detroit FD, 4/3/45 and 4/17/45.

DETAILS: AT DENVER, COLORADO

[redacted] that on Sunday evening, April 29, 1945, Reverend HARVEY HOWARD SPRINGER, pastor of the Englewood Baptist Tabernacle, Englewood, Colorado, after his usual religious service, introduced GERALD L. K. SMITH to his audience as "my friend, GERALD." SMITH, in a few short remarks, advised that he was on his way to the United Nations Conference at San Francisco, which he termed the greatest Anti-Christ Conference the world has ever held, and that he would talk at length in the Englewood Baptist Tabernacle on the following evening, April 30, 1945, at which time he would reveal "all".

EX-58 ENCL. BEHIND FILE

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: R. A. Frantz SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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5 - Bureau (Encls.)
3 - Detroit
2 - Denver

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F B I
13 JUN 5 1945

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EX-58

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 7—2034

In his few short remarks, he stated that it is time for Christians to get together and fight these anti-Christ tendencies; that the Communists would try to break up the meeting on April 30, 1945; that at San Francisco a super-state was being formed with a flag that would displace our American flag; that he has organized the Christian Nationalist Party and SPRINGER would run for high office under its auspices. Petitions were available to those in attendance for signature to combat the so-called "Gestapo" bill.

Concerning Subject's meeting at the Englewood Baptist Tabernacle on the evening of April 30, 1945, at which time he spoke on "Christ or the Super-State," information was received from [redacted] b7D to the effect that there were approximately three hundred people present, the tabernacle being only moderately full. It might be noted that this meeting received no prior publicity in Denver, Colorado, except that sent out by Reverend SPRINGER to those on his mailing list to whom he also sent cards of admission.

A transcript of the complete proceedings of the meeting at the Englewood Baptist Tabernacle on the evening of April 30, 1945, was obtained from [redacted] the original of which is being furnished to the Bureau, a summary being set out hereinafter. b7D

Following the usual religious, musical numbers, KENNETH GOFF opened the meeting by stating that Subject was appearing under the auspices of the Christian Youth for America, which has its headquarters in Englewood and which was organized for the purpose of combating the ~~American League for Democracy~~. Several members of the National Council of the Christian Youth for America were sitting on the platform. GOFF, after many complimentary remarks concerning Subject, introduced Reverend SPRINGER, who made a typical introduction for Subject.

Subject in his early remarks stated:

> "Occasionally, in fact, frequently, in order to keep the Communists and other form of lice, vermin and rats from packing our meeting, we give out invitations, . . ."

He later stated that he was representing twenty-one nationalism groups in forty-eight states. Subsequently, he stated:

> "They are trying to push this deal over at San Francisco. They want to push it over, to take our money to finance France, the British Empire, Russia, and spend the money before the boys can get back from the battle front. I say we should not make one deal until the boys that won the war are home and have something to say about the deal that goes with it.

"I want to say, isn't it better that we got a new President. Now I am not going to speak extemporaneously concerning our new President. I am going to read my statement concerning our new President. . . . I am going to give you some of the best common sense you have ever seen since you were born before this meeting is over.

"During the lifetime of Franklin D. Roosevelt I was one of his chief political foes. Part of that was that in the last speech he made before the largest crowd he ever addressed in Chicago, he attacked me. I remember how Mrs. Smith and I felt the morning we picked up the morning paper. Franklin D. Roosevelt called in the Attorney General and ordered him to send Gerald L. K. Smith to prison. But there is no bitterness in my heart. I don't want to be classed with those who would speak an undignified word concerning the dead. Franklin D. Roosevelt died with the secrets of the world upon his heart. Some of those secrets were known by Harry Hopkins, some by Samuel Rosenman who wrote his speeches, some by Joseph Stalin, Winston Churchill, domestic and national politicans.

"Harry Truman was not in the confidence of the President. He knew very little of what was going on under the roof of the White House or in secret conferences of the Big Three, the Big Four or the Big Five. Mr. Truman was not Mr. Roosevelt's choice for Vice President. He was forced into the picture by a set of western Democrats who were determined that Wallace should not be the next President of the United States. Every leading politician in America knew that Roosevelt's health was bad. Even during the Democratic Convention the pictures taken of him looked ghastly and even ghostly. I attended the Democratic Convention in Chicago. My staff and I lived in the hotel where most of the individuals in high command stay. I watched this man work as I was sitting in the bleachers. This is the spirit that Truman hated just as much as Mr. Thomas Dewey, Bricker, and others who were opposed to the new deal. Northern conservatives and southern conservatives were for Truman. Jewish leaders were for Wallace.

"What I am about to say is not an anti-Semitic statement, just an observation of truth. Jewish leaders and communists were all for Henry Wallace.

"The Vice President would become the next president of the United States. Truman knew that. Henry Wallace knew it. Sidney Hillman knew it. The new dealers worked more bitterly than in the general election to defeat Dewey. In fact, I think the nationalists would prefer Dewey to Truman.

"The whole accumulation of a one-man rule and their by-products have been pushed into the lap of the little common man from Missouri. Only God in Heaven can save this man from the clutches of the most ruthless, highly financed set of international conspirators the world has ever known.

"He says he wants to carry out the Roosevelt plan. This may not be serious if he permits the Senate to stand on its own feet. The dangerous element in the Roosevelt method is not so much in the personal opinions of Roosevelt, but in constant and determined effort to force his opinions upon Congress and upon the courts, thus weakening our system of government, and limited efforts to carry out the will of the people. I believe that Harry Truman wants to obey the will of the people and to do the things that you want. (Applause.)

"It becomes, therefore, the responsibility of the people like you and me to help make our new President realize that we represent the great cross-section of American people and are opposed, among other things, to the following:—Someone says, you are always talking about what you are against, you would think I would tell you what we are for. We are for Christianity. Can you improve on that? Among other things we are against the following:

1. An international bank.
2. A plan for a super state, such as the Dumbarton Oaks Conference.

I am going to tell you about Dumbarton Oaks, tell you about my visit there. If you see me forgetting it, hold up a finger.

3. A world police force.
4. Secret deals and secret covenants.

Those are some of the things we are opposed to.

"Mr. Harry Truman should be right. He was raised right. He has a background of common everyday Americanism. You ought to give this a hand. (Applause.) Harry Truman is a Baptist. Now, you people know there are several kinds of Baptists, however, Now, he was put over at Chicago, and he belongs to the Baptist Church. If that does not make him a common man, nothing will. He would be called by some a hilly billy, poor, humble and shows all of the signs of wanting God's help in this critical hour. One thing I like, when he went to church the first Sunday, they asked him where he was going to church, and he said, 'It is none of your business.' That is not supposed to be publicized.

"You know he was raised in Independence, Missouri. Independence, Missouri is noted for two things. It is the home town of Harry Truman and it is the home town of Jesse James. Now, Grandma Truman lives there. All Harry needs to do to please me is to follow Truman. There are too many in Washington who are still following Jesse James. (Applause.)

"Now, here is the real problem with Harry Truman, and the people who look and feel and act and react like Harry Truman's family save him from being accompanied politically by a set of rascals and high pressure artists, and what is going on in Washington will make the Teapot Dome look like a cold cup of coffee.

"They caught a doctor the other day who had got priorities and money to make bandages which were used for criminal purposes, and cleaned up half a million dollars. You realize that hundreds of factories are running today, manufacturing stuff we don't need. Just as quick as it goes out of the factory, it goes onto the surplus auction block and they are buying it at 10 cents on the dollar, and selling it to the government for 100 cents on the dollar.

"According to military law, if a boy falls asleep on a fruit train while he is guarding that train, he is shot. What about a doctor that takes the blood of 13,000,000 and runs it through a wringer? Those are the men I want to see named, I want to see their names of page 1 of every daily newspaper in the United States of America.

"If Grandma Truman's spirit controls Harry, I am for him, but if he deserts the old home place like the prodigal son, then I am against him. But I say God bless Harry Truman. (Applause.) God bless and save Harry Truman that he may direct the affairs of America in the spirit of Independence, Missouri, Grandma Truman, and his old-time Baptist show-me neighbors from Missouri.

"This is my statement on the new President of the United States. I believe it is every white man's duty, every citizen's duty, whether white, black, red or yellow, in America to give Harry Truman a chance. I am not going to criticize our new President until he has had a chance to perform. You can give that a hand if you want to. (Applause.)

"In behalf of eighty-one daily newspapers and weekly and monthly periodicals, I am going to observe this, together with nine other members of my staff. We will observe this conference scientifically and carefully. In behalf of twenty-one nationalism groups I have been asked to prepare as a national leader a confidential report of what I think of this conference for twenty-three members of the United States

Congress committees of the United States Senate, sixteen members of the Lower House. One thing I want to remind you of--seventeen members of the Lower House—when this treaty comes back to be endorsed by our Senate it will take sixty-four men to approve the plan that Stalin has got for us. A tally taken by the Associated Press reveals that sixty-four members of the United States Senate were ready to vote for the plan. Dumbarton Oaks. Yes, they have got to have sixty-four. You say have we got any chance. I say to you we only have to change one man out of those sixty-four, and, believe me, I am going to work on all sixty-four. You talk about personal work.

"I am against communism, just as I am against Shintoism. In the last war Japan was our ally, but we didn't have to embrace Shintoism to demonstrate faith to our allies. Great Britain is our ally but it does not mean that we are going to go into the British Empire, and it does not mean we have to pay the bills of the British from now on until Kingdom come, a little game they call lend lease in reverse.

"The British government and the communist government of Russia have hundreds of their representatives in this country, lobbying our Congress, all eager to spend our money on them after the war is over.

"Not long ago, I talked to a United States Senator and he said the British have 500 men in Washington calling in an attempt to persuade us as soon as the war is over to underwrite the complete peace time budget of the British Empire, including the salaries of their Members of Parliament, etc., on the theory that if the British are impoverished, we will go down. What do I mean by America first? I say the first duty for our money and our resources is to take care of these 13,000,000 American boys that have been in the uniform of our country. That is our first duty. That is what I mean by America first. (Applause.)"

In his attacks on the rationing program, he referred to the recent publicity concerning the coyote hunt arranged in Oklahoma by the Governor of the State for Lord Halifax and the amount of gasoline consumed at that time. Concerning our financial support of other nations, he also stated:

"If you can talk the English language, if you look like a Baptist, it is awfully hard to get anything in Washington, but if you look like anything but an American and can't speak the American language they will give you ten million, fifty million, a hundred million, or fifty billion,--just say what you want. What do I mean by America first? I say let us put an end to that kind of stuff in the United States of America. (Applause.)"

He also recounted the story of his Chicago meeting on March 15, 1945, and stated that the Jews had tried to break up this meeting and had been used as tools of the Communists. Everyone who entered the tabernacle that evening was given a flier concerning this meeting, which flier was headed, "Chicago Christians Victorious." A copy of this flier has been furnished to the Bureau. In his talk he also pointed out that in Detroit he was unable to get any steak, pork chops or butter, and stated that all that was necessary was to drive under the river to Canada where everything was available, from a porterhouse steak on down. In this regard, he pointed out that there is no rationing of meat in Canada, stating "because Canada, although she belongs to the British Empire, won't ship one pound of meat to England unless she gets cash on the barrel head . . . . so Canada has got plenty of meat, and we haven't got any meat. I say if anybody should donate meat to the British, it should be the Dominion of Canada and not the United States of America. Isn't that just good, old-fashioned Americanism?"

"I am going to tell you a little something about Americanism. Four hundred million people in China should be enough people in China to whip the Japs, or at least help us whip the Japs. But Britain does not want that. They oppose it. Britain is afraid that if we can train the Chinese so they can help with the Japs, and train five million Chinese for marine service, China will want her independence. So, in order to satisfy the militarists we have refused to arm the Chinese, refused to give them the guns they need. Instead, we are going to send American boys there to do the fighting that the Chinese could have done."

In addition, concerning the Crimea Conference, he stated:

"What are we up against? We are up against secret deals. I hate to say this--nobody knows what Roosevelt agreed to in Yalta. It was a deal between Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill. Most people, those that are informed, think that Roosevelt wanted to be the first President of the world. It was a political deal. How could it have been otherwise, because, although it wasn't given out, it leaked out without the consent of the President, after he returned, that Roosevelt had promised in this association of nations to give Britain six votes and Stalin three and the United States only one. There is something wrong when deals are made like that.

" . . . . The crime of Crimea--that is what they want us to endorse at San Francisco--human slavery.

" . . . . I say to you, Joe Stalin, who began as a bank robber and helped to slaughter fifteen or twenty million Christians because they

would not renounce Christ for communism—I say before you ask us to sign anything on the dotted line, turn those 16,000,000 Christians loose that you have got imprisoned in Russia now. (Applause.)"

During his speech he told in great detail the story of his son in Burma in the Army and said that when he and other veterans returned home they would take care of WALTER WINCHELL and guys like him. He also went into his customary tirade against the world flag, which he has been known to use on many previous occasions. He also criticized the State Department for its secrecy concerning the Dumbarton Oaks Conference and related in detail his futile efforts to secure admission to this conference, stating that the Armed Guard around the Conference had threatened to shoot even a member of the United States Senate if he attempted to pass without a permit. He stated that this conference approved a policy of international statehood and definitely took a stand against secret governments and secret treaties. He stated that at Dumbarton Oaks it was agreed that the United States should put up ten billion dollars to finance other countries . . . that this was supposed to be the "kitty" so the International Bankers could go to San Francisco and line up to get the good things. He stated that he had put on pressure before Congressional Committees and as yet they haven't been able to get the International Bank through Congress.

In conclusion, he stated that he would return to Denver on June 12, 1945, at which time he would speak in the Denver City Auditorium, again under the auspices of the Christian Youth for America.

b7D

[redacted] that KENNETH GOFF has secured a permit to use the Denver City Auditorium on June 12, 1945, securing the use of this auditorium under the representation that it was to be used for a youth meeting by the Christian Youth of America, with no reference being made to Subject.

ENCLOSURES TO THE BUREAU: Stenographic transcription of the proceedings at the Englewood Baptist Tabernacle, April 30, 1945, which meeting was addressed by Subject.

Flier entitled "Chicago Christians Victorious"

- P E N D I N G -

DN File #100-3557

- U N D E V E L O P E D L E A D S -

THE DENVER FIELD DIVISION

AT DENVER, COLORADO

On June 12, 1945, will arrange to appropriately cover the meeting at the Denver City Auditorium, through informants.

DN File #100-3557

- CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS -

The identity of [redacted] mentioned in the report of Special Agent [redacted] Denver, Colorado, dated June 1, 1945, in the case entitled "GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, w.as., AMERICA FIRST PARTY, INTERNAL SECURITY (G), SEDITION," is as follows: b7D b7C

[redacted] b7C b7D

[redacted]

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FBI/DOJ

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Office Memorandum

DATE: June 5, 1945

EPB:mr

TO : The Director

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA (Current Events Group)

Reference is made to your memorandum dated May 31, 1945, stating a letter should be forwarded to the Philadelphia Office indicating the Bureau's displeasure at the manner in which the above captioned case had been handled.

Accordingly, there is attached, for your approval, a letter to Special Agent in Charge Sears at Philadelphia.

Attachment

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43816-235

31 JUN 12 1945

EX-8

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DATE 10/13/82 BY SP4 BTJ/mc

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

EX-8

SAC, Philadelphia

June 5, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

NATIONAL BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA;
[redacted]
INTERNAL SECURITY - X; SEDITION

b7c

Reference is made to my letter dated May 30, 1945, to Mrs. Lillian Parks, Secretary, Current Events Group, 1113 South 54th Street, Philadelphia 43, Pennsylvania, in response to a communication from her in which she complained that the Bureau was in effect responsible for Mr. C. B. Helms' attempt to cancel the lease held by her organization in the Patriotic Order Sons of America Building at 1317-19 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Copies of my acknowledgment and Mrs. Parks' letter dated May 14, 1945, were furnished your office.

b7c

The complete facts surrounding Special Agent [redacted]'s dealings with Mr. Helms have been brought to my attention and I feel that this phase of the investigation in this case was not properly handled.

It is incumbent upon you to see that every Special Agent develops informants in a discreet manner without furnishing them information about the case at hand so that no embarrassment to the Bureau will result from the utilization of the informant. Obviously if closer supervision had been afforded Special Agent [redacted] investigation in this case the situation would not have arisen.

You should forcefully point out to Special Agent [redacted] that he should have been more discreet in his contacts with Mr. Helms, and I shall hold you personally responsible for any similar incidents which occur in the future.

b7c

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MAILED
JUN 6 1945
P. M.
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ral Bureau of Investigati

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Detroit, Michigan
June 4 - 1945

Director, FBI

[redacted]

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

b7c

[redacted]

b7D

Dear Sir:

There is set forth below information obtained from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, for the period from May 7, 1945, through May 31, 1945, inclusive.

Informant advised that the Subject arrived in San Francisco on May 6, 1945, and his mailing address at that time was Saint Francis Hotel.

[redacted]

During the trip to San Francisco Subject held a meeting at Salt Lake City, Utah, which was attended by approximately 1,000 people. SMITH described this meeting as a "grand affair".

b7c

Informant advised that the mail contributions on May 11, and May 12, amounted to from $10 to $20.

Informant further advised that the Subject is still in San Francisco where he has been attending the San Francisco Conference, but the exact date when he will return to Detroit is not known.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/82 BY SP1 8610/mlw

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. Guerin
SAC

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

RECORDED & INDEXED
62-43818-936
57 JUN 18 1945

EX-58

JUN 21 1945

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: June 14, 1945

FROM : SAC, DENVER

SUBJECT: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,
with aliases; America First Party
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SEDITION
Bureau File 62-43818

[redacted] advised that she had ascertained that the lease which had been secured for the Denver City Auditorium for the use of subject on June 12, 1945 had been cancelled by the City and County of Denver. She further advised that it had been ascertained that subject SMITH will not hold any meeting in Denver or at the Englewood Baptist Tabernacle on June 12, 1945, that he is expected to hold a meeting in Denver or Englewood, however, at some future date not yet specified, which, according to [redacted]

b7c
b7D

Inasmuch as subject will not hold any meeting on June 12, 1945 in Denver as previously scheduled, this matter is being considered referred upon completion to the office of origin. However, if at some time in the future SMITH does hold a meeting in Denver it will be appropriately covered by this office.

cc - Detroit Field Division

b7c

[redacted]
100-3557

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/82 BY SP-8 OTJ/MC

HANDLE STOP D

RECORDED & INDEXED

EX - 58

62-43818-737
F B I
JUN 19 1945

1

159

4 JUN 25 1945

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Detroit 31, Michigan
June 15 - 1945

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Guavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss

[redacted]

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

DECLASSIFIED BY [illegible]
ON 7-25-77

Dear Sir:

[redacted]

b7D

Carbon copies of this letter are being furnished to the Los Angeles, Salt Lake City, and Denver Field Divisions for information purposes only. It is requested that these offices cover the instant meetings as directed in prior letters from this office.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES NOTIFIED DATE 7-25-77

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/82 BY [illegible]

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN
Special Agent in Charge

62-43818-738

FOR VICTORY [redacted] 62-1126 b7C

BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

cc - Los Angeles
Salt Lake City
Denver

RECORDED & INDEXED
57

EX-2

FIVE EPIS

62-43818-

Assistant Attorney General Tom Clark
Criminal Division
John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

June 30, 1945

RECORDED

EX-50

GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SEDITION

Enclosed for your further information in the captioned matter is a copy of the investigative report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] dated June 1, 1945, at Denver, Colorado. Also enclosed for your information is a photostatic copy of a leaflet entitled "Chicago Christians Victory" which Smith is reportedly distributing.

b2c

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/82 BY SP8BTJ/MLC

JUN 30 1945

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Gesson
Lucas
Mohr
Tamm
Mason
Tracy
Carson
Coyne
Hoover
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

MAILED 8
P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

B

FD-72

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 3
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-19053

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SAN FRANCISCO	6/14/45	4/30;5/6,8-12, ~~14-19,21-26,30,~~ 31/45	[redacted] [redacted]

b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L.K. SMITH. with aliases; AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: SMITH arrived at San Francisco 5-6-45 with wife and secretary. They resided at the Maurice Hotel. SMITH held one press conference and attempted to hold a second, but was prevented from doing so. He spoke at three meetings while in San Francisco and attempted to hold a fourth, but the hotel canceled his lease on the meeting room. List of subject's telephone and correspondence contacts obtained. SMITH and party left for Los Angeles, May 26, 1945.

- P -

DEFERRED

Reference:

Letters from Detroit to Director dated April 3 and 17, 1945.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 5/5/45, at Los Angeles, California.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 5/20/45, at Salt Lake City, Utah.

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/13/82 BY [illegible]

HANDLE VIA

APPROVED AND FORWARDED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
H. J. L. Pieper		62-43818-739

COPIES OF THIS REPORT

5- Bureau
3- Detroit
2- Los Angeles
3- San Francisco

1 F R I
9 JUN 19 1945

65C

COPIES DESTROYED
205 OCT 13 1964

43

San Francisco File #100-19053

Details:

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA:

On April 9, 1945, referenced letter from Detroit to the Director was received advising that GERALD L. K. SMITH was coming to San Francisco to cover the United Nations Conference on International Organization and to hold meetings under the sponsorship of the America First Party at Oakland, California. Detroit requested that SMITH's activities while at San Francisco be covered by means of informants and that Agents should not attend his America First meetings. Pursuant to covering subject's activities while at San Francisco temporary [redacted] b7D

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] b7c b7D

On May 6, 1945, [redacted] that Mr. and Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH and RENATA LEGANT, SMITH's secretary, arrived at San Francisco at 6:50 A.M., and by means of surveillance they ascertained that SMITH and his party proceeded to the St. Francis Hotel. [redacted] b7c b7D

[redacted] stated that during the early part of the afternoon at the St. Francis Hotel SMITH telephonically attempted to contact [redacted], but was unsuccessful. [redacted] was reported to be staying at the Palace Hotel. [redacted] this office with a copy of his surveillance record and this is being retained in the San Francisco files.

II-4

San Francisco File #100-19053

During SMITH's visit at San Francisco his activities were covered by [redacted] b7D

On May 8, 1945, [redacted] advised that SMITH and his party moved from the Palomar Hotel to the Maurice Hotel, 761 Post Street, where they obtained rooms 1201 and 1202 for the duration of their visit at San Francisco. SMITH's normal daily procedure was to go to the St. Francis Hotel to obtain his mail at approximately 10:00 A.M. Here he would visit in the lobby and later would proceed to the Palace Hotel where he would make his headquarters for most of his business. Late each day he would return to the Maurice Hotel, but most of his business was transacted in the lobbies of the St. Francis or the Palace Hotel. b7D b7D

On May 9, 1945, [redacted] advised that subject held a press conference in the Garden Room of the Palace Hotel. As a result of the conference, extensive articles appeared in the New York Post, Conference edition, printed in San Francisco, and the San Francisco Chronicle. These articles reflected that SMITH gave out a mimeographed press release and answered questions for press representatives. The articles reported that SMITH was against slave labor, Britain, Russia, France, China, Secretary STETTINIUS, San Francisco, UNCIO, Hotel St. Francis, the people of Detroit, and many other things. He was reported favorable to BURTON K. WHEELER. Copies of these newspaper articles were obtained and are being placed in the San Francisco file.

[redacted] advised that on May 10, 1945, subject had been in contact with the unofficial delegation from Korea, EMIL GAVREAU, and Dr. SYNGMON RHEE, both of whom resided at the Maurice Hotel, Room 410. The details of the contacts were not known to the informant, however, it is known that SMITH met GAVREAU through [redacted] a printer at Flint, Michigan, and a close follower of SMITH. [redacted] advised that [redacted] left San Francisco en route to Los Angeles sometime during the week of May 13 to May 20, and that on May 16, 1945, he sent night letters to several Congressmen stating that President TRUMAN has been informed of a secret agreement made at Yalta regarding Korea. He said in the night letter that the agreement was that Korea was to be given to Russian domination and that he was positive of his sources which had been uncovered at San Francisco. He said that this Yalta agreement was signed by the United States and Great Britain at STALIN's request. On several occasions SMITH has made reference to this secret Yalta agreement. b7c & b7D

On May 10, 1945, [redacted] subject began a close contact with Reverend JONATHAN PERKINS, [redacted] care of [redacted] home address is [redacted]. Together SMITH and PERKINS created the California Christian Pastors Committee.

b1
b7D

On May 12, 1945, PERKINS went to the Mark Hopkins Hotel and rented the Don Ballroom for a meeting of the Pastors Committee on May 17, 1945, but he failed to tell the Mark Hopkins Hotel that SMITH was to be the speaker. SMITH had invitation cards printed reflecting that he would speak on "Liberty in Balance".

On May 13, 1945, at 3:30 P.M. SMITH held a meeting at Room 261, St. Francis Hotel, under the auspices of the California Pastors Committee. [redacted] that SMITH spoke at this meeting stating that:

b7D

1. The Big Five are exploiting the smaller nations;
2. The Russians are very crude and unChristian;
3. He does not believe the German atrocities as reported are true;
4. American soldiers are suffering more in Russia than they were in the hands of the Germans;
5. STALIN would not believe that ROOSEVELT had died and sent a representative to view his body. STETTINIUS had to give STALIN a signed statement that ROOSEVELT was actually dead.

SMITH also commented that he wished he had his old America First bodyguard since the press had proved to be very hostile at the press conference. He said that his good America First bodyguard had been drafted while the Jews still walk the streets in civilian clothes.

On May 14, 1945, the Mark Hopkins Hotel returned PERKINS' check to him, [redacted] and stated that they would not rent the Don Ballroom to the California Pastors Committee since the hotel was not advised that SMITH was to be the speaker. SMITH immediately made a press release stating that GEORGE T. SMITH, manager of the Mark Hopkins Hotel was profane and abusive when he returned the check to PERKINS. SMITH blamed Secretary of State STETTINIUS and "certain foreign representatives" for the action of the Mark. He said that the State Department is afraid to have the following discussed:

b7D

II 6

San Francisco File #100-19053

1. The truth about Korea and the secret deal made at Yalta.

2. The true TYLER KENT story.

3. The Pearl Harbor situation and the KIMMELL-SHORT mystery.

SMITH made the following statement in his press release:

"The same serpentine policy which denies my people a meeting under the sponsorship of a committee of gospel preachers the right to assemble has effected among other disgraceful events the following:

"1. They have betrayed Christian Poland.

"2. They have made a laughing stock of the Atlantic Charter.

"3. They have sold Korea, a nation of 30 million Christians, down the river to JOE STALIN.

"4. They have appeased the savages of Russia.

"5. They have permitted foreign politicians, saturated with intrigue, to so influence our State Department as to deny by its influence and pressure our right of free assembly.

"6. They have betrayed Lithuania.

"7. They have dared to ask our nations to share sovereignty with Russia, who refuses to permit our reporters free range in the Baltics and the Balkans."

A copy of this press release is being retained in the San Francisco file.

Reverend PERKINS also made a press release regarding the cancelation of the lease of the ballroom stating that, "We have just begun to fight".

On May 14, 1945, SMITH held a meeting at Ebell Hall, 14th and Harrison Streets, Oakland, California. [redacted] that there were approximately 35 people present, most of whom were elderly women. SMITH distributed the "Cross and the Flag" and went into a tirade against government regulation in war-time and the OPA. He talked at great length about his son, his wife, and his son's difficulties. b7D

II 7

San Francisco File #100-19055

[redacted] stated that SMITH was extremely disappointed because of the poor attendance at this meeting which was arranged by a [redacted]. b7c

[redacted] that on May 17, 1945, subject wrote a letter to persons who had been invited to his Mark Hopkins Hotel meeting stating that the internationalists had prevented a meeting and that the truth of the situation would be told at Ebell Hall on May 24, 1945. On the same day SMITH made a press release that he would hold a meeting in the Mark Hopkins Hotel lobby even though he had been denied the use of the hall. [redacted] that at 7:20 P.M. SMITH arrived at the Mark Hopkins Hotel with his wife and secretary. They had dinner at the hotel, and at approximately 8:00 P.M. there were 100 people in the lobby, fifty per cent of whom were "We the Mothers" and American Firsters. When SMITH came from the dining room these people crowded around him, causing a disturbance in the lobby. Within five minutes Mr. SMITH, the manager of the hotel, approached GERALD SMITH and asked him to leave because of the confusion he was causing. SMITH made no protest but spoke in a loud voice so that all could hear, and stated as follows: "America First is for free people and not giving England and Russia all of America's money". SMITH paused in front of the hotel and within a few minutes the crowd again gathered around him. SMITH again made the same statement and crossed the street, entering the Fairmont Hotel. He paused in the lobby long enough again for the crowd to gather, and finally left in a taxi. While at the Fairmont someone was heard to ask SMITH if his son supported him, to which he answered: "one hundred per cent". He told VICTOR RIESEL, columnist for the New York Post that he wanted publicity on the cancellation of the meeting. b7D

On May 18, 1945, subject sent a special delivery letter to Secretary STETTINIUS asking him if he prevented his meeting at the Mark Hopkins Hotel. [redacted] that the State Department was answering the letter through some lower official.

[redacted] that on May 20, 1945, SMITH attended a meeting of the Dominated Nations and World Peace at the Congregational Church Post and Mason. [redacted] was present and the meeting was led by Reverend M. RAMKRISKUA. SHAKUMODAK and KILSOO K. HAAR were also speakers. All of the speeches were on the enemies of peace which were listed as: (1) Materialism, (2) Racism, and (3) Paternalism. HAAR spoke for Korea, RADOMAGOE D. ROESMAN spoke for the Dutch East Indies, and RICHARD B. MOORE spoke for the British West Indies. JULIE PINTO GANDIA was also present. After the speeches SMITH mixed with those leaders and talked at great length with some. b7D b7c

On May 24, 1945, SMITH spoke at Ebell Hall, Oakland, California. [redacted] this office with a complete transcript of the subject's speech which was substantially the same as the speech given at Salt Lake City. In addition SMITH made the following statement: b7D

"Well, Mrs. SMITH and I came on out, after the conference began, and arrived here about 7:30 one Sunday morning. We thought that we had waited long enough for the whiskey to have been entirely consumed, but upon our arrival we were informed that the Russians had brought a whole shipload, and that the whiskey is still pouring in sizable quantities (laughter). The British are charging us millions of dollars to transport our soldiers to Europe to fight their battles. We are paying the British $46,000,000 rent for the use of Indian airports. We spent billions of dollars building airports in the Mediterranean that we cannot even use today since we do not have the permission of the British authorities. It is such things as these that I have come here to tell you and it is no wonder that every effort has been made since I arrived to keep me quiet and to prevent me from telling the truth. But I will tell you the truth and I will give you the fact, even though the Mark Hopkins a week ago tonight canceled my meeting. The British empire wants a weak China, so as to continue their imperialistic policy. Is it any wonder, then, that I do not want to share our nationalist policy with the British empire.

"Before coming out here I wrote a letter to every major, first-class hotel in San Francisco asking for a place to stay. Every hotel answered my letter, and reported that they had no rooms for me, but that the State Department had taken over their hotel. So then I wrote to the State Department and asked for a bed. And you know what their answer was. This did not make me mad, for I thought maybe that since we were being hosts, we had in typical American fashion given our best to our guests. So Mrs. SMITH and I came on out, and having stayed at the St. Francis Hotel many times in the past, we went immediately to that hotel early that Sunday morning. You should have seen what happened then. The boys came tearing out from every corner, following me, reading newspapers, walking back and forth in front of me. Then it suddenly dawned on me that the St. Francis Hotel was being occupied by the Russians, and you know the Russians are suspicious of everyone. You know they won't even trust the cooks in the St. Francis Hotel, so it is understandable why the Russians won't trust GERALD SMITH.

"So Mrs. SMITH and I set out to find a bed. Finally, before nightfall, we found a third-class hotel, and, since it was clean, we took up our initial residence there. The hotel was distinctly low-class.

II 9

San Francisco File #100-19055

We took a hasty look under the sheets to see if anything ran. There were no conveniences. The elevator would break down every few minutes, and it was not at all satisfactory. Still we did not get mad, for where I come from people believe in sleeping on the floor when company comes. However, by an aggressive program of application and with the help of our friends here, we finally managed to get a first class hotel room, and we moved in.

"The first time I really got mad was on the following day, Monday. It was then that I found out in the Palace Hotel that all the Communist reporters were here at our expense and occupying whole suites of rooms at the expense of you taxpayers.

"Well, it was a personal ambition of mine to hold a meeting in MOLOTOV's hotel, and to hold another meeting in WINCHELL's hotel. And incidentally about WINCHELL I can never hope to equal him. You know he got his start by peeping on drunks and blackmailing them, and now he has a whole network of radio stations at his disposal each week. You may ask me a question, how low may a country sink? And I tell you that it sinks to the very lowest depth when a clean-cut courageous young man like LINDBERGH can be blasphemed and criticized by such a scheming stinking scoundrel as WINCHELL. When we have such a fine, clean boy who represents everything American and who becomes a national hero, and when we allow that boy to be criticized and lied about, and when we allow our president to take his commission away, and elevate at the same time a peeping tom like WINCHELL, that in itself should alarm every thinking American.

"So, the third day here, we held a meeting in MOLOTOV's hotel, at the St. Francis. At the same time MOLOTOV was giving a big cocktail party next door, and the whiskey an cooktails were flowing freely. And would you believe it, there are some people in San Francisco that would have us share our sovereignty with those savages from Russia. When Russia got close to Warsaw, the British told the Polish underground to rise up and look what happened. A little further along when things got too hot for us and we refused to recognize the Lublin leaders, Stalin said, pick out 16 of the leaders and send them to me to negotiate. Tonight those 16 men are in jail to be tried on some fictitious charge. Perhaps they are dead. This I tell you is pure savagery. Yet the press will criticize me for giving you these facts.

"A nationalist is one who believes that out government should remain in Washington, D. C. (applause). There is a coterie of individuals in San Francisco who believe there should be a world

organization with all types of persons represented there. There will be a few Russians, Englishmen, Arabs, Indians, and one American. There has to always be one American there so that he can write the check (laughter).

"I will tell you what is the whole meat of Dumbarton Oaks and the San Francisco Conference. It is simply to get their foreign hands on our treasury and to let flow more blood of our boys, without the consent of our Congress. American Nationalists are opposed to this.

"Supposing that Dumbarton Oaks is good, and I won't suppose. I tell you that no deal should be worked out regarding the future security of our country until our boys are back. The Conference is a flop. STETTINIUS ran off the other day in a panic to get TRUMAN, and TRUMAN incidentally is going to make a pretty good President (applause).

"I am opposed to any deal that will cost any more lives to save the British empire. I am opposed to any deal that will get us into the conflict between the British empire and Russia. But I tell you if you want to pray tonight go home and kneel down, and thank God that WALLACE is not our President tonight (applause)."

****

During the speech SMITH read a manuscript entitled, "A Message from San Francisco", addressed to "Dear Fellow American, and dated May, 1945 [redacted] b70

[redacted] Smith also makes the following comments:

"Russia insists on full sway in China, and permitting this for Russia would be the end of pro-Christian government in China and the beginning of a program of Red terror. The behavior of Communists at San Francisco shows that we dare not share our sovereignty with Russia. We already have enough truth available regarding the Conference to convert its original intentions when presented to the United States Senate later. No one is permitted to mention Christ at the Conference because it might offend the pagans and anti-Christians who are at the Conference."

#11

San Francisco File #100-19055

In this speech at Ebell Hall SMITH went through his version of the TYLER KENT story and his experience at Dumbarton Oaks, as reported in his transcript of the Salt Lake City speech. During the speech SMITH stated that an employee of the State Department stole a paper from the files of the Department which conclusively proved the secret deal at Yalta in which Korea was sold out to Russia. He stated that a copy of this document is in the hands of GAVREAU, who is mentioned in this report as having been in contact with SMITH soon after his arrival at San Francisco. [redacted] that 500 people attended the meeting at Ebell Hall. Most of these people were low-class elderly women. At the end of the meeting a large collection was taken up. The transcript of SMITH's speech [redacted] and the letter entitled "A Message from San Francisco" are being retained in the San Francisco files.

b7D

The following is a list of telephone numbers with names and addresses [redacted] which which subject had contact while at San Francisco. These numbers were called by SMITH while he was in San Francisco.

GArfield 1801	The Travis Radio Press Service
EXbrook 2602	Not a working line
Exbrook 1602	Pacific Publishing Company, 590 Folsom St.
Market 2703	The Leader, 122 9th Street
Douglas 0605	[redacted]
LAkehurst 2-4505	[redacted]
Graystone 8605	[redacted]
Exbrook 8906	War Shipping Administration, now listed as GArfield 3715
WAlnut 2506	[redacted]
MArket 2506	[redacted] (This call was probably for [redacted] who resided with [redacted] while at San Francisco.)
EXbrook 8606	Palace Hotel (Calls to the Palace Hotel were probably for [redacted] occupied by [redacted] and [redacted] Arrangements for this room were made by one [redacted] Matson Navigation Company;

b7C

II 12

San Francisco File #100-19053

	Room 4056 occupied by [redacted] Suite 7001, occupied by [redacted], and [redacted] Room 5051.
EXbrook 3906	Yosemite Park and Curry Company, 39 Geary Street
ORdway 4007	[redacted]
Yukon 0808	Greyline, Inc. (travel company), 741 Market Street
Sonoma 109	[redacted] Watmaugh District
WEst 7010	Assemblies of God of Northern California, Nevada District, 1473 Ellis Street
SUtter 5010	[redacted]
GArfield 1112	San Francisco Chronicle
DOuglas 6112	Bank of America, 300 Montgomery Street
DOuglas 1212	Southern Pacific Railroad
MArket 2713	The Leader
HEmlock 1614	[redacted]
BAyview 6414	[redacted]
KEllogg 2-8615	[redacted]
ORdway 6616	[redacted]
ORdway 4916	[redacted]
DOuglas 1617	Bauer Schweitzer Hop and Malt Company, 530 Chestnut Street
GRaystone 9818	Thrift Cleaners, 766 Post Street
DOuglas 6820	New York Life Insurance Company
SUtter 4321	Western Union
EXbrook 4221	[redacted]
ORdway 7222	[redacted]
ORdway 5823	[redacted]
SUtter 2424	[redacted]
TUxedo 6424	Thrift Cleaners, 985 Post Street
EXbrook 0924	Orin Knight Chemical Company, Russ Bldg.
SUtter 2428	San Francisco Examiner
LOmbard 1029	Room 808
Los Altos 2630	[redacted]
SUtter 5030	Chicago Tribune for [redacted]
YUkon 2131	St. Francis Hotel
EXbrook 3931	U. S. Navy, Treasure Island

II 13

San Francisco File #100-19065

45
21
24

TRinidad 5632	The Pentacostal Assembly, 3371 62nd Street, Oakland, California
	[redacted]
FIllmore 7532	Pacific Greyhound Lines, 201 Pine Street
DOuglas 8633	Mark Hopkins Hotel
EXbrook 3434	India-China Trading Company, 268 Market St.
DOuglas 6936	[redacted]
SEabright 5037	United Press
GArfield 6338	[redacted]
LOmbard 6-8339	Aloan Metaphysical Book Shop, 545 Sutter St.
EXbrook 3039	Roos Brothers Department Store
SUtter 4040	Chicago Tribune
UNderhill 5740	Frank Werner Company, 874 Market Street
SUtter 6240	State Life Insurance Company
SUtter 5141	U. S. Pipe Manufacturing Company, 249 1st St.
EXbrook 2045	[redacted]
FIllmore 3427	
KEllogg 2-7048	
GArfield 2648	New England Life Insurance Company, 220 Market Street, San Francisco
	[redacted]
HEmlock 6850	World-Wide Insurance Company, 465 Calif. St.
GArfield 3052	Catholic Information Center, 107 Golden Gate
UNderhill 4953	AA Day and Night Stenographer Service
DOuglas 4553	and [redacted]
EXbrook 7755	Sir Francis Drake Hotel
FIllmore 3257	[redacted]
	(Reverend GEORGE PERKINS resided at this address while in San Francisco)
GArfield 4158	Newspaper Enterprise Association, 814 Market
SKyline 9960	[redacted]
WAlnut 8460	
GArfield 4061	California Concerts, Inc., 165 Kearny
GRaystone 6161	St. Paulists Lutheran Church, 999 Eddy St.
TUxedo 2663	[redacted]
SUtter 7566	
ORdway 6767	Archbishop of San Francisco, 100 Franklin St.
EXbrook 8368	Golden Gate News Agency, 81 Third Street
MArket 9971	[redacted]
FIllmore 6171	Glad Tidings Temple and Bible Institute, 1441 Ellis Street
GArfield 1571	Southern Pacific Railroad
DOuglas 6575	Associated Press
LAkehurst 2-9178	[redacted]
	Alameda, California

ALL
DTC

II, 4

San Francisco File #100-19053

FIllmore 3278	[redacted]
EXbrook 3479	Buckley and Curtain Printers
GArfield 0479	Ormanda Millinery, 212 Stockton, operated by [redacted]
WEst 0479	[redacted] Apartment 4
PRospect 0679	Sunlight Laundry, 720 Post Street
DOuglas 7186	Nicholas Johnston Studio, 140 Geary Street
SUtter 2487	International News Service
OLympic 2687 (Los Angeles)	This call was made for Mr. JONATHAN PERKINS
ORdway 5087	[redacted]
ORdway 8388	Geary Taylor Apartments
ORdway 3291	[redacted]
EXbrook 7491	
Palo Alto 9993	
ORdway 8496	[redacted]
ORdway 9898	
DOuglas 0099	
EXbrook 8600	Palace Hotel (See EXbrook 8606 for calls made to Palace Hotel)
GRayston 8700	National Broadcasting Corporation
TEmplebar 6800	St. Mark Hotel, Oakland, California (Call probably made to [redacted] who reside at this address)
SUtter 5400	Hastings Department Store
EXbrook 6700	San Francisco News
GRaystone 3600	Belevue Hotel
GArfield 9600	Fred Solari's Restaurant
GArfield 8700	Pacific States Steel Company, Rialto Building

b7c

[redacted] that a surveillance of the subject reflected that he made the following contacts: b7c

On May 8, 1945, at 1:30 P.M. SMITH had lunch with HOMER MAERTZ and GEORGE FOSTER at Foster's Cafeteria, 366 Geary Street.

On May 10, 1945, subject met with [redacted] at the Maurice Hotel at 4:15 P.M. This meeting was regarding the obtaining of a meeting hall in San Francisco. On the same day SMITH was in b7c

II 15

San Francisco File #100-19053

contact with an individual at the India-China Trading Company, 268 Market Street. [redacted] that this individual was [redacted] who is active in the Free India movement in an attempt to bring the Indian problem before the UNCIO.

On May 10, 1945, SMITH was visited by [redacted] at the Maurice Hotel. On May 11, 1945, Reverend JONATHAN PERKINS was in constant contact with SMITH. PERKINS was also in close contact with [redacted] minister, Pasadena, California; however, [redacted] was never seen with SMITH.

[redacted]

45

ALL b7c,b7D

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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62-43818-739 p 15 + 16

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XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

II 18

San Francisco File #100-19053

Michigan

[redacted]

New York

[redacted]

Oklahoma

[redacted]

Pennsylvania

[redacted]

Virginia

[redacted]

Washington

[redacted]

Washington, D. C.

Box 404, Brooklyn Station, Washington, D. C.

Congresswoman CLAIRE E. HOFFMAN, Nationalist News Service, Post Office Box 4407, Brooklyn Station, Washington, D. C.

[redacted]

ALL
b7c, b7D

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

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☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818 -739 p. 18

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
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FBI/DOJ

II 20

San Francisco File #100-19053

[redacted] that LILLIAN PARKS to whom subject wrote regarding the letter of J. EDGAR HOOVER is head of the National Blue Star Mothers. [redacted] is also one of the leaders of the National Blue Star Mothers, which organization is not to be confused with the Blue Star Mothers. GERALD L. K. SMITH has been in close contact with both [redacted] and PARKS on several occasions. [redacted]

b7c
b7D

[redacted]

b7c
b7D

On May 24, 1945, SMITH made a press release stating that sensational facts had come to his attention and that he would therefore interview the press at 2:00 P.M., May 25, 1945, at the lobby of the Palace Hotel since all hotels had refused to lease their rooms to SMITH. He stated that if he were ejected he would make his statements at any place where he would be permitted to stop long enough to do so. A copy of this press release is being retained in the San Francisco files.

On May 25, 1945, SMITH went to the Palace Hotel where he had lunch in the Garden Court. Upon completion of his lunch he walked to the lobby where he began passing out the following typewritten statement:

II 21

San Francisco File #100-19053

"FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Palace Hotel, San Francisco,
May 25, 1945

STATEMENT BY GERALD L. K. SMITH

RE
SAN FRANCISCO UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE AND
KINDRED SUBJECTS

"(Note: Smith is the National Director of the America First Party. Spokesman for 21 Nationalist groups. Is observing and reporting the Conference for 81 periodicals. He is preparing a confidential report for six members of the United States Senate and seventeen members of the Lower House of Congress).

Direct Quotes:

"The Communist Party never disbanded. It has been underground and is now preparing to come out in an open fight against President Truman and his policies. I assert, upon the authority of Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen of Washington, D. C., that the Communists have been and will cooperate 100% with the Nazi underground in the Western Hemisphere. They have established headquarters in Mexico City. They are using as their Western Hemisphere propagandists not only native Nazi-Communists, but Communists who fled Spain. These Spanish Reds, who are cooperating with Negrin, are valuable because they know the Spanish language, so necessary in South America. Negrin, Browder and their ilk are preparing to undermine the Republics of the Western Hemisphere, which, of course, includes the Church.

"My observations here and elsewhere convince me that Russia never intended to sincerely cooperate. The incident involving the 16 Poles and the controversy inspired by General Tito was intended purposely to torpedo any attempt to unite the nations of the world for peace. Russia does not want peace. She wants a European revolution as well as a Western Hemispheric revolution. The statements coming out of Paris, Milan and Berlin from Communist leaders simultaneous with the arrival of Negrin in the United States, as well as the threatening statement issued by Earl Browder means that the time has come when every loyal American must brace himself to fight the Communist menace.

* * *

II 22

San Francisco File #100-19053

"Racism: I do not preach racism. Accusations to the contrary have originated with Communists in the hope that they can inspire minority groups to cooperate with them in their fight on all anti-Communist organizations. These Reds have been so successful that many journalists and rank-and-file citizens actually believe that I preach racism. The accusation is false. I urge the representatives of minority groups at San Francisco to survey the technique of the Reds in this respect. The Reds are the ones that will introduce racism into the political fight. I believe that any attack on any man because of his race or creed is un-American and un-Christian.

* * *

"I assert that the State Department knows and is in possession of a document confirming the fact that our representatives at Yalta agreed to give Korea to Stalin in return for certain cooperation.

* * *

"I accuse the Russians of virtually attempting blackmail on the nations of the world because of what they consider to be their strategic position as it relates to the Orient.

"I accuse the Russians of refusing to help us whip the Japs until we have agreed to junk the regime of Chiang Kai-shek in China. I accuse the Russians through their Communist International, which they falsely said was dissolved, of having precipitated the July election in Britain. Stalin wants to get rid of Churchill because Churchill is anti-Communist. Although I have always been critical of Britain's imperialistic policies, I favor any cooperation with Churchill that will help him stem the rising tide of Stalinism in Britain.

"I do not accept the political philosophy of Franco, but I do know that Franco has the cooperation of the Church, and I am convinced that the Negrin movement and the so-called Free Spanish Movement are inspired by Stalin's Fifth Column organization in the United States.

"I accuse the Russians and the American Communist Party, in cooperation with the Nazi underground in the Western Hemisphere, of conspiring in Mexico City recently to torpedo this Conference and then blame it on the Nationalists.

"I accuse the Communists and their cabal of having infiltered the State Department to the end that they have hindered Nationalist periodicals, including some of the great daily newspapers in their attempts to get news concerning proceedings.

II 23

San Francisco File #100-19053

"I assert that Russia is cooperating with the German citizenry and is preparing to arm the Germans in their plan to communize Europe. I challenge the Russians to deny the fact that former Nazi military officers are conspiring with Russian officials in this strategy. This is one of the reasons for the so-called complete news blackout on the Russian side of the former German territory. It must be remembered that no German city was ever bombed by Russians. I cannot forget that recently Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen, eminent authority in the Catholic Church, said: 'The true materialistic Nazis have been cooperating with the Russian Communists all through the war'.

"Concerning the proposed Charter: I am convinced that U. S. Senator Arthur Vandenberg is too much of a statesman to ask the Senate to approve anything that would resemble closely the original Dumbarton Oaks Plan. Stalin will never surrender his right of veto. He knows that Russia is planning to do things that not one Republic in the Western Hemisphere, unless it would be Mexico, would approve.

"Stettinius should resign immediately. His original appointment was only on the assumption that he would do Roosevelt's will, the late President being, in fact, his own Secretary of State. Now that we have a President who seems willing to divide authority, Stettinius should be replaced by someone who has spent a lifetime familiarizing himself with world problems.

"A World Charter on the order of Chapultepec would be satisfactory to most Nationalists. Nationalists by and large favor cordial relationships with all nations, provided we are not asked to share sovereignty and provided we are not asked to shed blood and money without the direct consent of the Congress of the United States as it relates to every such act.

"I assert that an American-made OGPU has operated in San Francisco for the express purpose of following, shadowing and curbing the activities of all Nationalists and the representatives of all newspapers, large and small, whose editorial policy runs contrary to Stalin's plans.

"We Nationalists grieve over the terrible hold Communism has on our Nation, but we are encouraged to believe that our Senate will never adopt a Charter which supports certain secret deals at Yalta and the Dumbarton Oaks plan.

#24

San Francisco File #100-19055

"My persecution and the attempt on the part of journalists and other propagandists to ridicule our sincere expressions of opinion indicate two things: (1) That some journalists have been duped by the Red line: (2) Others are a paid part of their expensively organized propaganda campaign."

****

SMITH made no attempt to speak while handing out the above statement, but several police officers were present and after handing out several copies of the press release he was asked by the manager to leave the lobby of the hotel. SMITH went into the street, followed by the crowd, where he began to speak, but several police officers approached saying, "The meeting is over". SMITH left without further trouble.

On May 26, 1945, at 8:00 A.M., [redacted] SMITH and his party left San Francisco for Los Angeles as originally planned. [redacted] that SMITH has stated on several occasions that he expects to return to San Francisco after his Los Angeles meetings.

[redacted] that he is writing a complete report on all of SMITH's activities while in San Francisco and that this report may include contacts of SMITH which have not already been given to this office. [redacted] that he would furnish this office with a copy of this report.

b7D

During SMITH's visit at San Francisco the press was hostile and unfavorable to him. An article in the New York Post, Conference edition, on May 1, 1945, reported that SMITH attempted to get press credentials for the Conference for himself and his news service, but had been refused by the State Department. The New York Post, Conference edition, of April 25, 1945, in an article by VICTOR RISEL, reported that the isolationists were expected at San Francisco, including Senator WHEELER and ex-Senator NYE who were expected to address America First demonstrations.

On April 28, 1945, RISEL had another article advising: "Isolationist crowd moves in on Parley". This article stated that HOMER MAERTZ had arrived and that he was working with GERALD L. K. SMITH who had promised that NYE and WHEELER would be here for support.

On May 4, 1945, the San Francisco Chronicle carried a small editorial on Mr. SMITH stating that the Conference is not the place for causes and that this went for SMITH also.

II 25

San Francisco File #100-19053

SCOTT NEWHALL wrote an article published in the Chronicle on May 8, 1945, stating that SMITH had arrived and had announced: "The Conference is the first step toward war. We must not surrender our national sovereignty. The Communists, Russians, and the Imperialistic British are playing us for saps. We do not trust the San Francisco setup. We believe it to be dominated by JOSEPH STALIN. The Conference is a failure".

On May 14, 1945, the New York Post printed an article stating that SMITH invited all but the Russians to his meeting at the Mark Hopkins Hotel on May 17, 1945, which was under the auspices of the California Christian Pastors Committee.

On May 15, 1945, the New York Post, Conference edition, printed another article on SMITH stating that he was able to put the "finger" on Senator VANDENBERG. SMITH said he knew VANDENBERG's constituents and they will defeat him for reelection if he approves of the things the Conference is expected to approve.

On May 16, 1945, the Post printed a small article stating that the Mark Hopkins Hotel had tossed SMITH out. The Chronicle and the San Francisco Examiner also reported SMITH's ejection from the Mark Hopkins Hotel in small second page articles. The only other articles appearing in the San Francisco press were in a column entitled "Memos to the Editor from DELAPHANE" regarding a pair of pants or coat SMITH sent out to be pressed and which he claimed were returned burned. DELAPHANE also reported SMITH's "poor show . . . in the Palace lobby . . ." DELAPHANE mentioned RENATA LEGANT as SMITH's secretary and said he asked her if her job was for dough or for "labora love". LEGANT answered him "labora love".

Pursuant to instructions from the Detroit Field Division, no surveillance or active investigation was conducted of SMITH's activities by Bureau Agents. Coverage was entirely through informants.

- P E N D I N G -

II 26

San Francisco File #100-19053

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA: Will follow SMITH's activities at Los Angeles and will advise San Francisco Field Division when he returns to San Francisco.

THE SAN FRANCISCO FIELD DIVISION

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA: Upon receipt of the complete report of [redacted] will report any additional information which is not contained in this report. b7D

Will also follow through informants any activities of SMITH upon his return to San Francisco.

II 27

San Francisco File #100-19053

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

II 28

INDEX GUIDE

TITLE: - GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases:
AMERICAN FIRST PARTY

CASE: - INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SEDITION

SA:- [redacted] b7c
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

DATE: - JUNE 14, 1945

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Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

June 27, 1945

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SEDITION

RECORDED

62-43818-739

Reference is made to our previous correspondence in the above-captioned matter.

For your further information, there is enclosed herewith a copy of the investigative report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] dated June 14, 1945, at San Francisco, California.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Miss Nease
Miss Gandy

Enc.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
JUN 27 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

50 SEP 27 1945

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY [illegible]

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
June 30, 1945

[redacted]

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

This is to advise that no information was received from [redacted] whose identities are known to the Bureau, for the period from June 1, 1945, to June 30, 1945.

It is to be noted that no information was received from these informants due to the fact that the Subject of instant case has been out of town for the last two months and no activity has taken place at his office or home. However, in view of the fact that these informants will be valuable sources of information when the Subject does return, it is suggested that the services of these informants be continued.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/82 BY SP-8805/MC

[redacted]

62-1126

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818-740
F 23 I
32 JUL 3 1945

209

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/28/57

4

204

30 JUL 7 1945

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 15 OF 18

FILE NUMBER : 62-43818

SUBJECT Gerald L. K. Smith

PART 8

FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
REQUEST

SUBJECT Gerald L. K. Smith

PAGES REVIEWED: 3994

PAGES RELEASED: 2979

NOTES: Sections 31-36

NO DUPLICATION FEES FOR THIS PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 31

PAGES REVIEWED: 67

PAGES RELEASED: 40

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
July 10, 1944

Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Nease
Mr. Carson
Mr. Lindon
Mr. Leland Ford
Mr. Hughes
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-8BTJ/MA

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION
(Bureau file 62-43818)

Dear Sir:

b7D

There is being set forth the substance of information obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, for the period June 23 to July 6, 1944, inclusive.

Informant advised Subject SMITH is sending $100.00 to Internal Revenue to apply on a tax lien filed by the Internal Revenue Department against him and on July 6, 1944, Subject's wife planned to send a check for $300.00 to pay additional taxes. (Probably the balance due on the lien filed by Internal Revenue.)

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~ b7D

[redacted] stated Subject has had difficulty over a meeting place in Chicago, Illinois, for his meeting on Sunday, June 25, and that it was necessary to change the meeting place to the Hamilton Hotel as the original meeting place, the Stevens Hotel, had refused the SMITH party. SMITH remarked that the meeting held in Chicago was a sensation as he made the front page in the newspapers there. He also arranged for [redacted] to be in Chicago prior to the meeting and for [redacted] also to attend.

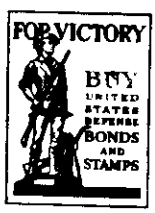
b7D

Informant related a [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company was attempting to have SMITH buy the back page of his publication as a tribute to FORD and that he would reserve the back page for SMITH as it would be a more prominent position.

b7D RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818-519

[redacted] stated Subject has rented the Jade Room of the Detroit Leland Hotel, Detroit, Michigan, Friday, July 14, at which time the Subject

EX-33



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205 OCT 13 1964

59 AUG 26 1944

Letter to the Director
July 8, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was.
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G, et al.

will hold a Detroit meeting for approximately 350 people.

Informant advised Subject has been contacted by letter or telephone by BOB REYNOLDS, the Farmers' Guild, Mrs. BROWN, [redacted] and [redacted] Chicago, Illinois. b7c

SMITH has decided to fight DEWEY, and is planning to call a convention for the AMERICA FIRST PARTY at St. Louis, Missouri, some time in August to consider the wisdom of nominating a president and vice-president, and he is considering a possible change of his headquarters to Chicago, Illinois.

Informant related SMITH had a COD package with $201.00 due which is probably the Winchell books, and also stated Subject had spent considerable time at Delavan, Wisconsin, which is the home of his mother.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]ham b7c
62-1126

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
August 10, 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-8BTO/mc

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION
(Bureau file 62-43818)

Dear Sir:

Through [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, it has been ascertained that the America First Party is holding a national convention in Detroit on August 29 and 30, 1944.

Through [redacted] whose identity is also known to the Bureau, it has been ascertained that the Subject [redacted]

8/21/44
Mrs Roger advised
contacts.

[redacted]

Be advised

BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS

RECORDED & INDEXED
19
62-43818-520
F B I
7 AUG 12 1944

Letter to the Director
August 10, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION
(Bureau file 62-43818)

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

The foregoing is being submitted for your information only.

For the benefit of the St. Louis Field Division, reference is made to the lead set out for your division in report of Special Agent [redacted] dated July 28, 1944, at Detroit, Michig[redacted]

b7c

In view of the above information, you should disregard the lead set out.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]

cc - St. Louis

b7c

JPHa:

61-7055
RECORDED 62-43818 - 520
SAC, Detroit

August 25, 1944

EX-11

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

You will recall that according to information received, subject Smith plans to hold a "national convention" of his America First Party at Detroit on August 29 and 30, 1944. [redacted]

b2D

In the event [redacted] actually attends the convention or makes any sort of address or speech, the Bureau would, of course, like to have the benefit of any information concerning her activities or efforts which you may be able to secure through your informants and sources of information in this matter. However, with reference to your general coverage of this scheduled convention, the Bureau desires that you exercise the utmost caution and discretion, especially inasmuch as this particular meeting of the so-called America First Party is assertedly for political purposes. In securing information relative to what takes place, it is suggested that you merely rely on your confidential sources and informants who have in the past apparently been able to give you a complete and thorough coverage of Smith's activities.

b7C

ec - Chicago

SPECIAL DELIVERY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY S.P.B.T.J/MLC

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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AUG 29 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

52 SEP 20 1944

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: August 22, 1944

FROM : SAC, Detroit

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;
SECURITY MATTER;
SEDITION
(Bureau file 62-43818)

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF 4/4/83 DATE

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

All the Detroit newspapers carried articles to the effect that at a meeting of the Detroit School Board on August 8, 1944, Subject was granted permission to hold political rallies at the Northern High School Auditorium on August 29 and 30. The Bureau has previously been advised of the fact that the National Convention of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY is to be held in Detroit on these dates.

Classified by SI-9677 IMG
Declassify on: OADR

EX - 58

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CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Letter to the Director
dated August 12, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;
SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

Through [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, it has been ascertained that the convention headquarters will be the Detroit Leland Hotel, according to present plans. [redacted] b7D b1

The foregoing is being submitted for information only.

[redacted] b7C
62-1126

CONFIDENTIAL

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
July 8 - 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP8BTJ/mlc

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION
(Bureau file 62-43818)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated June 27, 1944, requesting the Detroit Field Office to furnish the Washington Field Office with information in the Detroit files pertaining to [redacted]

In the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 27, 1944, at Detroit, it appears [redacted] contacted Subject SMITH, having been recommended to SMITH by C. O. GLADSKLEV of Minneapolis, Minnesota. [redacted] allegedly was the ghost writer for Miss RANKIN of Montana in her [redacted] in the Congressional Record on "Some Questions About Pearl Harbor" [redacted] which book is sup[redacted] have been purchased in quantities by several isolationist Congressmen.

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

In a letter from the St. Louis Field Division to the Bureau dated March 31, 1944, information obtained through a surveillance indicates [redacted] and [redacted] made some very pointed comments about the FBI and both individuals had some part in a SMITH convention and urged SMITH to accept the nomination for president of the AMERIDA FIRST Party and to hold a convention nominating the candidates before serving an ultimatum on the Republican Party.

EX-49 RECORDED 62-43818-522

In Bureau letter dated April 8, 1944, the Detroit Office was requested to furnish information concerning [redacted] who has been identified as [redacted]

[redacted] The information furnished by former [redacted] relative to [redacted] interview with him has previously been furnished to the

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65 AUG 30 1944 292

Letter to the Bureau
July 8, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G, et al

Bureau.

In a letter dated April 20, 1944, from the Detroit Field Division to the Bureau, it was pointed out that [redacted] is undoubtedly identical with [redacted] b7c

[redacted] b7D

In a letter dated May 9, 1944, the Detroit Field Office advised the Bureau that [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, related the fact that [redacted] is an acquaintance of SMITH [redacted] Informant stated that [redacted] had been in contact with SMITH on several occasions and had advised SMITH as to the [redacted] b7D b7c

In a report by Special Agent [redacted], dated June 9, 1944, at Detroit, Michigan, it is mentioned therein the fact that [redacted] is an acquaintance of SMITH and [redacted] b7c

By letter dated June 23, 1944, the Detroit Field Office advised the Bureau that [redacted] had received information to the effect that [redacted] wired [redacted] requesting [redacted] to furnish information to him for the benefit of Mrs. DILLING for use in her sedition trial. The information requested concerned a meeting in New York in October of 1938 arranged by [redacted] and [redacted] stated Dr. EDWARD LODGE CURRAN, International Catholic Truth Society, Reverend NORMAN VINCENT PEALE (who delivered the invocation) and Major General BYRNES were on the platform at this meeting. b7D b7c

In "A long statement by G. L. K. Smith - McWilliams - Buroker - Dilling and others" dated March 16, 1944, which the Detroit Field Division received as an inclosure with the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 3, 1944, at New York City, there appears information to the effect that [redacted] as a most intelligent anti-Semite American and that [redacted] is friendly with [redacted], the two being astute students of the farm problem in America. [redacted] appeared to be over [redacted] of b7c

age, bespectacled, clean and studious looking. [redacted] From the statemen[redacted] recently gone to Detroit, Michigan, spending two weeks there attempting to get through to Henry Ford information concerning something which would happen to Ford and on this occasion got through only to [redacted] and on each occasion [redacted] assured him that Ford would not be interested.

In connection with this, [redacted] remarked "SMITH's rooms were wired for sound by the FBI and that 'those boys never overlook a bet.'" b7c

The statement continues that [redacted]

The above is a summary of all information found in the files of the Detroit Field Division concerning [redacted] b7c

[redacted] b7D

Letter to the Director
July 8, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G, et al.

[redacted]

b7D

It is being specifically pointed out that the information attributed above to [redacted] is highly confidential information and extreme caution should be used not to permit the source of this information to be disclosed outside the Bureau as it undoubtedly would reveal the identity of the Informant and terminate a valuable source of information in instant case.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]ham b7c
62-1126

cc - Washington Field

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
August 15, 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-8BTS/MC

[redacted]

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set out below the pertinent information obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, for the period July 26 through August 10, 1944.

b7D

Informant says that Subject claims to have taken a very active part in the fight against WALLACE at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago for his nomination of the Vice President of the United States and in this connection put out a circular at the convention allegedly showing Vice President WALLACE'S connections with STALIN and SIDNEY HILLMAN. Also he (SMITH) put out a circular relative to WALLACE'S philosophy on inter-marriage of negroes and whites.

Informant advised that DON LOHBECK is probably going to take the place presently occupied by BERNARD DOMAN as SMITH'S secretary, and that LOHBECK is now in Detroit working with SMITH making a study of all the election laws of the various states, and further, that LOHBECK is to be set up in the Detroit headquarters of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY getting out credentials and doing other work.

Subject has been in contact with [redacted] in Washington, D. C., during the above period of time, according to informant. Informant says that [redacted] has been making a survey of the changes in the election laws of [redacted] states with reference to the Soldiers' Vote. Informant advised further that [redacted] claims to have gotten inside the War Department where he ascertained that casualties are now averaging five thousand a day. According to informant, Subject SMITH and [redacted] have a mutual friend in [redacted], believed to be in Washington, D. C., telephone number [redacted] Informant also says that [redacted] claimed to have heard from some source that "they" are very disgruntled with the way everything was being handled, in reference to the pending sedition trial.

b7c

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Letter to the Director
August 15, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

Informant advised that during the above period of time SMITH had been in contact with Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS and that the Senator claimed to have told a reporter from the Chicago Sun that he had no qualms about being one hundred per cent for everything that SMITH is for; further, about August 2, 1944, that the Senator had expressed himself to the effect that he was about to support the Republican ticket because he did not want to support the New Deal, but that he had decided that he would rather have ROOSEVELT than DEWEY, and that in his opinion DEWEY is a "dead pigeon".

On July 28, 1944, according to Informant, Subject reported to the Associated Press that he had sent a telegram to Governor THOMAS E. DEWEY at Albany, New York, in substance as follows:

"In the light of your condemnation of Congressman HAMILTON FISH, would you be interested in replying to the following questions:

1. Do you agree with Governor BRICKER in his bid for the support of my followers and myself?

2. Do you oppose the re-election of such America First republicans as Congressman CLAIRE HOFFMAN, Senator GERALD P. NYE, Senator ROBERT A. TAFT, and Congressman ROY WOODRUFF, and other such America First nationalists who have sopken and voted through the years the same as HAMILTON FISH?

3. Do you realize that you have broken tradition in interfering with a Congressional primary?

4. Do you propose to interfere in Congressional districts with the people's right to nominate their own candidates for Congress?

5. If you practice the purge system such as practiced by Mr. ROOSEVELT before election, what could we expect of you if elected?"

Informant further advised that M. MATSON, editor of the State Journal, Madison, Wisconsin, told SMITH on about July 28, 1944, that he had editorially given an ultimatum to DEWEY in substance to the effect that DEWEY should repudiate unequivocally BRICKER'S welcome to SMITH so that it would conform to DEWEY'S previous refusal of SMITH so that good republican voters of his section would know that DEWEY will not tolerate any traffic with any of SMITH'S following or that his (MATSON'S) public would withdraw their support of DEWEY.

Letter to the Director
August 15, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

In further reference to DEWEY'S attack on HAMILTON FISH, Informant says that SMITH is of the opinion that DEWEY will give "STEVE" DAY "the same dose", this comment having been made to Captain EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago, Illinois, according to Informant. Informant also said that Captain SOUTHARD advised to the effect that he had talked with one of the participants in the sedition trial who told him that he thinks it will "blow up" soon, and further that Captain SOUTHARD has advised SMITH that a new page is being added to "Forty Years of ROOSEVELT" which he believes SMITH will like very much.

Informant advised that on or about July 31, 1944, Subject made the following press release to the wire service representatives in Detroit:

"For the first time in history a party officially and legally qualified as the AMERICA FIRST PARTY meets today in a state convention in Detroit.

"The call was issued by BERNARD A. DOMAN as secretary at the instigation of GERALD L. K. SMITH, national director of the newly-formed AMERICA FIRST PARTY. DOMAN said, 'Delegates have qualified from sixty-two Michigan counties. We shall nominate many candidates for office including all state officers, presidential electors and candidates for the state legislature.'

"GERALD L. K. SMITH, interviewed at the convention headquarters in Detroit at the Detroit-Leland Hotel, said, 'Our people cannot swallow the New Deal or anything that looks or sounds like ROOSEVELT.'

"Governor DEWEY has told the world that he will not accept our support, in fact, in his April fourth speech he virtually called for the liquidation of our three million constituents. DEWEY'S attack on Congressman HAMILTON FISH, one of the nation's leading America Firsters, makes it imperative that we lay the foundation for a dynamic Nationalist Party in America.

"'It is possible that we may not nominate for Vice President,' said SMITH, 'because of the popularity of Governor JOHN BRICKER among our people.'

"Today we will choose someone to be the America First candidate for President in Michigan, with the understanding that whomsoever we name today for President will defer if necessary to the candidate nominated by our national convention when it meets the fourth week in August."

Informant said that SMITH purposely had Governor BRICKER nominated for Vice President by the AMERICA FIRST PARTY at its Michigan State Convention on August 1, 1944, with the thought that he would necessarily not accept the nomination. On the same day Governor BRICKER, according to the United Press dispatch, did refuse the nomination in words as, "I will not accept such a ridiculous offer. I shall not permit my name to be used in any such connection." Further, Informant said that according to the United Press in reference to Governor BRICKER'S nomination, Governor DEWEY had stated, "The report that America First has nominated SMITH and BRICKER is a smear. GERALD SMITH is one of those rebel-rousers who, like ADOLPH HITLER, makes racial prejudice his stock and trade. This contemptible attempt to associate himself with Governor BRICKER is a sinister attempt to smear the Republican candidate for Vice President."

Informant said that in response to the statements made by Governors BRICKER and DEWEY, SMITH had issued a statement to the United Press in substance as follows:

"The comment of Governor DEWEY and Governor BRICKER concerning the action of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY proves to my complete satisfaction the need for the AMERICA FIRST PARTY as the true voice of nationaliam in America. I observe that Mr. DEWEY, who seems so touchy concerning America First matters, has endorsed for Congress against HAMILTON FISH the same candidate which is being supported by EARL BROWDER. The truth is out at last. DEWEY'S attack on HAM FISH assures beyond doubt the fact that ROOSEVELT, WILLKIE, DEWEY, and BROWDER are in the same bed together. They all opposed FISH and supported BENNETT. The same gang fights GERALD L. K. SMITH. I am not afraid to take them all at once. I'll have plenty of help when the boys come home."

Further in reference to Governor BRICKER it was stated that SMITH released the statement, "In repudiating our cordial support, he has displayed the same weakness as when he capitulated to DEWEY at Chicago. If DEWEY can control him now he can control him if, by accident, he is elected."

Informant also said that the executive committee of the Nationalist Party in the State of Michigan caucused on the night of August 1, 1944, and that the committee was under the charge of BERNARD A. DOMAN, and that a leading Coughlinite (according to SMITH), HARRY A. ROMER, of St. Henry, Ohio, was chosen as Vice President. Informant further said that according to SMITH, ROMER has been leader of the National Union for Social Justice and is also a member of the Farmers Guild; that ROMER is a prominent merchant and farmer and presided over a meeting, which SMITH described as dramatic, in Greenville, Ohio, where SMITH addressed some seven thousand farmers. Informant said that on notification, ROMER had accepted the nomination.

Informant says that several days after Governor BRICKER had declined to accept the nomination of himself as the candidate for Vice President by the AMERICA FIRST PARTY in Michigan, SMITH had explained that BRICKER had been nominated to hold his people together; that they had felt that they could entrust their welfare to BRICKER and by forcing him into a repudiation, it kept the AMERICA FIRST group in a solid body.

Informant said that SMITH had advised Captain EARL SOUTHARD to the effect that he had received a telegram signed WILLIAM GRAY, secretary of the Republican National Revival Committee severely criticizing his (SMITH'S) publicized "Red Hearing" regarding the DEWEY-FISH controversy. In this connection Informant stated that SMITH referred to GRAY as being Captain EARL SOUTHARD'S "buddy".

According to Informant, on August 2, 1944, SMITH made the following release to the United Press in Detroit, "I accuse Governor T. E. DEWEY of being the first Presidential candidate in history in making a political issue out of the Jewish question. By introducing the Jewish question into national politics he does the Jewish race a grave injustice. He becomes the super-demagogue in using this technique to hold the support of the large Jewish vote in New York. The Jewish issue was not mentioned or discussed at the convention of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY."

[redacted] advised that the national convention of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY will be held August 29 and 30, 1944, and that the headquarters will be in the Detroit-Leland Hotel, and that two big sessions will be held in the auditorium of the Northern High School in Detroit, and that Subject

b7D

contemplates bringing in about two thousand delegates from forty-eight states to attend the convention. Informant further said in connection with the convention that SMITH will be one of the speakers and a good part of his address at the convention will be devoted to the statement of THOMAS E. DEWEY at Springfield, Ohio, and that SMITH, in this speech, intends to challenge DEWEY to face the real issue of nationalism and internationalism, that eventually DEWEY will have to decide between the philosophy of WENDELL WILLKIE and GERALD NYE which he cannot evade by attacking SMITH and introducing the race question. Informant also said that other speakers at the national convention will be Captain EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago and Vice Presidential Nominee HARRY ROMER.

Informant said that Subject had been in contact on several occasions with [redacted] during the above period of time and that on about July 29, 1944, [redacted] had advised SMITH that [redacted] (phonetic) was going to be indicted in New York the following week on a charge which he thought to be extortion; further, that [redacted] had said that [redacted] did not like SMITH at all. According to Informant, [redacted] contemplated going to New York where he intended to see [redacted]. Informant further advised that [redacted] was one of the nineteen electors to go to the national convention of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY in the State of Michigan to vote for the Presidential candidates.

Informant also stated that SMITH had discussed [redacted] with [redacted] that in response to his inquiry concerning knowledge of [redacted] had indicated that he did not know [redacted] and had seen him only on two occasions with a [redacted]. Informant in this connection further said that according to SMITH, [redacted] used to be a Communist but had turned against the Communists and had done some investigative work for the Ford Motor Company. Informant also said that a man whose name he believed to be [redacted] (however, the name may have been [redacted]) had advised Subject concerning a man by the last name of [redacted] in New York, that there is a warrant out for [redacted] on a charge of extortion in regard to the girl who was attached to [redacted]. Informant further said that according to [redacted] the girl had argued that it was all a frameup, and further that [redacted] and the girl were both working for the anti-Nazi League and that the Government had some of his correspondence. Both SMITH and [redacted] are in agreement that [redacted] is no good and is probably guilty of the extortion charge.

Must be [redacted]

b7c

Informant stated that the Board of Education of the City of Detroit had ruled that SMITH could not use the school's auditorium until he appeared in person before the school board, and that in accordance with this, Subject SMITH appeared before the Board of Education on August 8, 1944, at which meeting the Board voted to permit Subject and his organization to use the auditorium of the Northern High School for the national convention on August 29 and 30, 1944. The Informant further advised that SMITH claimed that the Board of Education had been used as a sounding board to attack the patriotism and American integrity of himself and his compatriots and that the "Commies" were active in trying to keep him from getting the school. Informant further said that a member of the board by the last name of [redacted] had particularly attacked Subject and that afterwards Subject had referred to [redacted] as being a "little tyke". b7c

By a release given to the United Press, it was announced that the buffalo had been chosen as the symbol of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY and that Washington is the vignette of the Party and will appear on America First ballots, according to information supplied by [redacted] b7D

Informant said that a release was made to the United Press in regard to Subject's views as follows: "Concerning U. S. Senate race in New York State, SMITH endorses IVES. 'If Governor DEWEY and the Republican State Committee of New York endorse WENDELL WILLKIE for U. S. Senate, we America Firsters will support IVES. I am informed that Mr. IVES was active in the New York chapter of the America First Committee.'"

Informant further advised that an individual, allegedly being Mr. HAYES, a writer for the McClure Syndicate, had contacted RAYMOND A. MARTINEZ, a negro attorney in Detroit, concerning an article appearing in the Detroit News about MARTINEZ's association with the Negro Nationalist Society of America. MARTINEZ referred to a proposal made by SMITH to the effect that Britain and France released millions of square miles of land in Africa to be made available free for negro colonization. Informant said that MARTINEZ claimed that the article concerning himself in the Detroit News (wherein MARTINEZ attacked SMITH'S position and disclaimed SMITH'S connection with his group) was substantially correct; MARTINEZ claimed that he had been working on this idea himself since 1930 and that in 1938 he had prepared a bill which BILBOA had introduced in Congress and that when the negro press found out about BILBOA'S connection, it immediately attacked both him and

the bill. MARTINEZ claimed that other negroes had "jumped" on him concerning SMITH'S position and told him that they would run into plenty of trouble if SMITH endorsed "this proposition".

Informant said that Subject is an admirer of a Mr. STILLE in Chicago and that STILLE was going to give some lectures for SMITH.

Informant said that he had information to the effect that either Mr. or Mrs. SMITH may be using A gasoline ration coupons supplied by BERNARD DOMAN.

Informant also advised that there is a contemplated meeting for Sunday, August 27, 1944, of a large group of farmers to be addressed by both SMITH and HARRY ROMER, although Informant was unable to furnish the hour or place of the proposed meeting.

It is to be noted that Captain EARL SOUTHARD in Chicago, according to Informant, has expressed some concern over receipt of his mail because he is a little suspicious of one of the men handling some of his mail.

Very truly yours,

R A Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

4-750 (2-7-79)

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62-43818-524

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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- [X] For your information: Per your March 18, 1982 letter this enclosure was not xeroxed for release.
- [X] The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: 62-43818 - 525 Enclosure + SERIAL

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN FILE NO. 100-6111

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CINCINNATI, OHIO	7/12/44	6/1,5,6,9; 7/5/44	[redacted] b7c MEH

TITLE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY

CHARACTER OF CASE
INTERNAL SECURITY - S
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Rally held at Greenville, Ohio 6/4/44 attended by approximately 1500 to 2000. Rally sponsored by Farmers Guild. SMITH spoke for about 1 hour demanding recognition of the America First ideals by the Republicans, stating otherwise they would enter the Presidential campaign as a third party; declared LINDBERGH and WHEELER might be their candidates; criticized entire ROOSEVELT family; claimed ROOSEVELT wished to be President of the world and his son President of the United States; stated the United States spent more money on this war than all other nations combined. Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN and CHARLES LINDERUP also spoke at meeting.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/5/82 BY SP2 [illegible]

REFERENCE

Letter from Detroit dated May 25, 1944; Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 6/9/44 at Detroit, Michigan. b7c

DETAILS

AT GREENVILLE, OHIO

[redacted] b7D reported that a rally of the America First Party was held at the Darke County Fairgrounds at about 2:30 P.M., on June 4, 1944. He informed that the capacity of the Fairgrounds is approxi-

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: T. E. Daughtry SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43418-526

RECORDED & INDEXED 7/14

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3 Detroit (enclosure)
2 Cincinnati

cc clerks 7/24/44 EPB

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30 JUL 17 1944

EX - 42

7—2014

mately 2600, and he estimated that it was about one-half full. In his estimation there was a maximum of 1500 people present. He informed that the meeting was conducted by HARRY A. ROMER. He stated that ROMER opened the meeting and commented bitterly on the newspaper articles published prior to the meeting, and the efforts of the American Legion to deny the use of the Fairgrounds to the America First Party for this meeting. He referred to the American Legion as "Two-bit politicians".

[redacted] said that SMITH spoke and that he stated since we are in the war we must win; that we must bring our boys back to this country after the war and not leave them to police Europe. SMITH quoted several figures regarding the cost of the war and said America was paying more for this war than all the other nations combined. He further stated that if the Republican Party continued its trend toward Internationalism the America First Party would have to run a candidate of their own in the coming Presidential election. He said the America First Party are Nationalists and that the first Nationalist was GEORGE WASHINGTON. He criticized the Administration and the entire ROOSEVELT family. Informant stated it appeared to him that SMITH criticized everybody but HITLER.

SMITH also spoke vigorously for the right of free speech in this country, and then assailed WALTER WINCHELL and DREW PEARSON, stating that these columnists should be put off the air and should not be allowed to write propaganda such as is published in the newspapers.

[redacted] reported that the rally at the Darke County Fairgrounds was conducted by the Farmers Guild for the America First Party, and that it started about 2:30 P.M., June 4, 1944; that he estimated between 1500 and 2000 people were present. He said that HARRY ROMER conducted the meeting and opened it by speaking about the trouble they had obtaining the Fairgrounds. He spoke for a short time regarding the newspaper opposition to the America First Party and referred to several of the newspapers in this vicinity as "Nazi" newspapers. He then introduced O. L. HART, head of the Farmers organization in this vicinity, who spoke for a few minutes and made a plea for all farmers to get behind the America First Party.

JAMES MANNIX, also a member of the Farmers Guild, was the next speaker. His talk was mainly on the subject of free speech and stated he could not understand the American Legion's attitude in opposing the meeting, as he understood this organization always advocated free speech in the United States.

Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, widow of the former Minnesota Senator, was the next speaker, and she spoke for about thirty minutes, mainly defending her husband's stand as an isolationist, and generally in favor of the America First Party and its principles.

ROMER then filled in with a few impromptu remarks and introduced the main speaker, GERALD L. K. SMITH, who spoke for about an hour. He opened his address by telling the people not to applaud; that he would indicate to them when they should applaud. He then criticized the local power company for failure to furnish power for the loud speaking system. He stated that they had to run a line for 1/4 of a mile to a nearby farmhouse to obtain power. He informed that if the Republicans failed to heed the warning of the America First Party and continued their trend toward Internationalism, the America First Party would have to place candidates of their own in the field for the next Presidential election. He stated that LINDBERGH and WHEELER would probably be candidates for their party.

SMITH stated that this country was in the war; that we wanted to win it and bring our boys back after the war; that we must not leave them over in Europe to police the world. He vigorously criticized the entire ROOSEVELT family and stated that President ROOSEVELT wished to be President of the world, and wanted his son to be President of the United States. SMITH made several general remarks criticizing the Administration, and his remarks indicated he believed everything being done now was being done wrong, and he stated if the Republicans did not intend to take any action to remedy this situation the America First Party would have to step into the breach.

SMITH said the expenses of the meeting would be about $1500, and he made a plea for contributions of at least $1 or $2 in the collection taken up. Envelopes were passed out and he told the gathering to put their money in the envelope so that they could save America. He said "Your dollars will be worth good money in ten years instead of nothing". He also said the United States was spending more money in this war than all the rest of the nations combined. Informant stated that a number of people left the Fairgrounds when the collection started.

SMITH also stated that the so-called heads of the American Legion had no authority to criticize him or denounce him, as there was nothing in their National Convention in the form of a resolution against him.

He said he would be back in Greenville again and would speak "if they kill me". SMITH concluded his remarks, and the next and final speaker was CHARLES BINDERUP. BINDERUP confined most of his remarks to the money system in this country and advocated the control of the money by the Americans and not by International bankers.

Informant stated that the majority of the audience consisted of farmers and that he observed only two servicemen in the crowd.

100-6111

Clippings of newspaper articles appearing in the Greenville Daily Advocate and the Dayton, Ohio Journal are being forwarded to the Detroit Field Division.

A review of the file in the Cincinnati Field Office shows that [redacted] stated he had attended a meeting of the Farmers Guild on December 6, 1943. This meeting was held at the Public Library. He stated that the meeting had been widely circularized and the general public invited to attend. Therefore he and a fairly representative group of the citizenry of Greenville had attended this meeting out of curiosity.

[redacted] stated that to his knowledge the group still holds periodical meetings but he believes they have been refused the use of several halls and the meetings are usually held in different locations. He said that ordinarily meetings are attended by approximately 50 regular members.

[redacted] stated that the program of the meetings referred to impressed him as strongly anti-Semitic, anti-Administration, and anti-Communist, and strongly opposed to the purchase of United States War Savings Bonds. He advised that the meeting was opened with a statement to the effect that the purpose of the organization is to organize the people for action when the appropriate time comes. [redacted] on to say that the speakers of the meeting were in accord with the above mentioned sentiments expressed, and also discussed the financial policy of the United States Government, deploring the system of International banking, of which they portrayed the United States to be a victim. JOHN E. WATERS was the principal speaker along the above lines.

[redacted] informed that he attended this same meeting of the Farmers Guild. He stated that he was late for this meeting and therefore missed the opening statement concerning the purpose of the Farmers Guild. He stated the original organizer of the Farmers Guild in Greenville was [redacted] Farmer [redacted] advised that the apparent aim of the Farmers Guild is to remove the New Deal Agricultural Program, and said that one of the speakers who was violently anti-Russian compared present Agricultural Program with the Russian Five-Year Plan, and made the statement: "We Americans are all becoming Communists."

[redacted] stated that JOHN E. WATERS, who spoke as a financial expert, came from Dayton, Ohio, to the best of his knowledge, and was sponsored by the Constitutional Educational League of Hartford, Connecticut.

100-6111

[redacted] further stated that he had no information in his possession at that time indicating any connection between the Farmers Guild and GERALD L. K. SMITH. He described Darke County, Ohio as reactionary Republican, strongly susceptible to the influence of such groups as the Farmers Guild and America First Party.

It is noted that this Farmers Guild was very active in the rally held by the America First Party at Greenville, Ohio, June 4, 1944.

ENCLOSURES TO THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION: 4 sheets containing newspaper clippings regarding instant meeting of America First Party

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

INFORMANTS

[redacted]

b7-
b7c

EPB:WMJ
7-24-44
RECORDED 62-43818-513
62-43818-526

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, was; The AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C; SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION.

Enclosed for your further information in the captioned matter is a copy of the investigative report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Cincinnati, Ohio, on July 12, 1944. This report, you will note, sets forth information relative to the Smith rally held at Greenville, Ohio, on June 4, 1944.

b7c

Enclosure

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mlc

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JUL 25 1944
P.M.
FBI
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUL 24 1944
RECEIVED HEADQUARTERS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUL 28 1944

4-750 (2-7-79)

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COM-4a

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE 4/18/58

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F.B.I. TELETYPE

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CLASS. BY SP-8BTJ/ma

DATE OF REVIEW 10/17/ [redacted]

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Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acers
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Starke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

1-232
FBI DETROIT [redacted] 12:20 PM EWT CC
DIRECTOR AND SAC WASHINGTON URGENT

NAP. GERALD L.K. SMITH, WAS, AMERICA FIRST PARTY, IS - GERMAN SECURITY MATTERS, SEDETION. RETEL DETROIT TO YOU [redacted] LAST. SUBJECT STAYING AT WILLARD HOTEL IN WASHINGTON, [redacted] SUBMITTED FOR YOUR INFORMATION. GUERIN STOP DESK
12-20 PM OK FBI WASH MS WA 0711
WA 0722 FBI WA VKM

RECORDED 62-43818-528
E B 1

RECEIVED [redacted] 12:42 PM EWT [redacted]

[redacted]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

Origin DETROIT — DETROIT File No. 62-1126

Made at	Date made	Period	Made by
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	7/28/44	5/29;6/5,12,19,26;7/3,10,17,25/44	[redacted]

Title: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; AMERICA FIRST PARTY

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - R; SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

Synopsis of Facts: [redacted]

SMITH spent a great part of past six weeks engaged in extensive tour of northeastern and middle western states. Lien against SMITH for $405 filed in Federal Court for tax due from 1941 income. Immediate restitution made. SMITH'S use of Detroit public schools meeting facilities restricted because of action of Detroit Branch of the Civil Rights Federation. Damage suit for $100,000 filed in New York Federal Court against SMITH for usurping title "AMERICA FIRST." Meeting of America First Committee on June 1, 1944 addressed by ex-Congressman BINDERUP who discussed national monetary matters. SMITH at this time denounced DEWEY and disclosed plans to form a Nationalist Congressional Committee with Senator REYNOLDS as titular head. At closed session in Detroit on July 14, 1944 SMITH revealed plans to actively oppose DEWEY and Republican Party ticket and to organize a third party movement. Party will hold a state convention in Detroit, July 31, 1944. Plans to hold a national convention during August, 1944, possibly at St. Louis, Missouri. RALPH BAERMAN conferred with SMITH in Detroit four days in July.

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 9, 1944 at Detroit, Michigan.

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HANDLED BY

62- 438181-529

R. A. Guerin

5 - Bureau (enclosures)
2 - Chicago
2 - St. Louis
1 - Washington Field (information)
4 - Detroit

22 AUG

INDEXED IN PUBLICATION FILES

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63488

63489

De 62-1126

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan:

This is a joint report of Special Agent [redacted] and the reporting Agent. The information set out in the subsequent paragraphs unless otherwise designated, has been received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

b7c

b7c

During the period May 22, 1944 to June 8, 1944 Informant advised that SMITH had spent a very great portion of this period outside the city of Detroit conducting a number of speaking engagements in the east and middle west. SMITH owes on his income tax for the year 1941 $405 and the Internal Revenue Department made a demand upon him to submit a check for this amount immediately or further action would be taken by the Government to collect. (Detroit newspapers disclosed that the Internal Revenue filed a lien in Federal Court, probably in Detroit, against SMITH for tax due on his 1941 income.) On June 4, 1944 a meeting of AMERICA FIRST followers was planned for the fairgrounds at Greenville, Ohio and in addition to this, SMITH was attempting to rent a hall in Chicago for the night prior to the Republican Convention.

The auditorium of the Northern High School in Detroit was rented by SMITH in the name of the Federation of Americanization and tickets were issued in the name of AMERICA FIRST. This provoked a controversy prompted by the CIO who contested SMITH'S right to have the use of a public auditorium. A meeting was held by the Board of Education, Detroit on June 6, 1944 at which time the CIO and other objecting parties stated their contention in the meeting. SMITH was scheduled to have his say at a meeting on June 13, 1944. Six different groups at that time were protesting to the Board of Education on the use of a city auditorium by the SMITH group. SMITH ordered 1,000 to 2,000 booklets of JOE CAMP, New York City and intends to distribute them to his key people as a premium for donations to his group. The circular accompanying these booklets reads somewhat as follows:

> "With lotions of love....what most Americans can do without is giving aid and comfort to the enemy....helping Hitler's divide and conquer strategy....and create disunity on the home front. What self-styled patriot is a pitiful dupe of Axis Agents? What gossiper's propaganda has been branded as detrimental to the armed forces by Military Intelligence? What ex-Isolationist tried to claim credit for starting World War II? What loud-mouthed anti-Communist has helped the Communist cause? What well-known know-it-all does not know when he was married? What malicious scandal monger has a scandal of his own to worry about?"

63490

De 62-1126

During the period mentioned above, May 22 to June 8, 1944, SMITH contacted [redacted] of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; [redacted] of Greenville, Ohio; HARRY ROW[illegible] of Cincinnati, Ohio; and Mrs. LUNDEEN. Informant stated that during this time SMITH'S mail had been better than usual and that SMITH is "OK" financially; that SMITH is being sued for $100,000 in New York City for using the name "America First."

During the period above the Informant stated that to his knowledge the controversy with the Board of Education of the city of Detroit over the use of the public schools by SMITH had been postponed from from June 6, to June 13 to permit SMITH to appear and state his contentions. SMITH failed to appear on June 13, 1944, advising the Board of Education he was speaking in Minneapolis, Minnesota on that date. Thereupon the Board of Education postponed the date of his appearance once more, this time to June 20 at which time SMITH again failed to appear by reason of being out of town. The Board of Education proposed the resolution requiring SMITH to apply directly to the Board before he would be issued a permit for the use of any public auditorium; and considered that SMITH had violated their rule with respect to commercializing school buildings.

[redacted] and an attorney by the name of [redacted] as well as Communist and labor organizations, were active in objecting to the use of school auditoriums by the Subject.

Reverend L. L. MARION of the Regular Republicans, had ordered pamphlets on the Lincoln Profit Sharing Plan from Cleveland, Ohio. MARION had been requested by SMITH to be present in Chicago on June 25 to preside at the rally for the Independent Republicans to be held at the Grand Ballroom in the Stevens Hotel in Chicago on that date.

The Informant stated that [redacted] had received a telegram from [redacted] requesting [redacted] to furnish information to him for [redacted] said that Dr. EDWARD LODGE KURRAN, International Catholic Truth Society; Reverend NORMAN VINCENT PEALE; and Major General BYRNES were on the platform at this meeting.

During the period mentioned above, SMITH had two "wonderful" meetings at St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minnesota. They were forced to change buildings in St. Paul when the crowd threatened to blow up the first one, but SMITH had a good crowd at the second building. SMITH had made extensive plans for the pre-convention rally at the Grand Ballroom in the Stevens Hotel in

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Chicago on June 25, 1944. Some 2,500 invitations were mailed out. The Hotel however, cancelled SMITH'S contract for the use of the ballroom since their agreement with the Republican National Committee required the Committee's approval before renting public space to a private group during the period of the convention. However, SMITH indicated his intentions to hold the meeting regardless, stating "We will fight; anything that happens will do us good."

Informant stated that the Farmers Guild of Indiana requested SMITH to plan a meeting for them in the near future and that [redacted] of Buffalo, New York had requested SMITH to conduct a meeting in Buffalo some time during August with either Senator REYNOLDS or ex-Congressman BINDERUP to speak. b7c

A Mr. HANSBALL of a Detroit newspaper requested SMITH to give him a running general story on the racial issue. Also [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company requested SMITH to place a congratulatory message in his Legion Post publication in honor of HENRY FORD'S 81st birthday. The Informant indicated that SMITH intends to offer as a premium to his followers, a publication known as "40 Years of Roosevelt."

For the period June 23, through July 6, 1944 Informant advised that SMITH had sent the Internal Revenue Department $100 to apply on the tax lien filed against him and that another $300 was to be submitted by July 6th. During this time SMITH had some difficulty in obtaining a meeting place in Chicago for June 25. Arrangements were completed for the rally to be held in the Hamilton Hotel rather than the original meeting place, the Stevens Hotel. SMITH remarked that the meeting held in Chicago was a sensation ad he had made the front page in all the newspapers there.

During this time SMITH was contacted by BOB REYNOLDS of the Farmers Guild; by Mrs. BROWN, [redacted] and [redacted]. SMITH has decided to fight DEWEY and planned to call a convention of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY in St. Louis, Missouri some time in August and consider the wisdom of nominating a presidential and vice-presidential candidate. He is considering the possibility of changing his headquarters from Detroit to Chicago, Illinois. b7c

During the period July 7 through July 24, 1944 [redacted] advised that the post office was holding up the distribution of SMITH'S magazine because of some question over SMITH'S combining two months in one. During this time SMITH was contacted by [redacted] who attempted to influence SMITH to reach a compromise with the leaders of the Republican Party which SMITH firmly refused to do, and in doing so, soundly denounced DEWEY, b7c

saying that he was controlled by the Jews and by CHURCHILL. SMITH indicated at this time that he might run [redacted] for Congress on the AMERICA FIRST ticket. He also indicated that he had been approached by the controlling interests of the Republican Party in Chicago with a proposition to bring his group into the Republican Party which proposition he refused.

The Informant indicated that several of SMITH'S close followers are very much worried about the attitude he has taken regarding the Republican Party and several of them have indicated that they thought he should reverse his attitude and support the Republican ticket. At each request for this action, SMITH firmly refuses to have anything to do with the Republican Party and expresses his desire for organizing a third party on a nationalistic basis.

During this period mentioned above, the Informant indicated that SMITH had his office manager make inquiry from various and sundry sources concerning the formulation and registration of a third party and the candidates thereof. Also during this period SMITH had his office manager contact the Detroit Temperance Union and the Prohibition Party to inquire from them for information concerning their candidates for Michigan state offices and the dates when their respective conventions will be held. The informant stated that Captain SOUTHARD of Chicago had indicated to SMITH that he was having trouble with his organization in Chicago because some of the members of his organization were receiving SMITH'S literature. SOUTHARD was accused by his members of giving his membership list to SMITH and they resented such action on the part of SOUTHARD. SMITH told SOUTHARD at this time that the fellow from Washington who wrote a book that had never been published was in Detroit and had given him very interesting data.

SMITH in conversation with HARRY ROMER, indicated that he desired to have Senator WHEELER as a presidential candidate in his third party movement. This Informant indicated that RALPH BARMAN was in Detroit to see SMITH on July 13 and July 14, 1944.

On July 14, 1944 SMITH contacted Mrs. BILLINGS, Secretary of "We The Mothers," Chicago. They discussed the problem of combining with ers and other similar organizations. SMITH stated that he favored a program that ould give each organization freedom of expression. He didn't think that the rganization should be federated. SMITH advised the Informant that on July 31, 944 the AMERICA FIRST PARTY would hold a state convention in the Jade Room of he Detroit-Leland Hotel. [redacted] informed that he had been contacted by RRY ROMER who advised [redacted] tell SMITH that a meeting in Hamilton, Ohio was ing arranged for him on either August 27th or September 10th, 1944 in that city, that he, ROMER, was lining up organizations in Lebanon, Ohio and Okeana, Ohio

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* * *

[redacted] advised that during the month of June, 1944 the Civil Rights Federation, an alleged Communist "front" in Detroit was very active in organizing opposition to SMITH. They used the Federation to influence the Detroit Board of Education to forbid the use of public school auditoriums to SMITH. In this action the Civil Rights Federation claimed backing by the Detroit Council of Churches, the Catholic Church, the American National League of Women Voters, the National Negro Congress, and the Detroit Jewish Council. b7D

63508

De 62-1126

This informant stated that this opposition which was led by JACK RASKIN, Executive Secretary of the Civil Rights Federation who contacted many people to support the Federation in its actions, was not too successful. Many of these persons contacted by RASKIN indicated that they would not give their support in this movement because as long as no action had been taken against SMITH by the FBI or the Department of Justice he, SMITH, should be granted the same rights as any other individual.

[redacted]

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b7D

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

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De 62-1126

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

ENCLOSURES To the Bureau:

There are being forwarded to the Bureau as enclosures with this report copies of May and June-July issues of The Cross and the Flag, personal monthly messages of SMITH, and various pamphlets and other material distributed by SMITH to his followers at his meetings in Detroit, Michigan and Chicago, Illinois.

- PENDING -

De 62-1126

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

IN ACCORDANCE WITH BUREAU INSTRUCTION, INVESTIGATIVE REPORTS SUBMITTED IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

THE CHICAGO FIELD DIVISION

At Chicago, Illinois, will conduct appropriate investigation of the AMERICA FIRST rally held in the Stevens Hotel on June 25, 1944 and submit the results of this investigation in report form.

Will conduct similar investigation of the AMERICA FIRST rally held in Chicago on July 17, 1944.

THE ST. LOUIS FIELD DIVISION

At St. Louis, Missouri, will follow and report on activities of the Subject while in St. Louis. It is to be noted that the AMERICA FIRST PARTY plans to held a national convention to organize a third party movement sometime during August in the city of St. Louis.

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At Detroit, Michigan, will cover and report the state convention of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY to be held in the Jade Room of the Detroit-Leland Hotel on July 31, 1944. Will maintain contact with confidential informants mentioned in this report concerning the activities of the Subject.

* * *

A copy of this report has been designated for the information of the WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION in accordance with instructions set out in Bureau letter dated June 27, 1944.

- PENDING -

63515

De 62-1126

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

b7D

* * *

INDEX GUIDE

TITLE: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases AMERICAN FIRST PARTY

SA [redacted]

CASE: INTERNAL- G
SECURITY MATTER-SEDITION

DATE: 7/28/44

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WPHa:WMJ
8-19-44
62-43818-527

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. [redacted]

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

63487

For your further information in your consideration of the activities of subject Smith there are attached copies of the following two reports which have been submitted in the investigation of this matter:

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Chicago, Illinois, on July 27, 1944.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, on July 28, 1944.

b7c

Also attached are photostatic copies of the following items of literature which were received along with Special Agent [redacted] report:

1. The May, 1944, issue of "The Cross and the Flag."

2. A leaflet headed, "40 Years of Roosevelt."

3. A leaflet captioned, "A Personal Message About ... Chicago - Dewey - America First."

4. The June - July, 1944, issue of "The Cross and the Flag."

Enclosure

AUG 21 1944
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FEDERAL BUREAU
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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
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SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 32

PAGES REVIEWED: 96

PAGES RELEASED: 66

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

CONFIDENTIAL

F.B.I. TELETYPE

[redacted] c b1

DETROIT [redacted] c b1 10:31 PM GMN

DIRECTOR AND SAC WASHINGTON URGENT

NAP

GERALD K. SMITH, WAS. AMERICA FIRST PARTY, INTERNAL SECURITY C, SECURITY MATTER-. SEDITION. SUBJECT DEPARTED DETROIT TO ARRIVE WASHINGTON EIGHT THIRTY AM, [redacted] c VIA PENNSYLVANIA OR B AND O RR. HE WILL CONTACT [redacted] AND BOTH PLAN TO GO TO SECRETARY OF STATE HULL AND DEMAND PERMISSION TO SIT IN ON INTERNATIONAL MONETARY CONFERENCE. THIS IS SUBMITTED FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY.

GUERIN

b1 b2c

RECEIVED: [redacted] b1 10:47 P.M. EWT REB

CLASS. BY SCB BTJ/mh

DATE OF REVIEW 10/8/82

[redacted] c b1

cc: Mr. Ladd

[redacted] c

[redacted]

HANDLED BY STOP DESK

[redacted] 62-43818-530

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

INDEXED [redacted] c

19

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted] c b1

JPH:WMJ

62-43818
SAC, Detroit

August 21, 1944

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, WAS
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

Reference is made to the report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on July 28, 1944, and to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Washington, D. C., on July 20, 1944.

b7c

In this connection your attention is invited particularly to page 25 of Special Agent [redacted] report wherein it is set forth that [redacted]

b7c
b7D

The Bureau is interested in this particular information and through your available sources at Detroit you should continue to follow closely any activities on the part of [redacted] which would indicate that he has actually had printed and published such a book. In the event the book is forthcoming, it would be helpful if you could secure a copy for transmittal to the Bureau.

b7c

cc - Washington

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62-43818-531
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 24 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
AUG 29 1944
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

58 AUG 29 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Detroit, Michigan

FILE NO. 100-7744

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	7/27/44	6/26/44 7/13,26/44	[redacted] [redacted]:VLS

TITLE: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was
AMERICA FIRST PARTY

CHARACTER OF CASE: INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: SMITH held a meeting in Chicago 4/30/44, approximately 500 persons attended. SMITH in speech condemned Governor DEWEY of New York as an Internationalist and President ROOSEVELT's foreign policy. KENNETH GOFF, National Chairman of the Christian Youth Movement, spoke condemning Communism. SMITH and 2,000 persons forcibly took over the Grand Ballroom of the Stevens Hotel, Chicago, 6/25/44 for a meeting after the management refused to rent the ballroom. SMITH condemned the Republican Party for preventing the hotel from renting him the ballroom and criticized Governor DEWEY of New York and WENDELL WILLKIE. SMITH held a meeting at the LaSelle Hotel, Chicago, 7/17/44 and 2,000 persons attended. SMITH condemned the Jews, Communists, Internationalists, bankers and stated that a prominent man advised him that the Internationalist Party is to be the only party in the U. S.

-RUC-

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

REFERENCE: Bureau file 62-43818.
Detroit letter to Chicago dated June 2, 1944.
Detroit teletype to Chicago dated June 24, 1944.
Chicago teletype to Bureau dated June 26, 1944.
Bureau teletype to Chicago dated July 13, 1944.

DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:

-I-

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3 - Detroit
2 - Chicago

cc Clerk 8/19/44

181

EX-88

AUG 26 1964

5

7—2034

100-7744

[redacted] b20

The identity of this informant will be furnished in event of prosecution.

This witness can testify that GERALD L. K. SMITH held a meeting at the Fine Arte Building, 410 South Michigan Avenue, starting at 8 P.M. April 30, 1944. This witness can testify that approximately 500 persons were present at the meeting and the following occurred at the meeting.

SMITH devoted half of his speech to telling the audience the trouble he was having in obtaining halls for his meetings in various cities. SMITH criticized Governor DEWEY's speech which was given a short time before his meeting, endorsing and embracing the administration's international policy. SMITH at this meeting withdrew his support and that of his followers from Governor DEWEY as a Presidential nominee. SMITH stated that Governor DEWEY was following WILLKIE towards Internationalism; that if DEWEY or any other Internationalistic candidate was nominated at the Republican National Convention he would start a third party.

SMITH during this meeting predicted that DEWEY would be defeated as a Republican nominee for President at the Republican National Convention in Chicago. SMITH stated that he would switch his support and that of his followers to the Democratic Party behind such men as Senator BURTON WHEELER or Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS. SMITH requested those attending the meeting to write to the Illinois delegates to draft Colonel ROBERT MC CORMICK as presidential nominee for the Republican Party.

SMITH stated that seizure of the Montgomery Ward and Company by the government was a good example of Fascism in the United States. SMITH in his speech condemned the foreign policy of President ROOSEVELT and Secretary of State, HULL, and stated that he was against any super-government of any international police force using American soldiers. SMITH quoted from a speech given by Senator BUTLER that the United States Government was going to throw away six billion dollars in Latin America.

SMITH stated that before ROOSEVELT became President the United States had 65 employees in the Mexican Embassy and that there are now 3500 employees in the Mexican Embassy. SMITH stated that the poor people were not getting any benefit from the money which was being spent in Mexico or Latin America; that the money was being used by the Mexican and American officials in Mexico City.

SMITH informed the audience that his son, GERALD SMITH, JR., was fighting as a Private in Burma; that WALTER WINCHELL prevented his son from becoming an officer by broadcasting information concerning his son just as his son's papers were being reviewed by the United States Army so that he could enter Officers Candidate School.

SMITH stated in his speech that the United States was a free country and that every man had a right to worship as he pleased in a cathedral, church, synagogue or to be an atheist. SMITH stated that he was the one who should be credited for the Republican victories during the elections in 1942 and 1943; that he was the one who defeated WENDELL WILLKIE in the primary election in Wisconsin when the people voted to determine their choice of the Republican nominee for President.

SMITH stated that he had a following of three million people in the United States and that his following was growing very rapidly.

KENNETH GOFF, an ex-Communist, member of the America First Party and national chairman of the Christian Youth Movement, spoke at this meeting. GOFF stated that the Christian Youth Movement was organized for the expressed purpose of combating the work and ideas of the American Youth for Democracy which was actually the Young Communist League. GOFF stated that it was necessary for the people to organize and work together to defeat the Communists and New dealers in the November elections; that if the people did not the fight would be harder, longer and might eventually end up in bloodshed in order to defeat the Communists and New Dealers.

SMITH took up a collection at this meeting.

[redacted] b7D

whose identity is known to the Bureau. The identity of this informant will be furnished in event of prosecution.

[redacted] b2D

This informant can testify that approximately 2,000 of SMITH's followers went into the Grand Ballroom; that a short time later SMITH went to the platform of the Grand Ballroom and told those present that he had won a beachhead for free speech and that he was taking over the ballroom. This witness can testify that as soon as SMITH took the platform the orchestra left and that so far as she knows no one attempted to evict SMITH and his followers from the ballroom. This witness can testify that SMITH and his followers kept control of the ballroom for approximately two hours during which time SMITH devoted his time to criticizing the management of the hotel for refusing to rent the ballroom to him. SMITH stated that he had a contract with the hotel for the rental of the ballroom and that the contract was withdrawn after the Republican Party forced the hotel to cancel the contract.

This witness can testify that SMITH in his talk criticized WENDELL WILLKIE and Governor DEWEY of New York and accused them of being Internationalists. This informant can testify that SMITH stated that his definition of a victory has three branches: First, to retire all the ROOSEVELTS to private life; Second, send WILLKIE to Moscow and Third, make WALLACE a milkman in China.

This witness can testify that no collection was taken up at this meeting and that SMITH stated that he did not give the speech he had intended inasmuch as the hotel would not voluntarily allow him to occupy the ballroom.

This witness can testify that SMITH held a meeting at the Hotel LaSalle ballroom, Chicago, Monday night July 17, 1944. This meeting was a closed meeting and admission could be gained only by invitation. This witness can testify that approximately 2,000 persons attended this meeting.

This witness can testify that assistants to SMITH sold the following literature at this meeting:

"And So They Indicted Me" by J. EDWARD JONES
"With Lotions of Love to Walter Winchell", by JOSEPH KAMP
"Forty Years of Roosevelt", by T. W. HUGHES
"America Preferred", by CARL H. MOTE
"They Would Change Our Way of Life", by KENNETH GOFF
"The Cross And The Flag"

This witness can testify that SMITH introduced to the audience the guests seated on the stage which guests were Rev. Dr. L. L. MARON of Pontiac, Michigan, who pronounced the invocation; Mrs. GRACE BILLINGS, Secretary of We, the Mother's Mobilize For America, Inc.; Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH; CHARLES J. ANDERSON, JR., Republican nominee for Congressman for the Sixth District of Illinois and two men who were members of the Farmer's Guild.

This witness can testify that CHARLES J. ANDERSON, JR. made a talk at this meeting at which time he read statements concerning helping the soldiers of the American Army when they return to the United States from the battle front.

This witness can testify that SMITH gave a speech at this meeting the contents of which was as follows:

SMITH stated that on June 3, 1944 the America First Rally at Greenville, Ohio, was advised by the Fair Board of Greenville, that he would not be permitted to hold a meeting at the Fair grounds in Greenville, Ohio; that a few Jewish leaders in that city had brought pressure to bear to prevent him from speaking at the Fair grounds. SMITH stated that a group of citizens got into the Fair grounds on the night of June 3, 1944, opened the gates and strung an electric cable

so that a meeting could be held; that those present then stood guard over the fair grounds until 7,000 people arrived for the meeting; that most of the people were farmers. SMITH stated that Chairman SPRAENGLER of the Republican National Convention was instrumental in getting the Stevens Hotel in Chicago to deny him the use of the Grand Ballroom of that hotel on June 25, 1944 but that he and 2,000 of his followers marched into the ballroom and took it over.

SMITH stated that after this meeting at the Stevens Hotel, he was contacted at his room in the Blackstone Hotel by a very prominent man in the United States who advised him that he should forget about Constitutionalism and American Nationalism; that there was going to be only one party in the United States and that was the Internationalists Party. SMITH stated that this man stated that he was backing THOMAS DEWEY for President.

SMITH stated that EARL BROWDER was released from prison by President ROOSEVELT in order that President ROOSEVELT could gain votes from the Communist Party.

SMITH during his speech denounced the dictatorial powers of a small minority, whether they be New Deal, Communistic, British-minded, Internationalists, Jews or bankers. SMITH denounced the Federal Reserve Banking System and stated that it was set up for the sole benefit of the Jewish International Bankers. SMITH in his speech denounced the protection given to WALTER WINCHELL's column in the newspapers and condemned WALTER WINCHELL for being against such great Americans as Senator NYE, Senator, HOFFMAN, Senator TAFT, Senator WHEELER, DIES, FATHER COUGHLIN, CHARLES LINDBERGH and many others. SMITH demanded that the "Bureaucrats" in Washington stop throwing away billions of dollars in South America and elsewhere and start giving at least $100 to every United States soldier returning to the United States along with one acre of land.

SMITH demanded that a system of profit sharing and private enterprise be restored.

At this meeting SMITH read a telegram from Senator ROBERT R. REYNOLDS, National Chairman of the American Nationalists Committee of Independent Voters which telegram said that Senator REYNOLDS would be unable to leave Washington to attend the meeting held July 17, 1944 as there was too much important work to be done in Washington in order to win the battle for Americanism on the home front.

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

[redacted], advised that a letter was received by the Stevens Hotel setting forth that the Young Republican Club desired to rent the Grand ballroom of the Stevens Hotel on Sunday, June 25, 1944, in which to hold a Republican Rally. [redacted] stated that the letter was mailed from Washington, D. C. [redacted] stated that the hotel agreed to rent the Grand Ballroom to the Young Republican Club but that a short time later it was learned by the hotel that the Young Republican Club was actually GERALD L. K. SMITH; that on June 22, 1944 the Stevens Hotel advised SMITH that they did not desire to rent the Grand Ballroom to him. [redacted] stated that the hotel was advised by SMITH that he had rended the ballroom of the Hamilton Hotel for his rally and the Stevens Hotel place signs in the lobby stating that the Rally of SMITH was being held at the Hamilton Hotel.

[redacted] stated that at about 2:30 P.M. June 25, 1944 he heard a commotion in the lobby of the Stevens Hotel and that when he went into the lobby he saw approximately 2,000 people attempting to enter the Grand Ballroom of the hotel. [redacted] stated that a national Broadcasting Company orchestra was rehearsing in the ballroom at the time. [redacted] stated that almost all of the persons he saw entering the ballroom were women and had buttons pinned on their dresses sponsoring BRICKER for the Republican Presidential nominee.

[redacted] stated that he immediately went to the Grand Ballroom and as he entered the ballroom SMITH entered the platform of the ballroom and stated that he was establishing a beachhead in the Stevens Hotel for free speech and that he was taking over the ballroom.

[redacted] stated that he remained in the ballroom for approximately two hours during which time SMITH gave a lecture in which he criticized the hotel for refusing to rent him the ballroom and criticized the Republican Party for bringing pressure to bear on the hotel so that they would refuse to rent the ballroom to him. [redacted] stated that so far as he can remember SMITH did not talk about anything else.

[redacted] stated that no attempt was made on the part of the hotel to evict SMITH from the ballroom inasmuch as thought it would possibly cause a riot in the hotel and might therefore destroy some of the hotel property.

ALL
b7c, b7D

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT

[redacted]

b7D

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- [X] Deleted under exemption(s) b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- [ ] Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.
- ____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.
- ____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): _____
- [ ] For your information: _____
- [X] The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: 62-43818 -533

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Attention: Mr. Sizoo
O. John Rogge, Special Assistant to the Attorney General

August 24, 1944
OJR:GSR:ao

United States v. Joseph E. McWilliams et al.

I attach a copy of a letter addressed (on the envelope) to Hon. Joseph W. Burns, Special Assistant to the Attorney General, Department of Justice, which I received today. The envelope is postmarked at Washington, August 23, 1944, and on the back contains the return address: [redacted]

b7C

Enclosure

Fraud Against the

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62-43818-534
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 31 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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C
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August 20, 1944

Dear Mr. B.

While in Laughlin's office today, turning over papers in Burton appeal and Carrier case, a stooge of Gerald K. Smith, came in and told Laughlin that Smith was in town and wanted to see him this afternoon.

I know that Smith and Winrod are close; now Laughlin seems to be tied very close in the picture. Smith, of course, is fighting both Republican and Democratic Candidates for President, being a candidate himself.

Simply pass this on for what it is worth.

Sincerely,

/s/ [redacted]

b7c

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/19/82 BY SP-1 SCP/pc

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: August 28, 1944

FROM : SAC, DETROIT

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

There is being set out below the pertinent information obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, for the period August 11 through August 27, 1944. b7D

Informant says that Subject SMITH has confirmed to Captain EARL SOUTHARD the fact that the America First Party is entering into various campaigns in connection with the Fall election, principally for educational and propaganda purposes, and that so far as the Presidential campaign is concerned he, SMITH, is attempting to compel debate on the issue of whether to bring the boys home or not. Informant also said that the immigration and refugee plank of the America First Party would be based around a speech of Senator ROBERT R. REYNOLDS, recently inserted into the Congressional Record.

Concerning the national convention of the America First Party being held in Detroit, Michigan, on August 29 and 30, 1944, informant advised that all activities in connection with the convention would be held at the Detroit Leland Hotel. Informant was unable to state the reason for abandoning the original plan to use a Detroit public school for the larger meetings. In further reference to the planned convention, informant said that Senator ROBERT R. REYNOLDS contemplates sending a speech to SMITH to be read at the convention as coming from REYNOLDS, inasmuch as REYNOLDS has found it impossible to be personally present.

Informant stated that during the above period of time SMITH made a press release involving the real reason for his break with Governor THOMAS E. DEWEY and that it was caused because of disagreements on international policy. Governor DEWEY allegedly sent a man to contact SMITH prior to the Chicago meeting and the agent introduced the question of foreign policy, suggesting that they must plan to go on from here and carry on the war after HITLER's defeat and would probably have to join with Britain in a war against Russia, the agent then explaining to SMITH that this was Governor DEWEY's idea.

EX - 5

According to informant SMITH, in the press release, intended to accuse DEWEY of wanting to take this country into an alliance with Britain in order to "whip" Russia and further that in the coming campaign he, SMITH, is going to discuss issues that he claims neither of the major political candidates have the nerve to discuss, namely: (1) The TYLER KENT case involving his mysterious internment in London, after asserting that CHURCHILL, before he arose to the Prime Ministership, was using the diplomatic pouch to correspond with ROOSEVELT about coming events; (2) The KIMMEL-SHORT scandals directly and completely.

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memo to Clark 9/15/44

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62-43918-535

Letter to the Director
August 30, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

Informant said that SMITH was apprised of information concerning the sedition trial in Washington, D. C., by [redacted] to the effect that "they" have something personal on the Judge that will hold the trial up for a while, and further that several months before the trial started, WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY's home was raided and some material picked up which indicated the author's desire to impeach President ROOSEVELT and that when the defense attorney asked the FBI Agent, who was testifying, what was seditious about wanting to impeach a public official, the Agent responded that he thought it might be if the nationalist did it.

Informant advised that Subject SMITH and also HARRY A. BOMER were addressing a large meeting of farmers near Hamilton, Ohio, on August 27, 1944.

Informant stated that Subject SMITH had requested the use of a buffalo from the Department of the Interior to be used as a mascot for the America First Party and that SMITH claimed he had merely asked that a buffalo be named "America First." Informant also said that Secretary of the Interior HAROLD L. ICKES had refused to grant this request on the basis that he did not want to play politics with the national parks.

According to informant, Subject SMITH left Detroit Sunday, August 20, 1944, and arrived in Washington, D. C., August 21 and that his claimed purpose for going to Washington was to insist that the "nationalists" be represented at the Dumbarton Woods Conference. In this connection, according to informant, SMITH expressed himself to the effect that he thought the matter of JOHN FOREST DULLIS' taking part in the conference was a "terrible hoax" and that this expression on the part of SMITH brought forth the comment by [redacted] to the effect that he, [redacted], does not trust DULLIS at all and that he had read "a couple" of articles to the effect that DULLIS does law business for the British Empire.

Informant further says that while in Washington Subject claimed to DON LOBECK that on the afternoon of August 23, 1944, he had given them "our" ultimatum, accusing them of committing treason in holding the conference behind the people's backs and threatening to impeach them, and further claiming that his, SMITH's, business at the State Department was being handled personally by CORDELL HULL. Informant further advised that Subject went directly from Washington, D. C., to Cincinnati, Ohio, in order to be there in time for the meeting at Hamilton, Ohio, on August 27, 1944. Informant said that during the time that Subject was in Washington, a [redacted] of the New York newspaper, "P. M." attempted to contact SMITH for the purpose of interviewing him on background information.

ALL
b7C

Letter to the Director
August 30, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

Informant said that Subject discussed with [redacted] an article appearing in the New York Post of August 15, 1944, under the name of VICTOR REISELL, in reference to the activities of the "American nationalists" and their discovery of a most intelligent anti-semite who, in the article, is referred to as the - mystery man behind the new country-wide anti-Jewish, anti-refugee, anti-CIO political machine which the nationalists, under GERALD L. K. SMITH, plan to launch in the next weeks.

The article further continued to the effect that when the America First Party partners needed money to finance their "Jew-baiting campaign," it was the mystery man who approached the Ford Motor Company for the "slush fund." The article also narrated the fact that the midwest headquarters for the America First Party are in SMITH's private Detroit office where ALLEN ZOLL is operating under an assumed name and that ZOLL is the one who organized the Christian front picket line around the radio station when Father COUGHLIN was cut off the air.

Pertaining to this article, informant said that SMITH had indicated to [redacted] that he felt that perhaps some of this information had come to the author through him, [redacted] inasmuch as [redacted] had recently been in Washington and New York. [redacted] according to informant, at first disclaimed having discussed with anyone any information which possibly went into the article and then on recollection, he said that he perhaps had discussed some things while in New York in conversation there with [redacted] Informant said that [redacted] also suggested to SMITH that from the contents of the article he thought that part, at least, of the information had come from one or two feminine employees in SMITH's office and that he would soon have the answer as to just which one. However, informant was unable to furnish any subsequent information which would indicate [redacted] had confirmed his suspicions relative to any of SMITH's employees.

Informant advised that [redacted] suspicion of SMITH's employees apparently was confined to those who were working in SMITH's downtown office in Detroit. Informant also stated that in his explanation as to the source of the material appearing in the New York Post article, [redacted] also indicated to SMITH that he thought it may have come from a report of some agency, but he did not make it clear as to the name of the agency and whether it was a governmental or private agency to which he referred.

Informant also said that [redacted] was the "mystery man" referred to in the New York Post article. Informant said that [redacted] of Littleson, California, had sent in thirty dollars to Subject, requesting that certain books be forwarded to her.

AV
b7c

Letter to the Director
August 30, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

In addition to those names appearing above, informant advised that during the period of time covered by this letter Subject also was in contact with [redacted] (phonetic) of Port Jefferson, New York, also with CHARLES A. MADDEN of 301 South Negley Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and with JOSEPH STOFFEL of Buffalo, New York.

b7c

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

62-43614-535

RECORDED

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark
Attention: Mr. O. John Rogge
John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

UNITED STATES vs. JOSEPH E. McWILLIAMS, ET AL; SEDITION.

A confidential informant in connection with the investigation of Gerald L. K. Smith at Detroit, Michigan, has advised the Bureau that recently one [redacted] of Detroit made a statement to the effect that "they have something personal on the Judge which will hold the trial up for a while." It was the confidential informant's definite opinion that this statement had reference to the trial of the above-captioned matter at Washington, D. C.

Although no further clarifying data is available, I thought that this report should be brought to your attention for informative purposes.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/8/82 BY SP4 [illegible]

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RECEIVED IN READING ROOM U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE SEP 16 5 34 PM

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mrs. Candy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
SEP 16 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

56 OCT 6 - 1944

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Detroit Mich. 407 P Aug. 20, 1944.

The Hon. Cordell Hull

Washington, D. C.

I observe that you have invited the Internationalist Lawyer John Foster Dulles to confer with the representatives of certain foreign governments concerning our postwar policy as it relates to foreign nations. I observe that Mr. Dulles, the internationalist, was recommended by Thomas E. Dewey, a candidate for President. This means that the conference will have in it no representatives of true nationalism. In fact, we nationalists believe that the conference is a scheme to make secret decisions and to remove foreign policy, as a campaign issue, from the forum of public debate.

I therefore, as a candidate for President, respectfully request that you invite to this conference a spokesman for the true nationalists of America, in order that we may be represented at this vital and history making conference.

I suggest two names -- United States Senator Robert H. Reynolds and Col. Robert R. McCormick.

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162-43818-536
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Should you fail to do this, I personally, shall be in Washington when the conference opens to demand a hearing on behalf of the millions of inarticulate nationalists who are determined that there shall be no super state and no world police force after this war. And are determined that the

declaration

declaration of independence shall continue to chart the course of America in the determination of its foreign policy.

GERALD L. K. SMITH

545P

Date 8-21-44

Divison of
Foreign Activity [redacted]elation

b2

TO: FBI - [redacted]

	For your information
	Note and Return
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	DCR - Index and Return with Previous
	For FC Files
	Return to FC for Mailing
	See me about this
	Let me have your comments
	Take this up with
2	For our telephone conversation
	Prepare Reply
	Obtain Previous
	Paraphrase
	Transmit to

Remarks:

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Signature [redacted]

JPHar:WMW
8-28-44

RECORDED

EX-19

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark
-62-43818-536
John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your information there is attached a copy of a communication dated August 20, 1944, at Detroit, Michigan, allegedly sent by subject Smith to the Secretary of State at Washington, D. C. You will observe that in this communication Smith requested that his party, the America First Party, be permitted to have a representative attend the Dumbarton Oaks conference.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-8 GTO/mlh

AUG 29 1944
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
AUG 29 1944
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mease
Miss Gandy

78 SEP 27 1944

RECORDED [redacted]:mr
62-43818-537

September 7, 1944

[redacted]

b7c

Dear [redacted]

This will acknowledge your letter of August 31, 1944, with enclosure.

The content of your communication and enclosure has been carefully noted and your interest in writing as you did is appreciated.

In the event you obtain any information which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, please feel free to communicate directly with the Special Agent in Charge of our Buffalo Field Division which is located at 400 United States Court House Building, Buffalo 2, New York.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP2 [illegible]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Rumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Sandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
SEP 7 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[redacted]

August 31, 1944

b7c

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/92 BY SP8 [illegible]

Dear Sir:

The shocking events which are transpiring at the "America First" Party convention in Detroit prompts me to write this letter.

It is almost unbelievable that any group of people, be they a majority or a minority, are allowed to assemble in a convention and spew hate, intolerance, injustice and racial prejudice as they are now doing. While it is true that the Constitution gives us the right to express our views in whatever manner we see fit, subject to the laws of our respective communities, it does not allow us to undermine the very foundation upon which our country was built, and which it is defending with the lives of many hundreds of thousands of fighting men and women.

One reading the accompanying article from the St. Louis STAR-TIMES dated August 30th, would think that it bears a date line of Berlin or Tokyo instead of Detroit. If similar utterances were made in either of the two enemy capitols, the result would be wholesale murder. In Detroit it doesn't even touch the surface.

We are all guilty of complacency to some extent, but so was Germany when Hitler inaugurated his campaign of hate.

I state emphatically that this is not the time to be complacent and to allow this group of people to continue their activities. Therefore, as an American citizen who turns to the properly constituted authorities for action, I demand that some explanation be made for the justification of the further existence of the America First Party.

Ack Rec 9/6/44 EFB

Very sincerely yours,

[redacted]

b7c

HANDLED BY STOP DEST

Rec'd 9/5/44 [illegible]

cc: Hon. John J. Cochran
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

RECORDED & INDEXED
162-43818
F B I
27 SEP 2 1944

EX-18 116 EFB

St. Louis [illegible]

[illegible] Aug. [illegible]

America [illegible] Parley Cheers [illegible] Coughlin

[illegible]

[illegible] of the Rev. Charles E. Coughlin [illegible] delegates were [illegible] to party leaders [illegible] L. K. Smith's platform [illegible] for our coming campaign.

[illegible] was given Coughlin, [illegible] priest and one-time radio [illegible], as Smith proposed that the America First platform include a plank demanding: "We must nationalize our money system. It is one of the hands of the federal reserve machine which [illegible] the purpose of the international bankers." Coughlin was not present.

Delegate Joe [illegible], backing up the plank's adoption, said: "If our money problem wouldn't be in the present state if money hadn't got away from God, then one man [illegible] us that God is the prophet Micah of the twentieth century, known as Father Coughlin."

[illegible] policy against [illegible]

[illegible] for [illegible] to endorse plank calling [illegible] "peace-war [illegible] forever." Alternative for [illegible] [illegible]

Under Cover
...ctors At Parley

By Howard Ewing
A Staff Correspondent
of The Star-Times

DETROIT, Aug. 30.—Attended by far more than the Coughlinites, Bundsites and assorted characters featured in the provocative exposé, "Under Cover," the America First Party's national convention today started to nominate Gerald L. K. Smith, former Silver Shirter and Huey Long aid, as its candidate for U. S. President.

Although the list of delegates remained secret as the convention went into its second day, observers noted at least five persons prominent in a plot ferreted out by John Roy Carlson, to mention in his best-selling book. Four were taking leading parts in the anti-Roosevelt, anti-Jewry, anti-British, anti-Russian, anti-Semite oratory.

The activities of Smith, who dominated the convention and controls it, take up nearly a chapter of Carlson's book. Wealthy Carl H. Weis of Indianapolis, who quietly financed the meeting, is a prominent chairman of the convention, rates several pages.

Others at Convention

Others named by Carlson and who are taking an active part in the convention are Bernard A. Dahlman, Smith's secretary, and Mrs. Lyle McCleary of Cleveland, president of the United Mothers of America, which Carlson says has "carried on a vicious smear campaign in Cleveland."

Also identified as present, was Mr. Lyle Clark, who, flying under the Chicago organization, "We, the Mothers Mobilize for America," [illegible] publication, according to Carlson, "carries his points between the lines."

Dom Lobbeck of St. Louis, reported to be one of Smith's bodyguards and the probable choice for party secretary, told the Star-Times that approximately 15 Minutemen were present. He declined

b7C

[redacted]
RECORDED 62-38018 -538

September 6, 1944

ex-1

63266

[redacted]

b7C

Dear [redacted]

I want to thank you for your recent letter with enclosure. Your interest in communicating with me as you have is indeed appreciated and you may be assured the contents of your letter and enclosure have been carefully reviewed.

In the event you obtain any information which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, please feel free to communicate directly with the Special Agent in Charge of our Saint Louis Field Division which is located at 423 United States Court House and Custom House Building, Saint Louis 1, Missouri.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY SP8C/Sark

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 9
★ SEP - 9 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

14

57 SEP 9 1944

EPB

CHICAGO SUN, THURSDAY, [illegible] P[illegible]

ace Hate Grips
nith Party

merica First
Name Candidates

[illegible] from Page 1.

[illegible]ure Jewry as Communists [illegible]magnates controlling the [illegible] the movies and the news[illegible]. Maertz's amendment was [illegible] to the "research com[illegible]."

[illegible] Takes Floor.

[illegible]er the delegates had vented [illegible] spleen, Smith took the [illegible] and in pious tones said he [illegible]t agree with Maertz's plan [illegible]deportation or sterilization. [illegible] convention adopted other

[illegible]aertz Anti-Semitic

[illegible] OMER MAERTZ, long a notorious anti-Semite in Chi[illegible], founded the German-[illegible]rican National Alliance, a [illegible] similar to the German-[illegible]rican [illegible], and was [illegible] leader [illegible] Fascist [illegible] Shirt [illegible]ion of [illegible]ica, an[illegible]tz pro[illegible] organ[illegible]tion. He [illegible] sentenced [illegible] to 10 [illegible] in pris[illegible] 1940 for [illegible]thing the [illegible]

Omer Maertz.

[redacted] b2v

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Aug 30, 1944.

Mr. Edgar Hoover
F. B. I.
Washington D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-8075/MC

Dear Mr. Hoover:
I am enclosing an item that I clipped from the Los Angeles Times today, that you probably have seen, or are aware of. I am mailing it to you to make sure that you will see it. [redacted] b2c

RECORDED & INDEXED
97-43818-5401
EX-26
18 SEP 1944

It's about time, that this so called America First organization

disorganized, and its leaders put behind bars where they belong. This organization advocates Nazi ideology, and is a menace to the democracy of this country, and in violation of the constitution. Steps should be taken immediately to check the expansion of this dangerous organization as it is too serious a situation to continue. Trust that you will give this matter your immediate attention.

Yours, Sincerely Yours

[redacted]

b2c

this country has been reduced.

America Firsters File Jewish Plank

DETROIT, Aug. 30. (U.P.)—The America First party convention adopted a platform plank urging "honest and courageous solution of the Jewish problem" today, and ordered filed in party archieves for future reference a delegate's proposal that Jews be sterilized or deported.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/92 BY SP-8BTJ/mlw

ENCLOSURE 62-43811-540

[redacted]

RECORDED 62-43818-540

September 8, 1944

EX-24

[redacted]

Los Angeles 5, California

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of August 30, 1944, with enclosure, is before me for acknowledgment.

I have carefully noted the content of your communication and enclosure and wish to thank you for bringing the information contained therein to my attention.

Should you obtain any information which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, please feel free to communicate directly with the Special Agent in Charge of our Los Angeles Field Division which is located at 900 Security Building, Los Angeles 13, California.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-8 STD/mlm

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 10
SEP 8 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SEP 12 1944

Los Angeles, Calif.
Aug 30, 1944

F. B. I.

Gentlemen:—

This enclosed article appeared in the Los Angeles Times of Thurs. Aug 31-1944 in the Pictorial Edition.

As a citizen born & raised in Chicago Ill. W. C. N. and a Jewish daughter, I would like to know if an organization of this type is permitted in these United States. I have a Son in the Armed Forces somewhere in the South Pacific. Do this what my Son & thousands of other Mothers Sons are fighting for. And we, on the home front, giving our blood & buying as many bonds as our circumstances permit.

Thanking you for an early favorable reply, I am

Sincerely

Enc. 1

RECORDED
INDEXED

62-43818-54

[redacted]

ack 9-8-44

[redacted]

b7c

America Firsters File Jewish Plank

DETROIT, Aug. 30. (U.P.)—The America First party convention adopted a platform plank urging "honest and courageous solution of the Jewish problem" today, and ordered filed in party archieves for future reference a delegate's proposal that Jews be sterilized or deported.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP4 BSD/Mk

LOSURE 62-43818-541

RECORDED

[redacted]mr
62-43818-541

September 8, 1944

EX-24

[redacted] b7c

Los Angeles 33, California

Dear [redacted]

I have for acknowledgment your letter of August 30, 1944, with enclosure.

You may be assured that I have carefully reviewed the content of your communication and enclosure and wish to thank you for bringing this information to my attention.

In the event you obtain any information which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, please feel free to communicate directly with the Special Agent in Charge of our Los Angeles Field Division which is located at 900 Security Building, Los Angeles 13, California.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY [illegible]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hoover
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Keare
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 10
SEP -8 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

358

copy; mwl

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

John Edgar Hoover - Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH: THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY:
INTERNAL SECURITY: SEDITION.

For your information there is attached a photostatic copy of a mimeographed letter which, you will note, is dated August 23, 1944, is addressed to the Secretary of State, and is reportedly signed by subject Smith.

You will further observe that the letter (copies of which were assertedly sent to every member of Congress) is self-explanatory and sets forth subject Smith's views as to the Dumbarton Oaks conference held at Washington, D. C.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY 10-8BTJ

Communications Section
Mailed
September 1, 1944

RECORDED 62-43818-542
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 6 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

EX-24

57 OCT 5 1944

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- [X] Deleted under exemption(s) b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- [ ] Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.
- ____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.
- ____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): _____
- [ ] For your information: _____
- [X] The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: 62-43818-543

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

July 20, 194

America must remain independent - AMERICA FIRST means - Feed, Clothe, Defend, Americans First, The Four Freedoms for America First. America first in war and peace - We must have a choice in 1944 - No fourth term - Bring the boys home when the war is won.

AMERICA FIRST PARTY

Gerald L. K. Smith

Director and Organizer

*

Bernard A. Doman
Secretary and Treasurer

Post Office Box
Detroit, Michig

July 20,1944

Dear Fellow American:

The AMERICA FIRST PARTY will hold its first State Convention on Monday, July 31, in the Detroit, Leland Hotel (Ballroom) Cass corner Bagley, Detroit, Michigan. The purpose of this Convention is to nominate Candidates for office.

As one who circulated the petitions to get the party of the Michigan Ballot, you should be able to qualify as a delegate. The Convention will be set up as follows:

1. Registration and presentation of credentials- 10 a.m. to 1 p.m
2. First Convention Session- 3 p.m.
3. Closing Session- 8 p.m.

Please bring this letter with you as your indentification.

Sincerely yours,

B. A. DOMAN

State Central Committee

Meat and butter for Americans first - Billions for victory, not one penny for internationalist propaganda.

THE CROSS AND THE FLAG

EDITED BY GERALD L.K. SMITH

POST OFFICE BOX 459 DETROIT 31, Michigan

SEPT 7, 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP8BTS/MC

My Dear Fellow American

Just the moment they are off the press, we will send you copies of the Platform adopted at the recnt convention of the America First Party, as well as other detailed information concerning our dynamic and educational campaign.

WARNING:

May main purpose in writing you this letter is to say that we discovered three stooges in our convention who were sent purposely by the enemy to try to create trouble. I have learned since the convention that these stooges went around trying to get everybody's name and address. The purpose of this trick is, of course, to get your name and address so that they can send you lies and material designed to cause trouble.

Therefore, I warn you to be very careful about answering any letters you get from sttoges; also be alert to any trouble-making correspondence. Since the convention, we find that one woman, who came from Oregon, was in touch with certain newish troublemakers all duringthe Convention and since. If you receive any critical correspondence from anybne, rush it to me, either in its original form or copied, in order that we may identify the activities of these saboteurs.

Be on the lookout for any four-page letter which should reach

HANDLED
RECORDED & INDEXED 2-43812
EX-40 27 SEP 20 1944
7 SEP 29

you in the next few days concerning the next steps of our dynamic crusade.

Do not be surprised at anything that happens to me. The enemy is now so desperate that he will stop at nothing. They are determined to nip in the bud all signs of a healthy Nationalist Movement.

Sincerely yours for Christ and America

Gerald L.K. Smith

GLJS. L

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- [X] Deleted under exemption(s) b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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- ____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.
- ____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): _____
- [ ] For your information: _____
- [X] The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: 62-43818-546 & 547

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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

[X] Deleted under exemption(s) b1 with no segregable material available for release to you.

[ ] *Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.*

[ ] Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

[ ] Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

_____

_____

[ ] *For your information:* _____

_____

[X] The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-548

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

JPHa:WI

62-43818
SAC, Detroit

September 21, 1944

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

The Bureau desires that you expedite the submission of your report concerning subject Smith's activities in connection with the recent convention of the America First Party at Detroit on August 29 and 30, 1944.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP8B0/JAC

HANDLE
STOP

RECORDED 62-43818-549
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 23 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

EX-24

FBI
RECEIVED-MAIL ROOM
SEP 23 4 23 PM '44

SEP 22 12 02 PM '44
RECEIVED READING ROOM
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FBI

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Rumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 9
SEP 22 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

140
SEP 27 1944

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

4 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

[X] Deleted under exemption(s) b2p with no segregable material available for release to you.

[ ] Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

[ ] Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

[ ] For your information:

[X] The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-550-552

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
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FBI/DOJ

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

9 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

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_____

☐ For your information: _____

_____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-553

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

RECORDED
EX-1

100-24858
SAC, Detroit

September 21, 1944

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, was
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

63264

In connection with your letter of September 11, 1944, [redacted]

b2
b7D

It hardly seems plausible that [redacted] should be an enemy of Smith (or that he should be so considered by Smith) and, accordingly, in connection with your further investigation of this case it is desired that you be on the alert for any further data which would tend to corroborate the report that [redacted] is supposed to be hostile to Smith, or is so considered by Smith. Any data of this type or any information tending to show that [redacted] was actually acting in some undercover or undisclosed capacity during his attendance at the Detroit convention would be of interest to the Bureau.

b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mc

COMMUNICTIONS SECTION
MAILED 14
SEP 21 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

58 NOV 29 1944

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JFHa:WMJ Call: 1:15 P.M.
Dictated: 1:45 P.M.

TO : Mr. D. M. Ladd

DATE: September 22, 1944

FROM : J. F. Hanrahan

63263

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Complying with instructions received from the Director's Office, I telephoned [redacted], a secretary in Senator Sinclair Weeks' (Republican, Massachusetts) Office, at this time. [redacted] had previously called relative to the America First Party.

[redacted] wanted to know whether the FBI is investigating Gerald L. K. Smith, head of the Party, and whether the organization has violated the law and is considered to be subversive or un-American.

I explained that in matters of this type it is the FBI's function to receive or secure information and that it is within the province and responsibility of the Department of Justice to formulate conclusions as to violations, subversive qualities, etc. [redacted] then said he was not so much interested in a "hair-line" or exact determination as to whether there was a violation of law and that he was merely interested in an informal expression as to what the Bureau knows and thinks of Smith. He said he felt that surely the Bureau would have a good bit of information on this man and his activities.

I told [redacted] that naturally, particularly in view of the recent great amount of publicity pertaining to Smith and his activities, the Bureau had from time to time come into the possession of data on Smith and that this information had been referred, as is usual, to the Department of Justice. I told him with reference to his specific request for an opinion as to the legal significance of Smith's activities that it is not within the Bureau's jurisdiction or responsibility to make such an evaluation. I also informed him that information in the Bureau's files is available in such instances only upon the authorization of the Attorney General.

I again referred him to the Office of the Attorney General. Although he did not specifically indicate what he would do, he did express his thanks.

You will recall that the Bureau has investigated Smith for over two years and that although it continues to request investigation, the Department has not authorized any prosecution nor given any indication that it will do so. Smith is, of course, the center of a lot of controversy relative to nationalism vs. internationalism and at present he is the America First Party's candidate for President, and as such his name is entered on the ballots of a number of Mid-western states.

62-43918-554

RECORDED & INDEXED 207

29 SEP 26 1944

78 SEP 29 1944

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ALL DTC

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FBI/DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-6111

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CINCINNATI, OHIO	9/15/44	8/25-30 incl. 44	[redacted] MEH

b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject spoke at meeting which was sponsored by the Farmers Guild and attended by approximately 200 people, near Hamilton, Ohio, 8/27/44. Criticized President ROOSEVELT and Presidential Nominee DEWEY, as well as Democratic and Republican policies; directed criticism toward Lend-Lease policy, OPA and the drafting of men for overseas duty; stated America First Party had little chance in 1944 Presidential election, but expressed belief that it "would have a man in the White House in 1948"; requested financial backing of those present. HARRY ROMER, St. Henry, Ohio, spoke against American Legion, and declared its leaders were "rotten". C. E. MOTE, Indianapolis, Indiana, also spoke.

RUC ~~SEARCHED RECORDED~~

REFERENCE

Letter from the Detroit Field Division dated August 24, 1944.

DETAILS

Reference letter from Detroit indicated that subject GERALD L. K. SMITH was to [illegible] farmers near Hamilton, Ohio, on August 27, 1944.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-1BT

AT HAMILTON, OHIO

[redacted] attended a meeting at

b2D

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: C. E. Wells SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

HANDLED BY

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62+43818+556

b7c

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2 Cincinnati

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205 OCT 13 1964

[redacted]

Seever's Park on Highway 129, three miles west of Hamilton, Ohio, on August 27, 1944. He stated that this meeting was sponsored by the Farmers Guild, and that he recognized only three or four of the men present. He reported that the weather on this occasion was extremely bad, it being a very rainy day, and that he was surprised at the number of people attending, especially, he said, since no publicity had been given to this meeting in the City of Hamilton. He stated that approximately 200 people attended this meeting.

[redacted] that C. E. MOTE from Indianapolis, Indiana, who ran for Republican nomination to the U. S. Senate from Indiana, and was defeated, made a talk in which he stated that both the Democratic and Republican parties had the same policy, and that he did not like President ROOSEVELT or Presidential nominee DEWEY, and that he would vote for a prohibitionist or anyone else, if the America First Party did not have a candidate, and if GERALD L. K. SMITH were not that candidate.

[redacted] that HARRY ROMER of St. Henry, Ohio, whom informant believed to be an official in the Farmers Guild, also spoke for a short time. [redacted] that ROMER was introduced by the Chairman, whom he believed to be a man named BINEGAR, of Okeana, Ohio, as a fellow Legionnaire who had been pushed around a good bit and had become tired of it. ROMER then spoke particularly against the American Legion, stating that 85 to 90% of the Legion was all right, but that the leaders were "rotten through and through". ROMER claimed credit for stopping a resolution by the American Legion at its convention in Columbus, Ohio recently, which would have condemned an organization of women, headed by a Mrs. BING (phonetic), the purpose of which was to get the men home from overseas as soon as the war is over.

[redacted] that ROMER also discussed an incident at Greenville, Ohio in which a group of farmers attempted to purchase a corn picker, at which time the dealer told them that they could not make this purchase without a ration certificate from the OPA. The men at this time laid $800 on the counter of the dealer and pulled the corn picker away in spite of the dealer. They were reported to have been arrested later by OPA agents, and at their arraignment bond was set at $5000. ROMER stated that bond for these men had been raised. He criticized the OPA for their action in this case.

[redacted] that GERALD L. K. SMITH then made a long talk, stating that the Republican and Democratic parties were both following the same policy. He stated that both advocate a strong International organization after the war.

ALL 670

SMITH discussed his efforts to get into the Dumbarton Oaks Peace Conference, stating that he attended this conference as a publisher and that he was refused admittance. He stated that someone should be impeached because no representative elected by the people was in attendance at this meeting.

SMITH stated further regarding the war situation that all soldiers now overseas should be brought home immediately upon cessation of hostilities and that no organization should be left overseas to police Germany, Italy and Japan. He stated that he was very strongly opposed to the drafting of men for overseas duty, stating that if the war were for a just cause sufficient volunteers would have been obtained without the drafting of men. He stated that he had information that a move was on foot that when the war is over Britain will show herself insolvent, and that the United States would pay Great Britain's bills. He stated that the war actually started when Lend-Lease was begun, and cited an instance under Lend-Lease, stating that gasoline had been sold to England for 2¢ per gallon, and that later England had sold this same gasoline back to the U. S. Army for 42¢ a gallon. He stated that there was a Lend-Lease item in a cafe in Washington, D. C., costing $22,000, for drinks. SMITH stated that he (SMITH) would be in jail if he had not at all times told the truth.

SMITH also discussed the case of TYLER KENT, reported to have been an employee in the American Embassy in London before the war, who intercepted coded messages between President ROOSEVELT and Prime Minister CHURCHILL, and who discovered that President ROOSEVELT and Prime Minister CHURCHILL were building plans for the United States to enter the war. He stated further that ROOSEVELT was responsible for Mr. CHURCHILL being selected as Prime Minister of Great Britain.

The informant stated that SMITH made a statement that under war reparation plans the United States would be required to pay Great Britain from $6 to $8 for each tree destroyed in New Guinea. According to the informant, SMITH tried to imply that Great Britain was running the war and that the United States was agreeing in everything. The informant stated that SMITH called President ROOSEVELT a "scoundrel" and that he strongly criticized Presidential Nominee DEWEY, stating that DEWEY was too inexperienced and that he was merely following in the footsteps of President ROOSEVELT so far as Internationalism is concerned.

[redacted] attended the meeting at which GERALD L. K. SMITH made a talk on August 27, 1944, near Hamilton, Ohio. [redacted] that HARRY ROMER, St. Henry, Ohio, was an organizer for the Farmers Guild, and that ROMER made a speech in which he condemned the leaders of the American b7D

Legion as being "rotten". He stated ROMER also discussed the case in which eight farmers at Greenville, Ohio were arrested by OPA agents for their purchase of a corn picker in violation of OPA regulations, ROMER stating that these men were not responsible and that they were not guilty.

[redacted] that SMITH then talked for a long time and substantiated the above information furnished by [redacted] He stated also that SMITH remarked that President ROOSEVELT had promised not to send any soldiers overseas when he was running for reelection in 1940, and SMITH stated, "But look what has been happening". [redacted] that SMITH had stated that if the war had been for a just cause, sufficient volunteers would have been obtained for service overseas, and that he (SMITH) was strongly opposed to the conscription of men for overseas duty. SMITH also stated that the America First Party could not hope to be successful in the 1944 elections but that the America First Party was building for the future, and that he believed the America First Party would have a man in the White House in 1948. b7D

[redacted] that SMITH said he was coming back to Hamilton again next year, at which time the Butler County Fairgrounds would be rented, and that he expected a crowd of 8-10,000 more people present than attended the meeting in Greenville, Ohio several weeks ago. (It is noted in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated July 12, 1944 in this matter, that this meeting held on June 4, 1944, was attended by approximately 1500-2000 persons). b7D b7C

[redacted] furnished substantially the same information as that given by [redacted] and added that SMITH in his talk called President ROOSEVELT a "scoundrel" and stated that the Democratic Party was controlled by the CIO and the money interests. According to informant, SMITH stated at a recent conference between Secretary of State HULL and a representative of Presidential Nominee DEWEY, Mr. DULLES, an agreement was reached that there should be an International Court as soon as the war is over. b7D

[redacted] verified the above statements of [redacted] adding that SMITH had stated that Pearl Harbor was a "set up affair" and that war was not necessary even then. Informant added that SMITH emphasized the fact that President ROOSEVELT was seeking the Jewish vote, and that SMITH advocated a complete bar to all immigration. Informant stated that HARRY ROMER, St. Henry, Ohio, was introduced by the Chairman as "Comrade ROMER," and that ROMER was very strong in his criticism of the American Legion. b7D

[redacted] gave the reporting agent two handbills which were b7D

passed out at the meeting advertising this meeting, and which indicated that the meeting was sponsored by the Farmers Guild of Southwestern Ohio, calling it an educational meeting. [redacted] that at the meeting envelopes were passed around which were labeled "America First Party", the purpose of which was to solicit contributions to the America First Party. These envelopes were to be turned in with contributions, or a pledge of a certain amount each month to be contributed to the America First Party by the person whose name was to be signed on this envelope. These handbills and envelopes are being forwarded as enclosures with this report to the Detroit Field Division.

[redacted] that SMITH, while talking, requested the financial backing of all those present. [redacted] stated also that SMITH while speaking, after making remarks would frequently stop and say, "Applaud, if you please", and that the applause was frequently very loud.

NL
b7D

ENCLOSURES TO THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION:

Two copies of handbills, and two envelopes which were passed out at the meeting sponsored by the Farmers Guild and held at Seever's Park near Hamilton, Ohio on August 27, 1944.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

INFORMANTS

[redacted]

b7c
b7D

The above informants requested that their names be kept confidential. They attended the meeting sponsored by the Farmers Guild at Seever's Park near Hamilton, Ohio, August 27, 1944, at which meeting GERALD L. K. SMITH spoke. [redacted]

b7c

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FBI/DOJ

COPY HJT

[redacted] b7D

[redacted]

Sept. 16, 1944

9r

The attached anti-Semitic card was passed out to a few trusted persons at the first national convention of the America First Party, held Detroit, Michigan, August 29th-30th, 1944.

[redacted] b7D b7D

[redacted] b7D

1 Encl

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EX-[redacted]

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62-43818-558
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 30 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LY I HOLY I

The Truth demands vigilant men intelligent leaders Christian ministers - not fanatical traitors.

BE EXPOSED.

[redacted]

WHOSE WAR IS IT ?

USE YOUR COMMON SENSE,

LET THEM FIGHT IT.

WILL THEY RULE THE WORLD ?

WHY SPILL YOUR PEOPLES BLOOD ?

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/2/82 BY

HOLY I HO

Break the Spells of ignorance and leave only -

THE FANATICS MUST

KNOW YOUR BIBLE

Genesis XVII, 7 and 8. And Jahweh will give thee the land, according to contract, wherein thou art a stranger.

Deuteronomy XI, 24. Every place . . . your feet shall tread, shall be yours . . .

Gen. XVII, 11. And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a sign of the contract betwixt me and you.

Deut. VII, 2. And when YHVH shall deliver the Gentiles before you, thou shalt utterly destroy them; thou shalt show no mercy unto them.

Deut. VII, 22. And JHWH will pluck off the (Gentile) nations before thee slowly; thou should not kill them all at once, lest the beasts of the field increase upon thee. (For YHVH, JHWH, see any large dic-ary.)

shua II, 1-14; Josh VI, 17. Rahabs ing Gentiles) "sell out" their own people. An old trick.

Isaiah LX, 11. The gates of thy holy city shall be open day and night, that the wealth of the Gentiles shall be brought unto it. **Isa. LXI, 6.** . . . ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves. (Rothchilds, Morgenthau, Baruch, Perkins, Hillman, Bridges, Churchill, Belisha, etc.)

St. John VIII, 44. Christ's truth.

Acts IX, 5. The holy ghost tells what is wrong.

Their dream is your nightmare. Don't let any Yiddish or British blast-hards bamboozle you any longer.

JPHk:WMJ
10-10-44
~~100-92526~~
62-43818 558

RECORDED

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark
Attention: Mr. C. John Rogge
John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

UNITED STATES vs. JOSEPH E. McWILLIAMS, ET AL;
WILLIAM ROBERT LYMAN, JR., DEFENDANT; SEDITION.

Attached under dateme cover is a photostatic copy of a card, which, among other things, bears the two captions, "Whose War Is It?" and "Will They Rule The World?"

[redacted]

Enclosure

670

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DATE 10/8/82 BY SP4BTS/MLW

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lack
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Rumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

DUPLICATE YELLOW
MAILED

12/11/44

50 OCT 17 1944

Serial 557 SMF 10-13-4

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

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DATE 10/6/78 BY SP1 [illegible]

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION
NO ENVELOPE AVAILABLE

Dear Sir:

Cant You stop these kind of Nazi paid blackmailers from penetrating into the Army Navy etc?

It is sad enough that Un-American hoodlums like Gerald L. K. Smith roam around in war or peace time.

Good luck to our Nation.

Signed by: just an Amer. Mother

WALTER WINCHELL
"Exclusive" DREW PEARSON

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STOP DESK
INDEXED
COPIED
62-43818-559
F B I
30 SEP 30 1944

P.S. Mr Drew Pearson & W. W are the only alert newspaper men who are out to protect us from saboteurs, spying gangsters etc.

40
9067-9 SEP 1944

[redacted]

Elizabeth Brems, whose father an apple to a kangaroo on be for the United State

America First Delegates Nominate Gerald Smith

Name Director for President, Table Anti-Jewish Plank

DETROIT, Aug. 30 (AP).—The first national convention of the America First party today nominated the party's director, Gerald L. K. Smith, of Detroit, for President and Harry Romer, of St. Henry, Ohio, for Vice-President of the United States. No other names were submitted.

Mr. Smith had been nominated by the Michigan convention, and Mr. Romer was substituted when John W. Bricker, Republican Vice-Presidential nominee, refused the Michigan convention's nomination.

Delegates debated planks of a platform embodying the party's policies, including these proposals:

Money—"Constitutionalize our money system."

Peace—"Terms must be based on America First principles."

Taxes—"No Federal income tax on incomes less than $5,000."

Veterans—"$1,000 cash for mustered-out veterans having served one year."

Jews—"We must admit that there is a Jewish problem. It must be solved honestly, realistically and courageously. We shall oppose prejudice and encourage the research necessary to the solution of this, the world's most unsolved problem."

A substitute proposal on Jews, in which Homer Mairtz, delegate from Chicago, urged that "all Jews should be deported to a later designated area, if they do not leave America voluntarily within five years" and that those remaining be sterilized, was not brought to a vote by the convention. Mr. Smith said it was merely the expression of the opinion of some of the delegates and did not reflect the view of the convention.

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62-43818-537

ENCLOSURE

[redacted]

Aug 31 1945

F.B.I.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I just read about the atrocities to the Jewish people by the Nazis.

Now we have to put up with a local scoundrel by the name of Marty, HOMER MARTZ - who would do the same as the Nazis if he were given the chance.

As Winchell says "Why isn't something being done about it?"

Who is this Marty? Who is backing him?

Yours truly

[redacted]

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RECORDED & INDEXED 116
62-43817-837
F B
27 SEP 2 1944
HANDLED BY
TOP DESK

ENCLOS. 1 (2)

WHICH?
in New York

books. All he wants is Wheaties."

flavor in those crisp-toasted malt-flavored flakes. Try 'em yourself! Have milk, fruit, and Wheaties "Breakfast of Champions."

SAYS PEPSI

COLA

d City, N. Y.

UNTAINS

5

...of a Newspaperman

...many weeks ago Candidate ... issued a statement up... ...ing all censorship... But ... of the airwaves ... support what he says ... their commentators ... are stopped ... it is listed ... Dewey it ... rica ... than all the world's ...ors... H... All the axis soldiers and their weapons c... speech over here, but a radio censor can!

When Senator Wheeler introduced a bill tha... impossible for news programs to be sponsored—this re... for the right of sponsors to hire newscasters—and that bill was pigeon-holed...No one yelled that our fight against Wheeler's bill was political...The cry of "politics" pops up when you disagree with the politics of censors!...Mr. Dewey knows that this reporter is for The Other Fellow, but Mr. Dewey also knows he can always use our microphone and space to get his side of things reported.

On several occasions Mr. Dewey has personally phoned our office to say: "Tell Walter thanks very much."

Mr. Willkie is another who knows the same thing...Whenever he had any news he thought people should hear via our radio program, he knew all he had do was send it in, which he has done... "Any time you have any news for my audience," he was assured, "let me hear it. All I reserve is the right to criticize you and it!"

"Thanks," Willkie said, "that's a deal!"

Clare Luce, the legislator, gleefully colyumed recently that Bill Bullitt's article in Life would give FDR the hotfoot...Life has confessed that Bullitt's piece attracted an avalanche of letters from indignant subscribers denouncing it and Bullitt...In the flame of fair play, however, the weekly ran many of them plus an article attacking it, which ran in a Moscow gazette...The same publication, by the way, offers this eyebrow-lifter: "The Republicans are counting on carrying most of the Middle West for Tom Dewey this Fall. The farmers there are prosperous and many have turned against the New Deal"...Incredible!...They are turning against the President under whom they prospered...Figger that one out.

Even some of FDR's most bitter critics admitted that his last speech was good. Some said it was excellent...Yet some editorial pages condemned Roosevelt for indulging in levity, wisecracks, etc. It wasn't dignified, they groaned...Have these sense-of-humorless forgotten the beloved Will Rogers? He was famed for his levity, wit and anecdotes...So was Lincoln...You never find quipping in Hitler's speeches. Exclamation point.

The Nation magazine reports that certain people went to Darryl Zanuck during the making of the film, "Wilson," and warned him that unless the picture was suppressed he might regret it...Zanuck, it appears, said if he had to suppress "Wilson" he wouldn't care as he had a better film in mind: "The Life and Times of Warren G. Harding"...Period.

Rabble-rouser ... *Kamp's* outfit, now being probed by the Anderson Congressional Committee, was once named in a list of Federal indictments as a tool for subversive agents over here—and by some of the indicted people (some convicted) now being tried in Washington...Kamp has worked with the avowed Fascist, Lawrence Dennis...Kamp's poisonous literature (a lot of it copied from pamphlets issued by those on trial) has been praised and complimented by most of the U. S. Hitlerosters...Last week Kamp defied the Congressional probers. He refused to name his contributors, supporters, ...The N. Y. Times ran that story without one mention of Kamp's link with pro-Nazis. The Times quoted Kamp as stating ... Its headline was: "Hillman Fund Refuses Fund Record"...Hillman fos, indeed! American fos would be correct!

Rain-collector (and so forth) Gerald L. K. Smith, at a Chicago meeting of his so-called "America First Party" last week, made a plea to his small audience that should interest the Dept. of Justice... He urged his listeners to see that the party's "confidential literature and announcements get into the hands of our boys in the armed forces"...Wasn't that one of the reasons Wm. Dudley Pelley and others were sent to Federal jails?

This is what Dewey-advisor John Foster Dulles said about FDR in 1942: "President Roosevelt had dealt boldly and dramatically with domestic problems. Recognizing the failure of our society, as organized, to adapt itself to new conditions and to meet the imperative need of human beings, he has effectively grappled with the problem and has not hesitated to break with tradition and to alter fundamentally the entire structure of our economic order. As to what he has done there is disagreement. But few would seek to undo the great social reforms he has effected. We are entitled to expect a like approach to the problem of peace...We have a duty to urge upon our President that he dedicate to this great task his outstanding qualities of leadership."

The stunned German armies are staggering...It will take the whole world more than five years to get the guns out of their hands. But it may take centuries to get the swastikas out of their hearts...The job must be finished by the United democracies. But charity, like charity, begins right here at home. A product is only as good as the integrity of its maker...The American doctrine of tolerance for the world will be judged by the tolerance Americans have for each other. That means this country can no longer afford to be tolerant of the intolerant!

Today there are some Americans sharing the same grave who in the United States could not have shared the same hotel...Today there are some Americans taking the same risks of battle who wouldn't be given the same chance for an honest job. Though they never had to give their race or creed to volunteer to fight, ...because every American is expected to be ready to die for ...—regardless of race or color—this country guarantees ... What a man asks about race or creed on the battlefield ... the same heroic chaplain burying the Republic's dead... ... a man talks about race and creed on an American street car ... "contemptible hirst—trying to bury the Re...

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

File No. [illegible]

RECORDED [illegible]-560

[illegible]

[illegible] Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD LYNN KENNETH SMITH, was; AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - R; SECURITY MATTER - SUBVERSIVE.

[illegible]

Referred to [illegible] Special Agent [redacted] dated July [illegible], 1944. You will recall that there [illegible] particulars [illegible] activities of one [redacted] who is said to be a close associate of one Gerald L. K. Smith.

Although the Bureau appreciates your difficulties in attempting to develop information concerning [redacted] being as he is a type of person who has few known contacts and activities, it is nevertheless desired that additional inquiry be conducted as to [redacted] at Washington, D. C. According to various bits of information which have come to the attention of the Bureau, [redacted] is alleged to be something of a "mystery man" who at least likes to consider himself as being [redacted] This being the case, it is felt that in order to insure an adequate coverage of Smith's activities, additional data as to [redacted] should be available.

You should, therefore, continue your discreet inquiries as to [redacted] and the Bureau suggests, in this connection, that you give special consideration to the possibility of locating [redacted] bank account or accounts. If this can be done, it is probable that considerable light would be thrown upon the exact nature of his character and activities. However, as indicated in previous communications, your investigation of [redacted] should be handled in a cautious and very discreet manner.

cc - Detroit

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DATE 10/8/82 BY [illegible]

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
OCT 7 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. A. H. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hoover
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Lenhard
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

59 OCT 11 1944

Office Memorandum · UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. LADD

FROM : R. H. CUNNINGHAM

DATE: September 28, 1944
5:30 p.m.

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH; INTERNAL SECURITY (C); SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION.

At this time [redacted] called from Baltimore and stated they had been advised by letter from the Detroit office to the Cleveland office, with copies to Baltimore, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, that the subject is going to hold meetings of a political nature supposedly at various cities. One of these meetings is to be held in Baltimore on October 3, 1944, in the Blue Room of the Alcazar, which is a building operated by the Knights of Columbus. This meeting has been referred to as a "closed meeting" and the Blue Room has a capacity of about 300 people and is so situated that an outsider could not get in without being noticed. The manager of the building has been told that they do not want any publicity out on the subject, and it appears that this is going to be a meeting strictly of members.

In view of the fact that Baltimore may not be able to get a representative in to the meeting and may not have an informant at the meeting, [redacted] stated they desired to know if the Bureau thinks it is desirable to have technical coverage. He stated they could get the microphone in without arousing suspicion if it is deemed desirable by the Bureau; that they had never had a microphone in this building but that the people there had cooperated in the past in other respects and Baltimore did not have anything on them; they seem to be a pretty reliable group.

The meeting is to be October 3, 1944, and Baltimore would like to get to work on the wiring as soon as possible, so that it will not look as if it is being done for this particular meeting.

I told him I would check on the matter and would send a teletype out in the morning.

ADDENDUM:
J. K. MUMFORD
11:30 AM
9/29/44

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-8 DEJ/mc

I called ASAC Kimball of the Baltimore Office at this time and inquired if they were requesting authority for a technical and microphone surveillance or just a microphone surveillance. He stated they want just the microphone. I told him if it could be done with absolute security they could go ahead with this microphone installation.

HANDLED BY STOP DESK

RECORDED 62-43818-561

F B I

39 OCT 4 1944

58 OCT 12 1944

EX-29

TELETYPE

SEP 28 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Ditto
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

FBI CLEVELAND 9-28-44 12-47 PM AK

DIRECTOR AND SAC DETROIT ROUTINE

VEST. GERALD L. K. SMITH, WAS, THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY, INTERNAL SECURITY G, SECURITY MATTER, SEDITION. GERALD L. K. SMITH, AT MEETING IN CLEVELAND, ON NIGHT OF SEPTEMBER TWENTY SEVEN, MADE AN ANNOUNCEMENT THAT HE WOULD APPEAR BEFORE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE IN WASHINGTON D. C., ON OCTOBER THIRD, FORTY FOUR, AT WHICH TIME HE WOULD BE INTERROGATED CONCERNING FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS MADE TO HIS ORGANIZATION.

FLETCHER

END

ACK IN ORDER PLS

WA 92

1-47 PM OK FBI WA MIB

DE OK F I FBI DE PNM

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mc

cc: Mr. Ladd

162-43818-562

EX-19 SEP 20 1944

OCT 3 1944

OXT

78 OCT 10 1944 195

63247

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-7463

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Cleveland, Ohio	10-6-44	9-22,23,26-44	[redacted]

b7c

TITLE

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY

[redacted]
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

America First Party meeting held at St. Henry, Ohio, on September 24, 1944, at which time HARRY A. ROMER, a resident of St. Henry, Ohio, accepted Vice-President nomination on the America First Party ticket. At this time the speakers, including GERALD L. K. SMITH, GEORGE VOSE, endorsed Governor THOMAS DEWEY for President. ELIZABETH DILLING, presently on trial for sedition, Mrs. LYRL CARL VAN HYNING of the organization entitled "We the Mothers Mobilize for America, Inc.," and CURT ASHER, Indiana publisher who was allegedly indicted for sedition but acquitted, appeared on the speakers platform. America First Party meeting held at Cleveland, Ohio, on September 27, 1944, at which time GERALD L. K. SMITH, GEORGE VOSE and Mrs. DAVID STANLEY addressed the meeting. SMITH endorsed Governor DEWEY in preference to President ROOSEVELT for election. He also discussed the TYLER KENT case at which time he advised ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL entered into a conspiracy to rule the world. GEORGE VOSE, retired soldier of World War II, stated he was starting a new veterans organization.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/6/82 BY

DE-INDEXED DATE 11/25/52

-BUC-

References: Bureau file 62-43818.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated September 27, 1944, at Detroit, Michigan.

b7c

[redacted]
DATE

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: S. B. Fletcher, Special Agent in Charge

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62-43818-563

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CV. F. O.
100-7463

63248

Details: AT ST. HENRY, OHIO

[redacted] attended the meeting of the America First Party at St. Henry, Ohio, on September 24, 1944, at which time they reported as follows:

Explaining that the America First Party could not get on enough State ballots to hope for victory this year, GERALD L. K. SMITH and HARRY ROMER, candidates for president and vice president on the America First ticket yesterday threw the weight of their party behind the Republican party in the 1944 elections.

SMITH confined himself to the Republican national ticket, and indicated that he supported Dewey because he considered him less of a menace to the country than ROOSEVELT. Criticising DEWEY for his failure to take a positive stand against the Administration, Smith said "I hope DEWEY will take down his hair" and challenge President ROOSEVELT.

Mr. ROMER asked his audience to vote the straight Republican ticket from President down to all county offices.

The two America First candidates declared that this year their party was laying the groundwork for 1946 and 1948, and that their only test of strength would be in Michigan. Occasion of the meeting at St. Henry was the official notification to ROMER that he had been nominated vice president on the new party's ticket. [redacted] who helped handle traffic, estimated the crowd at 3200 persons. b7c

In his address, SMITH called the two major issues of the campaign, on which he hoped DEWEY would concentrate, the "mysteries of TYLER KENT and Pearl Harbor."

According to SMITH, TYLER KENT is an American code expert who, while in London in 1938 discovered that President ROOSEVELT and WINSTON CHURCHILL were corresponding, in secret code, on plans to rule the world, and planning a war against Germany. SMITH further charged that KENT was arrested by the British government when he sought to reveal this information, and is still imprisoned on the Isle of Wight.

SMITH called for the speedy trial of Admiral KIMMEL and General SHORT, commanders at Pearl Harbor at the time of the disastrous Japanese raid, charging that the government in Washington had warning the Japanese were on the way.

SMITH contended that returning soldiers would demand a new party, and that the America First party would answer their needs, if neither major party embraced its nationalistic philosophies.

He promised that after the war he would circulate a petition for the retrial of JAMES MANNIX and other Darke County farmers, who were given a suspended sentence and fine for taking a corn picker without a priority slip.

63249

SMITH called these farmers a "modern Bostor tea party", and challenged the "mangy and lousy" newspapers in Cincinnati and Dayton to publish his praise of the man. MANNIX was introduced and received applause for taking the picker without priority. The Darke County farmers operated a lunch stand at the meeting to raise money to pay for their attorney fees and appeals for contributions for them were made.

In appealing for soldier support of the America First Party, SMITH said that the American Legion sponsored "G. I. Bill of Rights" was demagogery. SMITH said that his son served with MERRILL's Marauders on Burma and received the Purple Heart presidential citation and Silver Star.

SMITH declared that he was not anti-Semetic but protested what he considered Jewish control of the government, or control by any other group.

"With Jesus Christ to guide, and the flag to follow," I accept the nomination for vice presidency on the America First ticket, HARRY ROMER of St. Henry said, prefacing his explanation of the America First platform. ROMER said that "this day brings forth the fruit I have worked for for ten years" and promised that the America First party would be on every state ballot in 1946 and would elect a president in 1948.

He advised his audience not to believe what they read in the New Deal Democratic and New Deal Republican-Communist newspapers, or hear over the radio.

ROMER, who said he has been commander of an American Legion post five times, and is now an American Legion chaplain, bitterly denounced the leaders of the American Legion organization. He said that 90% to 95% of the American Legionnaires were the finest of citizens, but that the "five per cent who control the Legion are the most disloyal citizens in the United States." The 1941 Legion convention at Milwaukee, where, ROMER said, the Legion endorsed Selective Service and Lend Lease, was a betrayal of the United States, the speaker declared.

Chief reason for his attack on the leadership of the Legion, ROMER said, was its recent endorsement of one year's military training for young men after the end of this war. ROMER expressed the hope that returning soldiers would form their own veteran's organization, and not join the Legion. An attack was also made by the speaker on Legion support of a world police force and he argued that in peace time men should be paid $100.00 to $150.00 a month to join the army rather than be conscripted. ROMER has two sons in the army.

Throughout his attack on the leadership of the American Legion, ROMER received much applause from his audience.

In conclusion, ROMER called the corn picker trial a New Deal farce, promised to keep up his fight to "drive the money changers out of the temple,"

63250

urged his listeners to vote straight Republican this year from "top to bottom," and expressed hope that Rev. CHARLES E. COUGHLIN would sit in at the peace table.

GEORGE VOSE, a wounded ex-soldier of Kalamazoo, Michigan, made an impassioned appeal for veterans to form their own organization allied with the America First party, and said that "GERALD L. K. SMITH was sent by God Almighty." VOSE appealed to mothers of service men to join the America First party and assailed any world government. He asked, "Why in the name of God can't the government pay the transportation of soldiers home on furlough."

An unexpected speaker who appeared at the meeting was Mrs. ELIZABETH DILLING nowon trial for sedition. Mrs. DILLING sang a number of songs of her own composition which ridiculed rationing, the Jewish people, the government, and the Russians. She charged that the FBI ignored search warrants and searched alleged seditionist's homes from basement to attic. She declared that all on trial as seditionists were being persecuted by the government, and were innocent. The alleged seditionists she said were imprisoned in "hell holes of jails" with but little food to keep them alive. GEORGE SYLVESTER VIERICK, now serving a prison sentence for not registering as an agent of the German government, she stoutly defended and called him a martyr. Both Mrs. DILLING and SMITH appealed for contributions to pay attorney fees for the men and women now on trial for sedition. Her attack on the FBI drew hearty applause.

Another figure of national prominence at the meeting was Mrs. LYRL CARL VAN HYNING, head of the organization "We the Mothers Mobilize for America, Inc.," and CURT ASHER, an Indiana publisher who was indicted for sedition but acquitted.

Presiding at the meeting was CARL H. MOTE of Indianapolis, who devoted much of his opening speech to attacking ROOSEVELT for not quickly bringing soldiers home. MOTE questioned if men in the armed forces overseas ever would be returned to their homes. He called President ROOSEVELT's recent speech "dismal humor."

AT CLEVELAND, OHIO

[redacted] advised that approximately six hundred people attended the America First Party meeting at the Cleveland Public Auditorium, Cleveland, Ohio, on September 27, 1944. Relative to this meeting, [redacted] as follows: b7D

The meeting was opened at 8:15 P.M. by Mrs. DAVID STANLEY of the United Mothers of America. She gave the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States and a prayer.

GERALD L. K. SMITH then took the platform at which time he stated he had no illusions as a candidate of the America First Party; that he realized he was a crusader; that he would be crucified and that his character would be smeared. He stated that the purpose of the America First Party was to lay a foundation and form a nucleus for the American people when they open their eyes after censorship is lifted.

63251

[redacted] that SMITH stated that the American people will be dissatisfied with the old parties in the future and will desire an American Nationalist Party. SMITH told the audience that he did not believe the Jews or any click should run the United States of America. SMITH stated that DEWEY was nominated by the Jewish people. SMITH, [redacted] informed the audience that the America First Party desires DEWEY be elected over ROOSEVELT. He stated that he does not like DEWEY but would prefer him to be elected over the present president. SMITH informed the audience that he is dissatisfied with ROOSEVELT because ROOSEVELT is a scoundrel and he dislikes DEWEY because DEWEY did not expose ROOSEVELT as a scoundrel. He told the audience that SIDNEY HILLMAN in 1938 donated $5,000.00 to DEWEY's campaign fund and that HILLMAN is a Russian Jew who is the Rasputin of the White House. He stated that on account of this contribution by HILLMAN in 1938, DEWEY is not in a position to presently criticize HILLMAN.

[redacted] SMITH then discussed the eight farmers who were convicted in Federal Court in Darke County, Ohio, for violating the Agricultural Adjustment Act. SMITH stated that the America First Party raised the bond to free these eight farmers at which time the bond was set at $160,000.00.

[redacted] that SMITH then attacked the government pension plan for returning disabled soldiers at which time he stated that Jap prisoners are being paid more than disabled soldiers.

[redacted] that SMITH then discussed his son who was a soldier, but this time SMITH stated that his son has been wounded on the battle field in Burma and that he has received the Presidential Citation, The Purple Heart. SMITH at this time made the statement that it was through WALTER LIFSHITZ (WALTER WINCHELL) that his son was sent to a dangerous theater of war.

[redacted] that SMITH stated that Communists under the direction of STALIN are taking over the government in all liberated countries, such as Poland, Yugoslavia, Italy, Etc., and that General CHANG KAI SHEK would be deposed because STALIN wants to run China and he is not favorable to General CHANG KAI SHEK.

[redacted] SMITH stated that the British will get us into a third World War unless we make arrangements to buy their rubber after the war.

[redacted] that SMITH made the announcement that the America First Party is going to start an educational program and is also going to start a youth program with GEORGE VOSE at the head.

SMITH at this time criticized the Dumbarten Oaks Conference at Washington, D.C. at which time he made the statement that the United States is being sold down the river in secret conferences between United States and Russia. He also stated that JOHN FOSTER DULLES, who represents Governor

ALL INFO

63252

DEWEY at the Dumbarton Oaks Conferences is a paid attorney for the British Government in New York City. SMITH then stated that the State Department is acting in an un-American fashion by meeting with British and Russian representatives on American soil without the American people knowing what is going on.

[redacted] that SMITH discussed the TYLER KENT case at length at which time he informed the audience that TYLER KENT in 1938 was working as a Code Clerk for the United States State Department in London, England, at which time he intercepted codes between CHURCHILL and ROOSEVELT, containing information whereby CHURCHILL and ROOSEVELT were allegedly making plans to rule the world in the future. According to SMITH, TYLER KENT believed this was treason and copied down fifteen hundred messages at which time he intended to give these messages to certain Senators in Washington. SMITH criticized the manner in which TYLER KENT was arrested by British authorities and interned by the British Government on the Isle of Wight.

[redacted] SMITH then criticized the Pearl Harbor situation at which time he stated that if Mr. ROOSEVELT does not have something to hide, why does he not permit Admiral KIMMEL and General SHORT to be court-martialed in the usual fashion. At this time, SMITH stated Washington failed to advise our troops of the impending attack of which they had knowledge and that the blood of 3,000 dead troops lies on the head of President ROOSEVELT.

[redacted] that GEORGE VOSE followed GERALD L. K. SMITH on the speakers platform, at which time GEORGE VOSE was attired in an army uniform. At this time VOSE gave profuse praise of GERALD L. K. SMITH and stated he is one of the greatest Americans of the day. VOSE stated he was persecuted while in the United States Army because of his connection with SMITH. GEORGE VOSE at this time also informed the audience that he is forming the Nationalist Veterans of World War II, which will be a new veterans organization for the returning soldiers. At this time he stated, "We are going to see that the soldiers returning are given jobs. Americans will be taken care of first and if anything is left after that we can then help the British and CHURCHILL." He informed the audience also that after the war is over, STALIN will try to dominate the world and that we will eventually have to fight Russia. He made the statement that the Russians are prepared to fight us with the Lend-Lease material which they are obtaining from us and which they are storing in Siberia.

[redacted] GEORGE VOSE criticized the Government's pension plan for returning soldiers. He stated that under his plan, each returning soldier should be paid $1000.00 a piece when they come home. He informed the audience that the soldiers are now fighting a war for $50.00 a month for millionaires and munitions makers.

The meeting was concluded after the reading of the following petition sent to Congress, by Mrs. DAVID STANLEY:

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"In view of the fact that FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT is a candidate for the fourth term, we demand that TYLER KENT be brought to the United States to stand trial and be permitted to expose his knowledge of a conspiracy between CHURCHILL and ROOSEVELT to get the United States into war without the consent of Congress. Likewise, that SHORT and KIMMEL be tried before court martial."

The meeting accepted the above resolution on the motion of GERALD L. K. SMITH.

SMITH, [redacted] made the statement at this meeting that he was to appear before a Congressional Committee in Washington, D.C. on October 3, 1944, at which time he was to be interrogated concerning contributions made to his organization. This information was supplied to the Bureau and the Detroit Field Division by teletype.

ENCLOSURE: TO THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

b7D

The following literature was [redacted] and was distributed at the meeting of the America First Party at St. Henry, Ohio:

1. Copy of "Women's Voice" dated June 28, 1944, at Chicago, Illinois.

2. Pamphlet entitled "Colored Scraps of Paper."

3. Reprint from Congressional Record entitled "This Terrible Plight of the Farmers Who Cannot Obtain Machinery," by Senator WILLIAM LANGER.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

CV. F. O.
100-7463

63254

INFORMANTS

[redacted]

[redacted]

b7C
b7D

[redacted]: Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted], monitored meeting of America First Party at Cleveland, Ohio, September 27, 1944, in the radio control room of the Cleveland Public Auditorium.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 33

PAGES REVIEWED: 65

PAGES RELEASED: 43

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

ST. P FILE NO. 100-4156

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA	10/7/44	8/21,22; 9/15-19,27,28/44	[redacted] LMB RS

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was et al	SECURITY MATTER - G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Reportedly RALPH BERLAND BAERMAN and CHARLES CUSTER PICKETT, with alias, CHARLES CUSTER PICKERT, are former Winona liberals. PICKETT is a farmer, 60, referred to as an individualist and resides at St. Charles, Minnesota. BAERMAN was teacher of English at Winona Senior High School, Winona, Minnesota, from September, 1927 to June, 1934, when he resigned. No information available relative to present activities of BAERMAN. The Institute for Christian Economic Action located at Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota, until 1942 when it became the Macalester Park Publishing Company in St. Paul. Macalester Park Publishing Company published the book entitled "The Way Out for America" by PICKERT and BAERMAN. Subject spoke at Minneapolis 9/17,18 and 19, 1944. He attacked the "alien ideologies of atheistic Jews"; the tactics of Communism, and the policies of the CIO-PAC. He characterized ROOSEVELT and DEWEY as "tools of international bankers"; castigated those responsible for the secrecy of the Dumbarton Oaks Conference; "exposed" the "machinations behind the TYLER KENT incident" and Pearl Harbor. His audience was enthusiastic over references of 1948 "Nationalistic Party" success.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Bureau file #62-43818;
Report of SA [redacted] Washington, D. C., 7/28/44;
Detroit letter to St. Paul 9/14/44.

DETAILS: The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted]

b7c

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: M. B. Ogden SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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62-43818-5764

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DATE 10/8/82 BY SLP/MC

The indices of the St. Paul Field Division reflect that in the early part of January, 1941, [redacted] of the Winona High School, Winona, Minnesota, advised Special Agent [redacted] that [redacted] a teacher, had to be reprimanded at times for giving debates in the classroom on the subject of "democracy". [redacted] recalled that [redacted] had been a very close friend and admirer of two former Winona liberals, RALPH BERLAND BAERMAN and CHARLES CUSTER PICKETT, who had recently written a book called "The Way Out for America" published in St. Paul, Minnesota. b7c b7D

A check of the Directory Section of the Post Office Department, St. Paul, Minnesota, reflected a mail address for The Institute of Economic Action as Macalester College, St. Paul, Minnesota, until 1942. However, no name was set out with this address. It was also noted that the address was changed to 1698 Grand Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota.

A check of the St. Paul City Directory for 1944 reflects that 1698 Grand Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota, housed the Macalester Park Publishing Company. Further investigation reflected that the Macalester Park Publishing Company had moved to 1674 Grand Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Under a suitable pretest, Reporting Agent ascertained from [redacted] Insurance and Real Estate, 1698 Grand Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota that he was one of the members connected with the Macalester Park Publishing Company and that it had published the book entitled "The Way Out for America" for BAERMAN and PICKERT. [redacted] stated that BAERMAN was not known to have any permanent address inasmuch as he roamed around the United States. b7c b7D

The indices of the St. Paul Office reflect no reference to either the Macalester Park Publishing Company or [redacted] b7c

AT WINONA, MINNESOTA:

[redacted] of the Winona County Local Board #2, Winona, Minnesota, telephonically advised that CHARLES CUSTER PICKETT was registered for Selective Service in April of 1942, serial number U286, not classified. From the information obtained on his occupational questionnaire, it was reflected that he was born on May 27, 1883, at Mellette, South Dakota. He was self-employed at Rochester, Minnesota, as a fruit grower and farmer with home address at St. Charles, Minnesota. The person who would always know his address was set out as MRS. LENA PICKETT. b7c b7D

The records of the Winona County Local Board #1, Winona, Minnesota, were also checked with negative results for the Selective Service registration of RALPH BERLAND BAERMAN.

St. P 100-4156

b7c

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [redacted] at Winona, Minnesota, and St. Charles, Minnesota, on September 15, 16, 27 and 28, 1944.

AT ST. CHARLES, MINNESOTA:

[redacted] First National Bank, advised that PICKERT was known as a tree surgeon and a preacher and has resided in St. Charles, Minnesota, all of his life. Informant stated that PICKERT has ideas that are not workable, is an individualist, but is not considered a propagandist. PICKERT's wife was formerly the City Librarian in St. Charles and is not believed to agree with her husband's theories. [redacted] did not believe that PICKERT was dangerous to the United States. On occasions PICKERT has claimed to be related to General CUSTER. [redacted] furnished the Agent with a copy of the book entitled "The Way out for [redacted]" by CHARLES CUSTER PICKERT and RALPH BERLAND BAERMAN, published by The Institute for Christian Economic Action, St. Paul, Minnesota, which he had purchased from PICKERT several years ago.

b7c
b7D

[redacted] both of St. Charles, Minnesota, when interviewed stated they have known PICKERT since he was a young boy and he is known as a tree doctor and preacher. No further information could be furnished in regard to PICKERT being the author of any literature.

AT WINONA, MINNESOTA:

The records of the Winona Senior high school reflect that RALPH BERLAND BAERMAN was an English teacher there from September, 1927 through June, 1934, at which time BAERMAN resigned. [redacted]

[redacted] employed by the Jones & Kroeger Company, Job printers, checked the type in the book which was displayed to him, "The Way out to America" and he stated that the Leicht Press of Winona, Minnesota, were not the printers of that book. [redacted] could give no information as to whom the publishers of this book might have been.

AT RUSHFORD, MINNESOTA:

[redacted] of the 1st Nat'l Bank, advised BAERMAN left Rushford about three years ago, was a high school teacher in Winona, Minnesota, however, he did not know of BAERMAN's activities, nor could he furnish any further background information regarding him.

St. P 100-4156

AT MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA:

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted]. b7c

Meeting at Truth and Liberty Temple on
Sunday, September 17, 1944, 7:45 P.M.

The main speaker of the evening was GERALD L. K. SMITH. Introductory speaker was C. O. STADSKLEV, Pastor of Truth and Liberty Temple. He stated that before introducing the main speaker of the evening he wanted to say a few words regarding ELIZABETH DILLING, who had previously spoke at the Truth and Liberty Temple. According to Mr. STADSKLEV, he has been accused of anti-Semitism due to her appearance at the Temple. He said the mere fact she spoke at the Temple is not evidence of anti-Semitism on his part. She is a good Christian woman and I felt it my duty to allow her to speak, said Mr. STADSKLEV. He stated that if being pro-Christian is the same as being anti-Semitic, then he is anti-Semitic; further no one is going to tell him who can speak at the Temple. Mr. STADSKLEV then described GERALD L. K. SMITH as a friend, and said it was an honor and privilege to have him as a speaker at the Truth and Liberty Temple.

GERALD L. K. SMITH then began his speech with the statement that tonight his talk would be non-political, instead it would be a religious talk. According to SMITH, the United States at the present time is only 1/6" from complete federal control of religious worship. This control of religion is being pushed by the "Atheist Jews", who with their alien ideologies desire to control the thinking and living of all the people in America. He pointed out he has been investigated by the Military Intelligence, Office of Naval Intelligence, the FBI, and Congressional bodies, all to no avail. He says he welcomes these investigations since he has nothing to hide. He claims the Jews desire to place him in prison because he is for "Christ First in America". He says that being presidential candidate for the America First Party in the 1944 election is really a fiction since he knows that there is no chance of his being elected, but this is the beginning of the Party and it is growing by leaps and bounds. When 1948 appears, it will be a different story, the America First Party will be a Party to reckon with. There will be only two parties at that time, one the America First Party which will be the nationalistic party, and the other the Communist Party which will be an internationalistic party. There will be no Republican or Democratic Party. The Communist Party will be the Party to beat because they have a program, but "we too have a program". SMITH then told the audience his son, who is presently in the United States Army stationed in India, has been discriminated against because he is the son of GERALD L. K. SMITH. He said he had eight years military training prior to induction into the Army but had never been able to receive a commission. SMITH stated his son is now forced to help Britain keep 500 million slaves

in bondage in India. He also told of the time his son was on march with several other United States soldiers and that some of them died from stravation. He did not specify the locale of this event.

According to SMITH, United States soldiers will return to the United States subsequent to the termination of the present war and find themselves penniless because most of the wealth of this country will have been given to Russia, England, China, and South America. They will also be faced with a $500 million debt and unemployment.

He explained he and his wife journeyed to Washington, D.C. to attend the Dumbarton Oaks Peace Conference, but he was refused admittance. Soldiers guarding the conference told him they would shoot him if he attempted to enter. He says he then made a speech to the soldiers and was convinced that some of them would be "Good America Firsters" after the War.

He said that a large Chicago Jewish paper entitled "The Sentinel" had accused him of advocating sterilization of the Jews at the America First Convention in Detroit. This is absolutely an untruth according to SMITH. He says there was one delegate at the convention who advocated sterilization of the Jews but this motion was never seconded and most certainly was not carried. He went on to say it is his desire to place Christ first in America; that if Christ were first in all nations we would have no HITLER, no MUSSOLINI, no STALIN.

He then told the audience that Minneapolis, Minnesota, is presently governed by that "Alien Russian, Communist Jew, Revolutionist SIDNEY HILLMAN". He stated that due to SIDNEY HILLMAN he was unable to speak at the Municipal Auditorium in Minneapolis. He said it was also impossible to speak at the American Hall in St. Paul due to the fact that the St. Paul police refused protection.

He described presidential candadite DEWEY as "the little man with the big dog", and President ROOSEVELT as "the big man with the little dog". He says neither of these individuals are any good but that he prefers DEWEY as the lesser of two evils. He told the audience I can't ell you what is going to happen to me in the next four years, I may be in prison or I may be killed, but "I am willing to be a martyr to the cause".

He then cited the case of eight Ohio farmers who had corn standing in their fields and were without a corn picker. They went to town to buy a corn picker but the dealer refused to sell them one which he had standing on the floor due to the fact that they had no certificate. The farmers laid the money on the counter and took the corn picker without a certificate. They were later tried and sentenced to five years in the federal penitentiary, but their sentence was suspended. He cited this case as an example of freedom in America today.

St. Paul
100-4156

According to SMITH, President ROOSEVELT's fortune was founded years ago through opium smuggling.

SMITH says that all real Christians are now being labelled "Fascists" by the Communists and other liberal elements. He said that a group known as "Friends of Democracy", controlled by the Communists, is presently engaged in a smear campaign against him which he welcomes.

SMITH closed the meeting with a prayer.

A collection was taken during the meeting. SMITH stated the entire collection would go to the Truth and Liberty Temple.

There were approximately 500 people present at the meeting.

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted]

b2c

Meeting at Truth and Liberty Temple
on Monday, September 18, 1944 - 8:00 P.M.

The speaker was introduced by C. O. STADSKLEV the pastor of the Truth and Liberty Temple. He commended this man as being among the few courageous men left in the United States.

SMITH immediately began to harangue relative to his "Nationalistic Party" saying that "when the boys come back the Nationalistic Party will become dynamic and intensive". He declared he hopes DEWEY will be elected since DEWEY was the lesser of two evils; that his candidacy was not important in the November elections, however, in the 1948 elections the Nationalistic Party would unanimously carry the soldier vote.

SMITH declared that he was not anti-Semitic but he thought that "three million New York Jews should not run the country".

He dwelt at some length with the 33 editorials in his publication "The Cross and the Flag". According to SMITH, the ROOSEVELT wealth had its origin "in opium smuggling"; that a large tire manufacturing company allegedly owned by HENRY FORD was shipped to Russia. He attacked the British censorship, and characterized HENRY WALLACE as a "midwife". He told those in attendance that he was not "mad at DEWEY but that DEWEY did not have any 'guts'".

SMITH told of his experiences at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference. He described to an enthusiastic audience how a major in the United States Army told him that "they would possibly have to shoot him to keep him out of the secret conference". He indicated that he was greatly disturbed with the

fact that the Russians could get in the conference and he could not. He was of the opinion that ROOSEVELT was collaborating with international bankers and "was mixed up in international skulduggery".

Finally SMITH told the audience that he would disclose to them "the story of the century". He then spoke of the TYLER KENT incident indicating that he had obtained his information from KENT's mother. Reportedly KENT is a brilliant diplomat and linguist originally stationed in the United States Embassy at Moscow. After inciting STALIN's displeasure at the kremlin, KENT was transferred to London at which time JOSEPH P. KENNEDY was the United States Ambassador to St. James. Allegedly KENT served as liaison officer and decoder between WINSTON CHURCHILL and ROOSEVELT. SMITH alleged that KENT learned from the coded messages that ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL were engaged in international machinations. KENT became so perturbed that he attempted to leave London but was unable to get a passport; finally he went to Captain RAMSEY, told him the complete story, and RAMSEY in turn appeared before the House of Parliament and "exposed WINSTON CHURCHILL". As a result of this, KENT was dismissed from the diplomatic staff and immediately arrested by the British authorities. He was tried in the British Court and sentenced to the Isle of Wight where he is today. According to SMITH, KENT's mother has appealed to the Supreme Court for a redress. SMITH believes that KENT should be brought into this country for trial; that when the complete story of KENT's arrest was told it will "end the ROOSEVELT dynasty". SMITH intimated that JOSEF STALIN was able to obtain certain coded messages from KENT when KENT was stationed in Moscow since the O.G.P.U. was surveilling KENT at all times. As a result of this, STALIN is today holding these messages over ROOSEVELT's and CHURCHILL's head, and is "whipping them into line".

There were approximately 500 people in attendance at the Truth and Liberty Temple, approximately 250 people in the basement of the church, and possibly 150 people on the outside of the church. SMITH was enthusiastically received and some members of the audience were heard to ejaculate "Boycutt the Jews" and "Buy Christian".

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted] JR.

b7c

Meeting at Truth and Liberty Temple
on Tuesday, September 19, 1944 - 8:00 P.M.

GERALD L. K. SMITH was introduced by C. O. STADSKLEV the pastor of Truth and Liberty Temple. After acknowledging the introduction GERALD L. K. SMITH discussed Father COUGHLIN, during which discussion he stated he was a friend of Father COUGHLIN and that Father COUGHLIN was "finally hushed

up by the Jews". MR. S. SANDERSON of Rochester, Minnesota, was then asked to read the resolution of the recent America First Committee which resolution opposed the gold standard. After the resolution was read GERALD L. K. SMITH advised he was opposed to the gold standard and stated he favored control of the monetary system of this country by the federal government not by the world bankers. He next discussed the Jewish situation in the United States and advised that there are approximately 500,000 Jewish refugees already in this country as a result of the present war and approximately 14 million who desire to enter the United States as refugees. He next pointed out that the Jews are working out monopolies in the various enterprises and stated that 3% of the big business companies in the United States have received 50% of the government contracts during the present war. He referred to Rabbi STEPHEN WISE as being the leading Jew in the United States. He critized the anti- defamation league, which he indicated was operated and controlled by the Jews, and he critized the Jewish control of newspapers, theatres, and radios in the United States. He pointed out that 60 Jews in Hollywood control the movie industry. He further pointed out the pressure which the Jews can exert on newspapers and radios by threatening to withdraw their business advertisements from newspapers and radios in order to control such newspapers and radio programs. He pointed out that the sedition trial of 26 persons in Washington, D.C. has been forced upon the government by the Jews. He concluded by stating that the Jews in the United States must cooperate and settle the various problems or they must suffer the consequences.

He next discussed the Negro problem in the United States and stated that there are three avenues of approach to the problem: The first by annihilation; the second, intermingling; and the third colonization. He pointed out that the first two approaches, namely annihilation and intermingling of the races obviously would not settle the problem. He then discussed colonization as an approach and stated that 2½ Negroes were already in favor of a colony being set up in West Africa, and he indicated he was in favor of this colonization; the colony to be maintained under the flag of the United States. He next discussed immigration of Chinese from the Orient and pointed out that there are 300 million Chinese who would like to immigrate to the United States. He advocated that the entry gates to the United States be closed to immigration of the Chinese.

Concerning the war with Japan, he pointed out that in the latter part of 1941 WINSTON CHURCHILL saw the futility of getting the United States involved in the European War, but that in February, 1942, before the House of Commons, CHURCHILL boasted he had succeeded in getting the United States involved in the Pacific War. Concerning the Japan attack on Pearl Harbor, he stated that the administration had every reason to believe that war would come with Japan. He pointed out that approximately one year prior to the war the administration had talked of the possibility of war with Japan developing

from cutting off the oil supply going to Japan, and the administration had reached the decision that to cut off the oil supply would certainly result in war with Japan. He stated that shortly before Pearl Harbor an ultimatum was directed to Japan wherein the oil supply from this country was cut off to Japan, and pointed out that although one year previous the administration had decided such an act would certainly result in war. Upon cutting the oil supply to Japan, the military and naval authorities at Pearl Harbor were not advised. He pointed out that Admiral KIMMEL and General SHORT who were in command of the Navy and Army at Pearl Harbor at the time of the attack should be brought to trial before the coming election in order that the facts concerning the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor could be fully developed and aired. He pointed out that prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor the United States had sold scrap iron to Japan and had sold obsolete warships which had cost this government $2,000,000 to construct for $7,000 each as scrap, and he pointed out that some of these warships purchased by Japan were floated from this country to Japan, reconstructed, and are presently being used against us. He pointed out that the war in China has been lost by the allies but that censorship would not permit this information to be given to the American people. He stated that Madame CHIANG KAI SHEK is a refugee at the present time and that General CHIANG KAI SHEK is "on his way out". He stated that Marshal STALIN had indicated he would render absolutely no assistance to the allies in the Pacific unless the allies would team up with the Communists in China.

The last topic discussed by GERALD L. K. SMITH was socialized medicine, and he indicated that he was very much opposed to socialized medicine in the United States.

The meeting lasted from approximately 8:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. The house was filled to a capacity, there being approximately 500 people present.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

ENCLOSURE TO DETROIT: One copy of book entitled "The Way Out for America".

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
September 30 - 1944

Director, FBI

[redacted]

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set out herein the pertinent information obtained from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, for the period from September 12, 1944 through September 28, 1944.

Informant advises that SMITH is devoting most of his time and attention at the present to his political campaign for President of the United States on the America First Party ticket and is presently on a tour of various cities in the Middle West.

SMITH was in Minneapolis on September 17, 18 and 19; in Milwaukee on September 20; Chicago on September 21; St. Louis on September 22; St. Henry, Ohio, September 24; Cleveland, September 27; Buffalo, September 28, and he will be in Philadelphia ~~on October 1,~~ Baltimore on October 3, and Pittsburgh on October 6, 1944.

The arrangements for the Philadelphia meeting have been made by CATHERINE BROWN of that city who is well known as a leader of the National Blue Star Mothers of America and is a close friend of SMITH. The Baltimore meeting is being arranged through Doctor WALTER HAUSHALTER of the Baltimore Christian Temple, who is also a close friend of SMITH. Arrangements for the meeting at Pittsburgh on October 6 are in the hands of Mrs. MARIE LOHLE of that city.

Informant advises that GEORGE VOSE of Kalamazoo, Michigan, a candidate on the Party's state ticket in Michigan and a disabled veteran of World War II, has been making the present speaking trip with SMITH. The meeting at St. Henry, Ohio on September 24, 1944 at which HARRY ROMER, the Party's candidate for Vice-President of the United States, made his acceptance speech, was reported to have been a big success. The meeting was evidently held out of doors and cars were parked within a radius of a quarter of a mile to hear the speakers. ROMER is said by SMITH to be a prominent leader of the Coughlinites in Ohio.

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

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62-43818-568
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27 OCT 11 1944

EX - 42

SMITH has been having some difficulty with his campaign, according to informant. The state of Alabama will not allow him to place his name on the ballot as a Presidential Candidate in that state. The America First Party filed credentials and papers with the state of Texas seeking to qualify the party for the ballot in that state. The names of twenty-two candidates for Presidential Electors were filed. No word has as yet been received from the state of Texas as to whether or not the names will be placed on the ballot.

SMITH has complained to the newspapers that he cannot obtain gasoline for the purpose of traveling on his presidential campaign. He has stated that DEWEY is "running around the country on a luxury train" and that "ROOSEVELT has spent $20,000,000 on his trip to Honolulu" but that "the OPA has refused to grant me my request for gasoline." SMITH has applied for enough gasoline for 8,000 miles in Michigan and for 20,000 miles in the nation but has not as yet received a definite reply, since the OPA has requested additional information from him before making a decision.

SMITH has also complained about the fact that he could not get his name on the ballot in the State of Maryland due to some technicality and indicated that he would take the matter to the Supreme Court, claiming that this action in refusing to put his name on the ballot was a disenfranchisement of the people.

SMITH received a telegram from Senator THEODORE GREEN, Chairman of the Campaign Expenditures Committee of the United States Senate, requesting that he advise that committee of those states in which the America First Party has slated candidates for President and Vice-President and who will appear on the official ballot in the general election. SMITH has been in touch with other members of the United States Senate. He requested Senator BENNET CLARK of Missouri to address his meeting at St. Louis on September 22, stating that the meeting would be attended by "1,000 Nationalists." Informant did not know whether or not Senator CLARK had replied to SMITH's request. He also received some communications from Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS of North Carolina, although informant did not know the nature of the matters dealt with in these letters.

SMITH is making plans to begin his campaign in the state of Michigan at an early date and hopes to have four or five good rallies prior to election day. He originally intended to have the first

rally about the seventh or eighth of October but informant now states that it will probably be held on the twelfth of October in the Book Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, Michigan. A rally is also scheduled for Midland, Michigan where SMITH has permission to use the loud speaker. It is evidently his intention to follow the exact itinerary which he used in his original campaign for the United States Senate two years ago.

A letter has been sent out by him to 400 postmasters in Michigan asking for their routes and the number of boxes on the routes. This is for the purpose of getting out the rural vote. SMITH has a list of about 10,000 "best names" but it is not clear whether or not these are confined to Michigan or extend throughout the country. These individuals will be contacted by mail starting about thirty days before election. HARVEY SPRINGER, a preacher from Denver, Colorado, who has collaborated with SMITH in the past, is expected to come to Detroit in October and give assistance to SMITH in his campaign.

Informant indicated that SMITH had ordered from EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago an additional 500 copies of SOUTHARD's book, "Forty Years of Roosevelt." He wanted these books, however, to omit the box appearing on page forty-two which infers that the readers should vote for DEWEY. SMITH wishes to distribute these books among the followers of his Party and does not want any "plugs" for DEWEY to appear in such book.

SMITH is also very much interested in an article appearing in the Chicago Sun on September 16th dealing with conditions in France and pointing out that the American soldiers there found people better provided for in France than they had been in England. SMITH was anxious to get a copy of this article and considered it very significant.

According to informant, SMITH and KENNETH C. WEBER of Detroit, attorney for the FARMERS' GUILD and Chairman of the State Convention of the America First Party held in Detroit on July 31st, are in agreement on most of the political issues of the day. WEBER has indicated that SMITH's voters are the life blood of the Farmers' Guild in Michigan. SMITH explained to WEBER that ELIZABETH DILLING had stated that she could not vote for the America First Party but that she would vote a straight Republican ticket and impeach DEWEY if he did not act in a manner satisfactory to her. SMITH felt that he should write her and tell her that DEWEY's attack on HAMILTON FISH and himself was sufficient

evidence of his attitude. SMITH advised WEBER that the Chicago Tribune had indicated in a recent article that it was futile to expect anything of DEWEY and the voters should concentrate on candidates for the Senate and House of Representatives.

The suit against SMITH by the individual who claimed he had a prior right to the name, "America First," has been dropped.

According to informant, BERNARD A. DOMAN, Secretary and Treasurer of the America First Party and SMITH's personal secretary, is leaving SMITH on November 1st, allegedly because of ill health and has told SMITH he will go to Texas to live. However, informant states that DOMAN has been looking for a job at various other places in Detroit and apparently is not leaving SMITH for reasons of ill health, although DOMAN apparently wants SMITH to believe that such is the reason for his leaving.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]
62-1126

b7c

[redacted]

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DATE [illegible] BY [illegible]

[illegible] articles [illegible] regarding [illegible] and false [illegible] late Senator Huey P. Long, et als. [illegible] regarding Mr. [illegible] and (Swami) Flag politicians-American activities [illegible] United States of America. The article stated many true and interesting things relative to this renegade crooked preacher [illegible] your Committee had him "Ham-Strung" before your Committee, [illegible] gentlemen for [illegible] Louisiana and the U. S. A.

[illegible] this violent third Smith robbed the State of Louisiana [illegible] the rights of Huey, misleading him, Long, et als. [illegible] fooling the general public, which I am thankful to God, I am NOT one of. It is my firm belief and opinion that this Smith was a false friend to Long, as was later proven by and through events leading up to and after Long's untimely death at Baton Rouge. Mr. Smith was closer to Huey than any other rascal, and Long had many frauds connected with him (wheather he knew it before it was to late or not) and what caused his downfall and his tragic death. This Smith was the Chief Gestapo for the "Share Him our Wealth" and other inner movements. Smith was and is a dangerous character; was [illegible] and ousted from the Christian Church at Shreveport, which the records will prove, operated here under the Democratic label [illegible] in Michigan under the Republican banner for the Senate, [illegible] interested in almost everything he went into and should be interned and completely investigated.

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43814-569

When you Gentlemen get ahold of his mailing lists and other supported pay-rolls, I wouldnt be surprised if you find the names of [illegible] son-in-law's names on same and more. This crooked and un-Christian renegade [illegible] is another kind the same stripe as Smith and his personal [illegible] heart and doublecrosser for years. This [illegible] drives cars without gas rations, so it appears and not rubber tires and other things. Members of their families are not doing War Work and should have been either locked-up or in Kakki Britches in the Armed Forces fighting their friends Hitler, Tojo, et als. Please dig into their activities. Just this morning I informed the Most Reverend ????, relative to what I read about referred to above and he all but fainted and became angry and drove away from this writer in high gears. Something is W R O N G

[illegible]

[illegible] and have been dead-heads, [illegible] and all public [illegible] hate. They are election [illegible]

[illegible] Americans and [illegible] and [illegible] and [illegible] period.

[illegible] people ever [illegible] and what they are. I have more than once [illegible] BOSS and Sword and would join any bastard, even Hitler [illegible] money, [illegible] and power as those miserable creatures in Europe have and [illegible] to bring misery upon honorable peoples the world over. [illegible] elsewhere the world ever be done [illegible] them out of [illegible] for all time.

[illegible] additional information you desire [illegible] at any time, leading towards investigations of these and other [illegible] matters, please command me and any and all my friends [illegible] will and would feel well paid.

[illegible] could write many, many additional pages to this letter [illegible] that would be unnecessary and premature at this time. [illegible] and get those Texan and Bats out of their holes [illegible] America and the world will be far better off for all time.

With the best of good wishes for your success in [illegible] of good purpose and repute and may the blessings be upon each and [illegible] of you, et al. I beg to remain,

Sincerely and respectfully yours,

RECORDED

JPHa:WMJ
62-43818 —569

October 17, 1944

[redacted]

b2c

Dear [redacted]

This will acknowledge receipt of your recent letter dated October 11, 1944.

Your observations are much appreciated and should you in the future receive other information which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, please feel free to communicate with the Special Agent in Charge of this Bureau's New Orleans Field Division located at 1308 Masonic Temple Building, New Orleans 12, Louisiana.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Original letter from Publication received to OPA 12/17/44 Photostat made & paper

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DATE 10/8/82 BY SP8B3/MG

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
OCT 18 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

3

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Case Originated At DETROIT, MICHIGAN — DETROIT File No. 62-1126

Report Made At	Date Made	Period for Which Made	Report Made By	
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	9/27/44	7/31;8/1,3,7,:12,19,22,29-:31;9/8,9,11,:12/44	[redacted]	b7c APB MJS

Title	Character of Case
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G; SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

Synopsis of Facts: [redacted]

Michigan State Convention of the America First Party held July 31 and August 1, 1944, at Detroit. National convention of the Party held August 29,30, 1944 at Detroit, at which time SMITH was nominated as candidate for President and HARRY A. ROMER of St. Henry, Ohio, was nominated as a candidate for Vice President of the United States. SMITH has devoted a great part of his time during the past six weeks in connection with the convention. He was in Washington, D.C., for the week beginning August 21, 1944, where he attempted to gain admission into the Dumbarton Oaks Conference. SMITH planning an extensive speaking tour in connection with Presidential campaign. SMITH's interest in Washington sedition trials continues.

- P -

REFERENCE: (61-7055; 62-43818) Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated July 28, 1944, at Detroit, Michigan. b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/9/82 BY SP6B1/AHDMS

COPY IN FILE

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FO NOTIFIED 7-25-77 GB

Approved and Sent: SAC

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Copies
5 - Bureau (Enclosures)
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2 - Chicago
2 - Cleveland
2 - Milwaukee
2 - Pittsburgh
2 - St. Louis
2 - St. Paul
2 - Philadelphia
2 - Baltimore
3 - Detroit

OCT 11 1944

INDEXED IN INVESTIGATION FILES

56 OCT 20 1944

(De 62-1126)

63988

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan:

Unless otherwise stated, all the information hereinafter set out has been received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

Subject SMITH claims to have taken a very active part in the fight against Vice President HENRY WALLACE for his nomination as Vice President of the United States at the Democratic National Convention at Chicago and in this connection SMITH put out a circular at the convention, allegedly showing Vice President WALLACE's connection with JOSEPH STALIN and SIDNEY HILLMAN. Subject at the Chicago Democratic Convention also put out a circular relative to an alleged philosophy of Vice President WALLACE on intermarriage of negroes and whites.

DON LOHBECK moved to Detroit, Michigan, from St. Louis, Missouri, in approximately the middle of July, 1944, and is employed by Subject to work in his downtown Detroit office and has been devoting a considerable part of his time to a study of the election laws of the various states.

During the past six or seven weeks, SMITH has been in contact with RALPH BAERMAN of Washington, D. C. BAERMAN, for SMITH's benefit, has been making a survey of the changes in the election laws of the several states with reference to the Soldier's Vote. SMITH and BAERMAN have a mutual friend residing in Washington, D. C., by the name of [redacted] of the street number of [redacted] and the street is believed to be [redacted] Washington telephone number is [redacted] BAERMAN claims to have heard from some source that "they are very disgruntled with the way everything is being handled in reference to the pending sedition trials in Washington. b7c

Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS allegedly told a reporter from the Chicago Sun that he had no qualms about being one hundred percent for everything that SMITH is for. In the early part of August, 1944, Senator REYNOLDS expressed himself to the effect that he was about to support the Republican ticket because he did not want to support the New Deal, but that he had decided he would rather have ROOSEVELT than DEWEY in the Presidency and he felt that DEWEY is politically a "dead pigeon."

On July 28, 1944, SMITH reported to the Associated Press that he had sent a telegram to Governor THOMAS E. DEWEY at Albany, New Y in substance as follows:

"In the light of your condemnation of Congressman HAMILTON FISH, woul you be interested in replying to the following questions:

63989

"1. Do you agree with Governor BRICKER in his bid for the support of my followers and myself?

"2. Do you oppose the reelection of such America First republicans as Congressman CLAIRE HOFFMAN, Senator GERALD P. NYE, Senator ROBERT A. TAFT and Congressman ROY WOODRUFF and such other America First nationalists who have spoken and voted throughout the years the same as HAMILTON FISH?

"3. Do you realize that you have broken tradition in interfering with a Congressional primary?

"4. Do you propose to interfere in Congressional districts with the people's right to nominate their own candidate for Congress?

"5. If you practice the purge system such as practiced by Mr. ROOSEVELT before election, what could we expect of you if elected?"

In further reference to Governor DEWEY's attack on HAMILTON FISH, SMITH is of the opinion that DEWEY will give "STEVE" DAY "the same dose."

On or about July 31, 1944, SMITH made a press release to the wire service representatives in Detroit as follows:

"For the first time in history a party officially and legally qualified as the America First Party meets today in a state convention in Detroit.

"The call was issued by BERNARD A. DOMAN as Secretary, at the instigation of GERALD L. K. SMITH, National Director of the newly-formed America First Party. DOMAN said, 'Delegates have qualified from sixty-two Michigan counties. We shall nominate many candidates for office, including all State officers, Presidential electors and candidates for the State Legislature.'

"GERALD L. K. SMITH, interviewed at the convention headquarters in Detroit at the Detroit Leland Hotel said, 'Our people cannot swallow the New Deal or anything that looks or sounds like ROOSEVELT.'

"Governor DEWEY has told the world that he will not accept our support, in fact, in his April 4 speech he virtually called for the liquidation of our three million constituents. DEWEY's attack on Congressman HAMILTON FISH, one of the nation's leading America Firsters, makes it imperative that we lay the foundation for a dynamic nationalist party in America.

"'It is possible that we may not nominate for Vice President,' said SMITH, 'because of the popularity of Governor JOHN BRICKER among our people.'

"Today we will choose someone to be the America First candidate for President in Michigan with the understanding that whomsoever we name today for President will defer if necessary to the candidate nominated by our national convention when it meets the fourth week in August."

At the Michigan State Convention of the America First Party held at Detroit on August 1, 1944, SMITH probably had Governor BRICKER nominated for Vice President with the thought that he would necessarily not accept the nomination. On the same day, according to the United Press dispatch, Governor BRICKER did refuse the nomination in words as follows: "I will not accept such a ridiculous offer. I shall not permit my name to be used in any such connection."

According to the United Press in reference to Governor BRICKER's nomination, Governor DEWEY stated, "The report that America First has nominated SMITH and BRICKER is a smear. GERALD SMITH is one of those rabble-rousers who, like ADOLPH HITLER, makes racial prejudice his stock in trade. This contemptible attempt to associate himself with Governor BRICKER is a sinister attempt to smear the Republican candidate for Vice President."

In response to the statements made by Governors BRICKER and DEWEY, SMITH issued a statement to the United Press in substance as follows: "The comment of Governor DEWEY and Governor BRICKER concerning the action of the America First Party proves to my complete satisfaction the need for the America First Party as the true voice of nationalism in America. I observe that Mr. DEWEY, who seems so touchy concerning America First matters has endorsed for Congress against HAMILTON FISH the same candidate which is being supported by EARL BROWDER. The truth is out at last. DEWEY's attack on America First assures beyond doubt the fact that ROOSEVELT, WILKIE, DEWEY and BROWDER are in the same bed together. They all opposed FISH and supported BENNETT. The same gang fights GERALD L. K. SMITH. I am not afraid to take them all at once. I'll have plenty of help when the boys come home."

In further reference to Governor BRICKER, SMITH released the statement: "In repudiating our cordial support, he has displayed the same weakness as when he capitulated to DEWEY at Chicago. If DEWEY can control him now, he can control him if, by accident, he is elected."

The Executive Committee of the America First Michigan State Convention caucused on the night of August 1, 1944. BERNARD A. DOMAN acted as chairman and HARRY A. ROMER of St. Henry, Ohio, was chosen as Vice President.

ROMER has been a leader of the National Union for Social Justice and is a member of the Farmers Guild. ROMER is allegedly a prominent merchant and farmer and presided over a meeting some time ago in Greenville, Ohio, where a large number of farmers were addressed by SMITH. The nomination as the Vice Presidential candidate of the Party was accepted by ROMER. Several days after the nomination of Governor BRICKER as the Vice Presidential candidate of the America First Party in Michigan and BRICKER's refusal to accept the nomination, SMITH is alleged to have explained that he had worked the nomination of BRICKER to hold his people together, that some of them had felt that they could entrust their welfare to BRICKER and by forcing him into a repudiation it kept the America First group in a solid body.

On August 2, 1944, SMITH made the following release to the United Press in Detroit: "I accuse Governor T. E. DEWEY of being the first Presidential candidate in history in making a political issue out of the Jewish question. By introducing the Jewish question into national politics, he does the Jewish race a grave injustice. He becomes the super-demagogue in using this technique to hold the support of the large Jewish vote in New York. The Jewish issue was not mentioned or discussed at the convention of the America First Party."

In the early part of August, 1944, the dates of August 29 and 30, 1944, were selected by SMITH for the holding of the first national convention of the America First Party in Detroit, Michigan. It was determined that the convention headquarters should be at the Detroit Leland Hotel. It was originally planned that two big sessions of the convention should be held at the auditorium of the Northern High School in Detroit, Michigan.

In connection with SMITH's use of the school auditorium, the Board of Education of the City of Detroit ruled that SMITH could not have same until he appeared personally before the School Board and, in accordance with this, SMITH did appear before the Board on August 8, 1944, at which meeting the Board voted to permit SMITH and his organization to use the auditorium for the national convention, provided no collections of any kind were made within the auditorium. SMITH claimed that the Board of Education had been used as a sounding board to attack the patriotism and American integrity of himself and his compatriots and that the "Commies" were active in trying to keep him from getting the school and further that a member of the School Board by the last name of GORMAN had been particularly outstanding in his attack on SMITH and afterwards SMITH referred to GORMAN as being a "little kike." Notwithstanding the fact that the School Board at this meeting determined to permit SMITH to use a school auditorium during the America First Party national convention, the idea of using the auditorium was abandoned by SMITH and it was determined that all activities in connection with the convention would be had at the Detroit Leland Hotel.

In connection with his campaign, SMITH released a proposal to the effect that Britain and France should release a million square miles of land in Africa to be made available free for negro colonization. In response to this, RAYMOND A. MARTINEZ, a negro attorney in Detroit, associated with the Negro Nationalists Society of America, through the Detroit News attacked SMITH's position and disclaims any connection with SMITH of his group. In explanation of his criticism of SMITH appearing in the Detroit News, MARTINEZ claimed that he had been working on the idea of African colonization since 1930 and that in 1938 he had prepared a bill which Senator BILBOA had introduced in Congress and that when the negro press found out about BILBOA's connection, it immediately attacked both him and the bill. MARTINEZ claimed that other negroes had "jumped" on him concerning SMITH's position and told him that they would run into plenty of trouble if SMITH endorsed "this proposition."

According to representations made by SMITH, the America First Party is entering into various campaigns in connection with the Fall election, principally for educational and propaganda purposes and insofar as the Presidential campaign is concerned, he, SMITH, is going to attempt to compel debate on the principal issue of whether to bring the boys home or not.

According to a press release made by SMITH, it was stated that during the campaign he intended to accuse DEWEY of wanting to take this country into an alliance with Britain in order to "whip" Russia and further that during the campaign SMITH intends to discuss issues which he claims neither of the major political candidates have the nerve to discuss, namely, (1) The TYLER KENT case involving his mysterious internment in London after asserting that CHURCHILL, before he arose to the prime ministership, was using the diplomatic pouch to correspond with ROOSEVELT about coming events; (2) the KIMMEL-SHORT scandals directly and completely.

About August 20, 1944, [redacted] advised SMITH to the effect that "they" have something personal on the Judge presiding over the sedition trials at Washington, D. C., that will hold the trial up for a while.

By a release given to the United Press, it was announced that the buffalo had been chosen as the symbol of the America First Party and that Washington is the vignette of the Party and will appear on America First ballots. After this SMITH requested of the Department of the Interior the use of a buffalo as a mascot for the Party and requested that a buffalo be named "America First." This request was responded to by Secretary of the Interior, HAROLD L. ICKES, who refused to grant the request on the basis that he did not want to play politics with the national parks.

On August 20, 1944, SMITH left Detroit, arriving at Washington, D. C., the following day. He claimed that his purpose for going to Washington was to insist that the "nationalists" be represented at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference, having expressed himself to the effect that he thought the matter of JOHN FOSTER DULLES' taking part in the conference was a "terrible hoax." In reference to DULLES, RALPH BAERMAN of Washington, D. C., allegedly expressed himself to the effect that he did not trust DULLES at all and had read articles indicating that DULLES does law business for the British Empire. SMITH allegedly claimed that his business at the State Department was being handled personally by CORDELL HULL and that on August 23, 1944, he had given "our" ultimatum, making the accusation of commission of treason in connection with the holding of the Dumbarton Oaks Conference behind the people's backs and threatening to impeach "them."

SMITH went from Washington, D. C., directly to Cincinnati, Ohio, in order to be there in time for a meeting at Hamilton, Ohio, on August 27, 1944, where he and HARRY A. ROMER addressed a meeting of farmers.

SMITH expressed considerable concern in connection with an article appearing in the August 15, 1944, issue of the New York Post by VICTOR RIESEL. He expressed his concern to [redacted] particularly from the standpoint of the source of the information divulged in the article and indicated that the "mystery man" referred to in the article was RALPH BAERMAN of Washington, D. C. SMITH allegedly indicated to [redacted] that he felt that the information contained in the article had come to the author through [redacted] inasmuch as [redacted] had recently been in Washington and New York. Allegedly, [redacted] indicated that while in New York he had been in contact with [redacted] and both he and his wife visited with [redacted] during their stay and that during either of their visits some of the information in the article may have been discussed. [redacted] also allegedly claimed to SMITH that he felt that some of the information in the article may have come from employees in SMITH's downtown office in Detroit.

b7c

The National Convention of the America First Party convened at the Detroit Leland Hotel in Detroit at 3 p.m. August 29, 1944. There were five sessions in all, the first session being at 3 p.m., the second at 8 p.m. on August 29, and the last three sessions being at 10 a.m., 3 p.m., and 8 p.m. on August 30, 1944. At the convention SMITH was nominated as the candidate for President of the United States.

On August 31, 1944, the following release came over the wire of the Associated Press, in substance:

"The Senate Elections Committee agreed today to consider the request that it investigate the introduction at the America First Party National Convention at Detroit this week of a resolution calling for either the deportation or sterilization of Jews. Chairman GREEN, Democrat from Rhode Island, announced that the committee would meet tomorrow to consider a protest of the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League, whose headquarters are in New York City, that the resolution was designed to incite racial strife. JAMES A. SHELDON of Boston as Chairman of the Anti-Nazi League sent in a telegram to GREEN that 'there is here a plain conspiracy to incite and encourage racial strife in America in time of war and to deprive America's citizens of their civil rights, under the guise of carrying on activities as a political party.' SHELDON also protested to the Senate Committee against the America First Convention's adoption of a resolution 'calling for a vast public investigation of the Jewish influence in the government and the war. We respectfully suggest and urge your committee to undertake investigation of the possible misuse of the political party machinery and other electoral practices by a group which poses as a political party, but is in fact a subversive propaganda agency.'

"The deportation resolution proposed that 'all Jews should be deported to a later designated area if they do not leave America voluntarily within five years.'"

In response to inquiries concerning the above release, SMITH allegedly stated to a representative of the Associated Press that the resolution referred to was not adopted, nor even brought to a vote, that "some fellow" did make the statement at the convention. Further, SMITH allegedly said that he knew of a Jew who said that all Germans should be sterilized, but that the Jew was not investigated.

SMITH, in answer to Mr. SHELDON's accusation, made the following release to the Associated Press: "JAMES A. SHELDON, who wants me investigated, is the head of a Gestapo-like organization which racketeers on Jewish contributors. Our convention was covered by the Press. Any newspaperman who covered our convention knows that the Maerz Resolution was not even considered. A careful investigation of SHELDON's outfit will reveal that they have spent hundreds and thousands of dollars to smear such good Americans as HENRY FORD, Colonel ROBERT McCORMICK, CHARLES A. LINDBERGH and numerous members of Congress. SHELDON is mad because we kicked one of his hired stooges out of the convention on his ear. Let's investigate everybody and alternate the questions between SHELDON and myself and let the American people decide who is right." In making the release to the Associated Press, it was explained that the stooge referred to as being kicked out of the meeting was a man named MARIO ROSSI.

Concerning a suggested investigation of SMITH and the America First Party by the American Legion, that is hereinafter referred to, SMITH made the following release to the Associated and United Press Services in Detroit on September 1, 1944: "I welcome an investigation by the American Legion. I would suggest, however, that the National Committee on Americanization or the Michigan Committee on Americanization would be more competent to judge than any local Legion leaders, who might hold a partial political viewpoint. In this connection I received notification only this morning that my only son, GERALD SMITH, Jr., has been cited for the Purple Heart for wounds received in Burma where he volunteered to dangerous duty. He has also received a Presidential citation."

During the period of time after the National Convention of the America First Party, SMITH has been concerned as to the position which Mrs. MURRAY KNOWLES of the American Mothers' Association in Detroit will take in reference to supporting himself in the Presidential election. Mrs. KNOWLES allegedly has reported that the mothers represented by herself want to hear what DEWEY and ROOSEVELT have to say before committing themselves as to their support on a Presidential candidate, that she is opposed to a fourth term for ROOSEVELT in that it would perpetuate him and make him too powerful and that she hopes that DEWEY will have a program that will meet with the approval of the mothers represented by herself. If Mrs. KNOWLES is not satisfied with DEWEY's candidacy, there is no indication as to whether or not she would in that event lend her support to the candidacy of SMITH.

BERNARD DOMAN, SMITH's Secretary in charge of his office in Detroit, has informed SMITH that he is quitting his job and is planning on going down south to live on his mother's farm, explaining that he had recently undergone a tubercular test which proved to be positive and that he was going to rest and try to rebuild his lungs. Whether or not this is the full and correct reason for DOMAN's wanting to quit working for SMITH is not known. There is some indication that it may not be the entire reason, inasmuch as some effort has been made by DOMAN recently in the way of seeking employment elsewhere in Detroit. It is not known as to the exact time when DOMAN will terminate his employment. Who DOMAN's successor will be is not yet known.

SMITH has been in occasional contact with Captain EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago, Illinois, and just recently SMITH was advised by the recipient of the book, "Forty Years of ROOSEVELT," which SOUTHARD is author of or at least collaborated with the author of, to the effect that on page 42 of the recent edition there was a box which in effect said to vote for DEWEY. SMITH was unable to understand this, inasmuch as this book was being sent out by him as a premium to his followers, and when he contacted SOUTHARD in regard thereto demanding an explanation of the box appeal in the book, SOUTHARD claimed that it did not contain an indication that people should vote for DEWEY, but that they should go out and vote for nationalist Congressmen and Senators.

(De 62-1126)

SMITH is sending a copy of the platform of the America First Party to Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS, who is going to attempt to get it into the Congressional Record.

SMITH has been making an effort to secure radio time on a share equal with that of other political parties, but there has been no indication that he has been successful in these attempts.

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The following information was received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, excepting that which may be otherwise designated. b7D

At the Michigan State Convention of the America First Party, which convened July 31, 1944, at the Detroit Leland Hotel in Detroit, Michigan, the first session was attended by 67 persons and the second and evening session attended by approximately 150 persons. There were no servicemen in attendance at the convention. SMITH acted as temporary chairman at the opening of the session and stated that his part in the convention would be purely advisory as he was probably the only one fully acquainted with all the delegates. SMITH said that both of the old political parties had gone internationalist, that "two Republicans had written the infamous resolution 666" and that FERGUSON (Michigan's junior Senator) had gone on a speaking tour on behalf of BURTON, BALL, HATCH international scheme to get us into a world super-government. SMITH recommended reading the book "Refugees of 1944" by Captain JOHN TREVOR, head of the Coalition of American Patriotic Societies. In this book TREVOR states that there are twenty million refugees knocking at the doors of the United States. SMITH stated, "While we sympathize with the refugees, we want jobs for our returning boys first. Instead of lowering the immigration barriers, we should raise them."

SMITH condemned DEWEY for "kicking our friends in the teeth," referring specifically to DEWEY's condemnation of HAMILTON FISH, injecting the racial issue into the campaign. SMITH said that ROOSEVELT had done away with FISH's Congressional district in an attempt to eliminate the Congressman and DEWEY was trying to defeat his candidacy in the new district. SMITH then recommended KENNETH C. WEBBER, attorney for the Farmers Guild, as permanent Chairman for the convention. This recommendation was followed by the convention.

In his acceptance speech, Mr. WEBBER lauded the Michigan representation in the national House of Representatives, singling out for special praise CLAIRE E. HOFFMAN, PAUL W. SCHAFER, FRED L. CRAWFORD, ROY

ORCHARD WOODRUFF and FRED BRADLEY. "The others," WEBBER said, "were by and large good America Firsters and on the whole had opposed 'everything.'" The convention then resolved into a committee of the whole to discuss nominations. Separate motions were made, seconded and carried, endorsing the Congressmen whom Mr. WEBBER had singled out and a blanket motion was then made covering JONKMAN, WOLCOTT, ENGEL, BENNETT, DONDERO, MICHENER and BLACKNEY. Reverend LELAND MARION of Pontiac, Michigan, was nominated for Governor and Private GEORGE VOSE from the military hospital at Fort Custer was nominated for Lieutenant Governor. In reference to VOSE, SMITH said that he had run for Congress in the primary and had pulled five thousand votes. VOSE has been an active Townsendite and has in the past made many speeches in connection with this program.

BERNARD DOMAN was nominated as Secretary of State and C. J. SMITH of Belding, Michigan, was nominated for State Treasurer. SMITH is a paint manufacturer who had just been informed of the death of his son in the Pacific. ALMOND G. BLANCHARD, a farmer residing on Route 2, Niles, Michigan, was nominated for Auditor General. BLANCHARD is described as being a Coughlinite.

In discussing the candidate for President on the State ticket, SMITH said that it would have to be someone who would relinquish his votes if the national convention should nominate someone else. SMITH said that he had talked with CHARLES LINDBERGH and had sent Mrs. LUNDEEN to talk with him. This latter fact, he said, was not for publication. In reference to LINDBERGH, SMITH SAID, "The boy has a persecution complex; he has become a recluse; he doesn't want to be hurt. That boy threw away more power than any man ever had; threw it right in the ashcan."

SMITH said in reference to the Presidency also that he had talked to Senator BURTON K. WHEELER. WHEELER advised that he would not consider it, giving as an excuse that he was too old. SMITH said that a mutual friend had told him that WHEELER disliked DEWEY so much that it had a tendency to make him cuddle closer to his own party.

SMITH said that he had talked to Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS and that REYNOLDS told him that he could be quoted in any way SMITH liked, that it could be said that he was for America First and he would back SMITH up in everything he did or said. SMITH said that when he asked Senator REYNOLDS to run for President on the America First ticket, REYNOLDS "let the cat out of the bag by saying 'I am waiting another four years.'"

After this, SMITH was unanimously voted as the Presidential candidate of the Party. Governor BRICKER was nominated as the Vice Presidential candidate and when someone suggested that he might not accept, he was

told in effect by SMITH that that was the idea, that "We are going to justify ourselves in a complete break from the GOP." Informant was not present at the time HARRY A. ROMER was nominated as the Vice Presidential candidate for the Party.

[redacted] supplied information in connection with the National Convention of the America First Party at the Detroit Leland Hotel in Detroit, Michigan, July 29-30, 1944, as follows: b7D

At the first session of the convention 175 seats were all filled and that evening there were about five hundred present. At the evening meeting on July 30 there were about eight hundred persons present. Women were predominant at all sessions on a ratio of about sixty to forty. One member of the Seabees was present at the first session with his father, who was a delegate from Ohio, the name of the father not being ascertained. No other servicemen were present during any of the sessions of the convention. Reprints of "Dewey: The Man in the Blue Serge Suit" by RICHARD H. ROVERE, as published in Harper's Magazine, were distributed to those in attendance.

Mrs. DAVID (FRIEDA) STANLEY of the Cleveland Mothers' Club was the first speaker. She said that she had been persecuted by the Cleveland, Ohio, press and, citing this, said that they were fortunate to have such a good friend as GERALD L. K. SMITH. Just before Mrs. STANLEY's speech [redacted] The main issue in the campaign, according to ROMER, is to wrest any control from the Jews; "legal currency" was the manner in which he put it. b7c b7D

SMITH talked briefly following Mrs. STANLEY's speech, narrating how he had gone to Washington to uphold the principles of nationalism at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference, where the entrance was guarded by soldiers. He told how HULL had granted an interview to JOHN FOSTER DULLES, Governor DEWEY's internationalist advisor, but that HULL did not have time to see SMITH. SMITH then enumerated the forty planks of the America First platform, which included the Jew, the Negro, legal money, labor unions and other issues of the hour.

CARL MOTE of Indianapolis, Indiana, was appointed chairman and keynote speaker by SMITH. MOTE stated that he had met SMITH several times prior to Pearl Harbor, had visited SMITH's offices and inspected the archives. He expressed gratification over the number of SMITH's following and the work of the committee of one million. The Dumbarton Oaks Conference formed the basis of MOTE's address. He said that "we" did not know what was going on behind the scenes, that everything was being done and American

interests were being sold out in secret conferences, beginning with the "conference in a fog" off the Newfoundland Coast. MOTE spoke of MORGENTHAU's monetary stabilization fund of two billion dollars and said that there was not a cent left. He said that the gold at Fort Knox, which we had bought from the British and Russians at the outrageous price of thirty-five dollars an ounce, was not ours and that we would have to buy it back from the "people who owned it."

MOTE's text was taken from BURKE's "Thoughts on the French Revolution." He paraphrased the lead to the text saying that BURKE was speaking of "those who would ride any horse for a prize." The true text was "In my opinion their arrogance exceeds even their crimes." MOTE said he had studied "Thoughts on the French Revolution" in college. MOTE spoke until 5:30 p.m. Because he had not yet finished, his address was postponed in order to permit Mr. GEORGE T. FOSTER, Director of Constitutional Americans of Chicago, to read a letter from a southern delegate to the Republican convention. FOSTER explained that he had written to all the delegates of the Chicago Convention of the Republican Party asking what they thought of the Chicago "betrayal."

FOSTER explained that the old line republicans who put party ahead of principle wanted him to support DEWEY regardless, but this one southern delegate agreed with FOSTER in his position against DEWEY.

After the first session of the convention a GRACE WICK of 2391 N. W. Irving, Portland, Oregon, made a request to read a letter addressed to DEWEY before the convention. This request was denied and the Sunday, September 3, 1944, Detroit News carried an article to the effect that Mrs. WICK was through with GERALD L. K. SMITH, although she was still for America First, that her supporters had taken up a collection of three hundred dollars to send her to the convention and she might just as well not have come.

During the introductory remarks at the opening of the convention, SMITH announced the presence of a Mr. MARIO ROSSI and asked him to leave the session "either vertically or horizontally," which request ROSSI voluntarily complied with, his badge being removed on the way out. [redacted] b7C b7D

[redacted] b7D

At the beginning of the evening session, MOTE finished his address which he had started that afternoon. He was followed by GEORGE T. FOSTER as a speaker, who was supposed to discuss constitutional government. In introducing him, SMITH told of FOSTER's having been the keynote speaker at the recent Mothers' Conference in Chicago, Illinois. FOSTER talked about DEWEY, saying that DEWEY had begun his career as a canter in a Jewish synagogue and had never thrown off the influence.

During the evening session of August 30, 1944, the principal speakers were CHARLES G. ANDERSON, HARRY ROMER, GEORGE VOSE and SMITH. SMITH, Mrs. SMITH, MOTE, VOSE, ROMER, Reverend MARION and Reverend WILLIAM HUGG, Pastor of the Garfield Avenue Christian Church of Indianapolis, Indiana, were on or near the speakers platform. ANDERSON spoke in favor of a negotiated peace to "end this slaughter." He told of his difficulties with the Republican machine and Governor GREEN. He said that they hated him because he preached the Americanism of Father COUGHLIN and GERALD L. K. SMITH.

HARRY ROMER limited his speech to fifteen minutes, in which he denounced the leadership of the American Legion, saying that while 85% of the rank and file were all right, the 15% comprising the leadership were "the most un-American people you can find anywhere" and he challenged the press to put that down. In connection with ROMER, SMITH announced that ROMER would make his acceptance speech in St. Henry, Ohio, on some future Sunday afternoon.

GEORGE VOSE in his speech related how he had run for Congress spending only fifty dollars and receiving more votes than any other loser in the primary. The machine, he said, hates him. VOSE displayed at the convention an honorable discharge recently received by him from the army. VOSE told the convention that while he was in the Fort Custer Hospital, he used to preach nationalism to the other patients after the lights were out. VOSE claimed that he still has three draining wounds in his left leg.

VOSE claimed that the new crop of Veterans are going to form their own Legion. VOSE's address was followed by a standing ovation. Following the same SMITH commented, "Think of it, the British spend twenty-two thousand dollars in one Washington saloon alone and charge it to lend lease, while this young man gets only $37.50 a month. This boy is worth twenty million Chinese."

According to the informant, SMITH's speech was along the same line as that he has been using since the Republican Convention, as previously reported.

Although he was not in attendance as a delegate at the convention, WILLIAM ROBERT LYMAN, presently on trial for sedition in Washington, D. C., was continuously present in the hotel while the convention was going on. From him, some of those in attendance received a yellow leaflet depicting a cartoon in reference to the Jews and containing statements on the outside in reference to the Jews, as follows: "Whose war is it? Use your common sense, let them fight it. Will they rule the world? Why spill your people's blood?"

This has been referred separately to and page of Rept of

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De 62-1126

[redacted] supplied the writer with a copy of an article appearing in the New York Post under date of August 15, 1944, under the column heading of "Labor News and Comment by VICTOR RIESEL". This is the article above referred to in information supplied by [redacted] The article is quoted as follows: b70

"Those strutting, self-styled leaders of the American Nationalist network have discovered a propagandist whom they describe to their fanatical followers as 'the most intelligent anti-Semite in America.'

"He is the Mystery Man behind a new country-wide anti-Jewish, anti-refugee, anti-CIO political machine which the Nationalists, led by GERALD L. K. SMITH, plan to launch within the next weeks.

"When the American Nationalist strategists and their America First Party partners needed money to finance their new Jew-baiting campaign, it was the Mystery Man who approached the Ford Motor Co. for the slush fund.

"Recently in the neat Ford Administration Bldg. at Dearborn, in the heart of the far-flung automobile and aircraft empire, the new and still unpublicized nationalist braintruster laid out his blueprint of nationalist revolution.

"TALKS TO FORD'S NEW FRONT MAN

"The Mystery Man talked for hours to JOHN BUGAS, new front man for the aged FORD. But BUGAS, former chief of the FBI in Michigan, threw him out without a cent.

"Mr. FORD is not the only mid-west industrialist. The SMITH crowd has been making the rounds trying to frighten big business into setting the Nationalists up as a counter force to the CIO Political Action Committee and the new bogey-man, SIDNEY HILLMAN.

"The Nationalists must have met with some success for they are now ready to announce a new political coalition which will be on the ballot in 16 states and which has set up clubs from Newark to Los Angeles.

"Midwest headquarters are in SMITH'S private Detroit office, where you can find ALLAN ZOLL operating under an assumed name. (It was the handsome, 240-pound ZOLL who organized the Christian Front picket line around WMCA when that station cut Father COUGHLIN off the air.)

"HAS NO APPARENT SOURCE OF INCOME

"The Washington end of the Nationalist Party is run by the Mystery Man, an anti-Semitic writer with no apparent source of income. He is SMITH'S liaison with those Congressmen who work under cover with the America First Party.

"It was the Mystery Man who urged Sen. REYNOLDS to run for President on the Nationalist-America First Party ticket--but REYNOLDS balked and at a secret conference told the Nationalists that his 'many divorces' would not be an asset to SMITH among his 'Bible belt followers.'

"However, REYNOLDS is anxious to work closely with the Nationalist machine because SMITH has promised to help the Senator fight the 'free port' plan of saving European refugees. The network's new propaganda, which is about to be unleashed everywhere, will scream about '20,000,000 refugees and immigrants knocking on America's door.'

"Under the Mystery Man's guidance the SMITH-REYNOLDS crowd is prepared to outpromise any demagogue.

"MYSTERY MAN WRITES BOOKS

"Returning veterans will find their demand for unemployment and other forms of insurance fully championed by SMITH. Jobless workers will find no more passionate supporter. Special plans are being made to lure the dispossessed farmer.

"Included in the nationalist propaganda will be two anti-Jewish books which the Mystery Man is now writing. One of them will contain some 65 anti-Semitic exhibits. Two of these are intended to prove that BENJAMIN FRANKLIN and Gen. GRANT were anti-Jewish.

"The strategy is to launch the still unnamed party during the Presidential campaign in an effort to build up election machinery for 1946. SMITH and REYNOLDS know that they can only stir up noise this year.

"But during this campaign 'little leaders' will be appointed for district work, old America First mailing lists will be combed for 'reliable' people and cells set up. So, by 1946 the Nationalists hope, under the Mystery Man's direction, to be strong enough to send an influential Nationalist bloc into Congress where it will work with a soon-to-be established Washington lobby."

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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FBI/DOJ

De 62-1126

[redacted] b7D

On August 12, 1944, two articles appeared in the Detroit Tribune, and the Michigan Chronicle, negro newspapers, respectively as follows:

"GERALD L. K. SMITH'S NEGRO
PLANK PROPOSES BACK TO AFRICA

"GERALD L. K. SMITH of the America First party, said Monday that when his party meets in convention in Detroit, Aug. 29-30, he would propose that the French and British governments release 1,000,000 square miles in Africa to apply on their war indebtedness to the United States, and that this land be made available to American Negroes free.

"The America First's presidential candidate stated that in such a situation Negroes could be completely supreme and free from white man rule and domination."

"MARTINEZ REFUSES AID OF G. SMITH

"Atty. RAMON MARTINEZ, founder of the Negro Nationalist Society of America, refused the support this week of GERALD L. K. SMITH and his American First Party for the African Colonization Project for American Negroes.

"MARTINEZ said Negro leaders have been working on the plan for 14 years, and aid from SMITH would give the program the 'kiss of death.'"

[redacted] b7D

4-750 (2-7-79)

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[redacted]

ENCLOSURES TO THE BUREAU:

One envelope containing obscene literature.

Pamphlet entitled "Forty Years of ROOSEVELT", copyright 1944 - T. W. HUGHES.

Pamphlet entitled "With Lotions of Love" by JOSEPH P. KAMF, published and distributed by Constitutional Educational League, Inc., New Haven, Connecticut.

ALL 320

De 62-1126

Four miscellaneous memoranda circulated by the AMERICA FIRST PARTY.

One flier announcing Subject SMITH'S speaking schedule in Minneapolis, Minnesota, September 17, 18 and 19, 1944.

Pamphlet entitled "Editorial Comment" by GERALD L. K. SMITH.

Pamphlet entitled "Pattern for Revolution", a report by The Friends of Democracy, Inc., Fidelity Building, Kansas City, Missouri.

Pamphlet entitled "The Cross and the Flag", August, Volume 3, Number 4, 1944, founded by GERALD L. K. SMITH.

- PENDING -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

IN ACCORDANCE WITH BUREAU INSTRUCTIONS, INVESTIGATIVE REPORTS SUBMITTED IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES.

ST. PAUL FIELD OFFICE

At MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, will submit investigative report on the meetings addressed by Subject on September 17, 18 and 19, 1944.

MILWAUKEE FIELD OFFICE

At MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN, will submit investigative report on the meeting addressed by Subject on September 20, 1944.

CHICAGO FIELD OFFICE

At CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, will submit investigative report on the meeting addressed by Subject on September 21, 1944.

ST. LOUIS FIELD OFFICE

At ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, will submit investigative report on the meeting addressed by Subject on September 22, 1944.

CLEVELAND FIELD OFFICE

At ST. MARYS, OHIO, will submit investigative report on the meeting addressed by Subject on September 24, 1944.

At CLEVELAND, OHIO, will submit investigative report on the meeting addressed by Subject on September 27, 1944.

BUFFALO FIELD OFFICE

At BUFFALO, NEW YORK, will submit investigative report on the meeting addressed by Subject on September 28, 1944.

PHILADELPHIA FIELD OFFICE

At PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, will conduct appropriate investigation at the time of the meeting to be addressed by Subject on October 1, 1944, and submit appropriate investigative report.

BALTIMORE FIELD OFFICE

At BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, will conduct appropriate investigation at the time of the meeting to be addressed by Subject on October 3, 1944, and submit appropriate investigative report.

PITTSBURGH FIELD OFFICE

At PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA, will conduct appropriate investigation at the time of the meeting to be addressed by Subject on October 6, 1944, and submit appropriate investigative report. (Note that this meeting is on October 6 rather than October 5.)

DETROIT FIELD OFFICE

At DETROIT, MICHIGAN, will maintain contact with confidential informants mentioned in the body of the instant report with reference to further activities of Subject.

LETTERS HAVE BEEN FORWARDED TO THE RESPECTIVE FIELD OFFICES RELATIVE TO MEETINGS TO BE HELD BY THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY IN THEIR PARTICULAR CITIES.

- PENDING -

De 62-1126

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

b2D

INDEX GUIDE

TITLE: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY

CASE: INTERNAL SECURITY - G: SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

SA, [redacted] b7c

63991

DATE: 9/27/44

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JPH:EMJ
10-13-44
62-43818

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information in your consideration of this case there are attached copies of additional reports submitted by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] at Cleveland, Ohio, and Chicago, Illinois, on October 6, 1944, and October 4, 1944, respectively. b7c

You will note that both of these reports contain information to the effect that George Vose, described as an associate of Smith and the America First Party's candidate for Lieutenant Governor of Michigan, has appeared recently on a number of occasions in the capacity of a public speaker attired in the uniform of a United States Army Private. It appears that Vose was a member of the Armed Forces and has since been discharged, exact date not known. Although this information might be suggestive of a possible violation of Section 1393, Title 10, United States Code, no action with reference to the matter is contemplated in the absence of your request.

Enclosure

63986

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DATE 10/8/82 BY SP6B7/mlm

RE-INDEXED
DATE 10/25/57

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
OCT 14 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
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62-49818-572
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OCT 17 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Serial 571 SNJF
10-13-44

OCT 19 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 16 OF 18

FILE NUMBER : 62-43818

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 34

PAGES REVIEWED: 83

PAGES RELEASED: 42

NOTES: _____

10/10/44 62-43818-573

MEMORANDUM Mr. Tom C. Clark, Assistant Attorney General

EX-6 John Edgar Hoover - Director, FBI

GERALD L. K. SMITH,
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY- SEDITION

For your information, there is attached a photostatic copy of a pamphlet entitled "The Platform of the America First Party." As you will observe, thispamphlet purportedly sets forth in considerable detail the program adopted by subject Smith's America First Party on the occasion of its National Convention held during the latter part of August, 1944, at Detroit, Michigan.

Attachment
Communications Section
Mailed Oct. 10, 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-1 Bathe

62 10/10/44

58 NOV 11 1944

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-43818-573

4-750 (2-7-79)

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

JPHa:WMJ
10-16-44

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your information there is attached a photostatic copy of an article headed, "Gerald Smith Admits Election Law Violation," which appeared in the October 4, 1944, issue of the New York Herald Tribune.

As you will observe, this article relates to Smith's appearance before a House Investigating Committee and states that Smith admitted "he is in violation of the Federal corrupt practices act by virtue of his failure to file with the clerk of the House a statement of receipts and expenditures in his campaign for the Presidency as a candidate of the America First party.

No action is being taken by the Bureau with reference to this report unless you so request.

Enclosure

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TRUE DESK

62-43818-576

RECORDED
EX-40

16 OCT 19 1944

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 10
OCT 17 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Rumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

57 OCT 25 1944

Gerald Smith Admits Election Law Violation

Failed to List His Expenses; Republicans Said to Use 18 Tons of Free Paper

From the Herald Tribune Bureau

WASHINGTON, Oct. 3.—Gerald L. K. Smith admitted today to the House campaign investigating committee that he is in violation of the Federal corrupt practices act by virtue of his failure to file with the clerk of the House a statement of receipts and expenditures in his campaign for the Presidency as a candidate of the America First party.

Prior to Mr. Smith's testimony, Chairman Anderson read a statement to the Committee on Purchases by Republican members of Congress at the Government Printing Office of a postcard entitled "Wake Up America," the material for which originally appeared in the Congressional Record. It consistss of an attack on the Congress of Industrial Organizations Political Action Committee.

So far, Mr. Anderson said, the Public Printer has printed 3,116,000 cards, on stock similar to that used for ordinary postcards, totaling "eighteen or nineteen tons of a scarce type of Bristol board" which were distributed under the franks of eleven Republican Congressmen and one Senator.

The Dies committee investigating unAmerican activities, meanwhile, took testimony today on the background of members of the P. A. C., and heard J. B. Matthews, of its investigating staff, charge that the P. A. C. is "the major Communist front organization in this country and constitutes the Communist party's supreme bid for power."

The Anderson committee, with only Democratic members present, devoted four hours at morning and afternoon sessions attempting mainly to tie Mr. Smith up in direct support of Governor Thomas E. Dewey, Republican Presidential candidate, and getting a variety of replies in which Mr. Smith referred to Mr. Dewey as everything from "the lesser of two evils" to "worse than Roosevelt" and "the difference between a thug and a bank robber."

"If our people bother to vote in states where I am not on the ballot or where my name cannot be written in," he summarized, "they may vote for Dewey, but we are not supporting him. We attempted to save the Republican party, but it died on June 28 (date of Mr. Dewey's nomination). If Mr. Dewey is defeated, it will be because of the things he has been saying about me."

Mr. Smith was pinned down on few facts as to his campaign or convention costs and how the bills were paid. His one admission, that he has spent "between $2,500 and $3,500 since Aug. 29, "when he became an official candidate, was questioned later by Representative Clinton P. Anderson, Democrat.

Asked for the American First party views on Governor John W. Bricker, of Ohio, Republican vice-presidential nominee, Mr. Smith said the party considered him "less of a nationalist than Senator Burton K. Wheeler," Democrat, of Montana, and volunteered that the American Firsters felt Senator Harry S. Truman, Democrat, of Missouri, running mate of President Roosevelt, to be a "nationalist" of about the same degree as Governor Bricker.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Bendon
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/8/82 BY Strickland

Memo to clerk 10/16/44 JPM

File Mr. Gerald L K Smith JPM

CLIPPING FROM THE N. Y. HERALD TRIBUNE

DATED OCT 4 1944

FORWARDED BY N. Y. DIVISION

(5) - MK

ENCLOSURE 62-43818-576

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
September 30 - 1944

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY -- SEDITION

Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of Bureau letter dated September 21, 1944 indicating that "Doctor HOMER MAERZ" of Chicago, Illinois is well known to the Bureau and to the Chicago Field Division in connection with past activities involving anti-Semitic and subversive tendencies.

In accordance with the Bureau letter, an effort will be made to learn through informants of the Detroit Field Division the reason why SMITH considered MAERZ to be hostile to him.

An informant of this office states that MAERZ registered at a meeting of a certain "mothers' group" held in Detroit at the same time as SMITH's America First Party Convention. At the time of this registration he gave his home address as 613 Belden Avenue, Chicago, and indicated that he represented the Pioneer News Service, Box 435, Chicago. The Bureau and the Chicago Field Division are requested to check their indices and files for any information they may have concerning the Pioneer News Service and to advise the Detroit Field Office what such information may be.

The indices of the Detroit Field Division are negative on the Pioneer News Service.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8B75/mlc

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]
62-1126
cc-Chicago

b7c

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

162-43818-577
F B I
35 OCT 20 1944

HANDLED AT HOOVER

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

let to Detroit & Chicago 10/17/44

EX-40

(5)

JPHa:WMJ

SAC, Detroit 62-43818-577 October 17, 1944

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

RECORDED & INDEXED

GERALD L. K. SMITH, was; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY; INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

EX - 49

Reference is made to your letter dated September 30, 1944, asking that you be furnished with information concerning Homer Kaerts and the Pioneer News Service.

For your information in this regard there is attached a copy of the report submitted concerning Kaerts by Special Agent [redacted] at Chicago, Illinois, on May 8, 1943. The Bureau's files show that the Pioneer News Service was merely a name used by Kaerts during 1940 and several years previously in the printing and dissemination of his publication, "The Dispatch." No prosecutive action has been authorized against Kaerts and as you will note from the attached report, he has apparently been relatively inactive during recent months.

b7c

The Bureau is not requesting any active investigation of Kaerts at this time and its inquiry of September 21, 1944, was merely with reference to Kaerts' reported association with Smith and the latter's alleged distrust of Kaerts. Through your informants and other sources of information in the Smith case, you should, of course, be on the alert for any additional data concerning Kaerts and his association with Smith. The Bureau would be particularly interested in any indication that Kaerts is again becoming active either in his individual capacity or with Smith.

Enclosure

cc - Chicago

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BI
RECEIVED-MAIL ROOM

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Hanford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
OCT 18 1944 P.M.
434
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

57 OCT 25 1944

JPHa:WMJ
10-14-44
62-43818-578

RECORDED

EX-6

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information in your consideration of this case, there are attached copies of additional reports submitted at St. Paul, Minnesota, and St. Louis, Missouri, by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted], on October 7, 1944, and October 11, 1944, respectively.

b7c

These reports, you will observe, have reference primarily to Smith's recent appearances as a public speaker at St. Louis, Missouri, and at Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Enclosure

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DEP. OF JUSTICE
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Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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Mr. Glavin
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Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
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Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Humford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Neas
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
OCT 16 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

OCT 26

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN SL..... FILE NO. 100-6013

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI	10-11-44	9-25,26-44	[redacted] mpa

b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject SMITH held America First Party meeting September 22, 1944; attendance 500 - 600. Subject said TYLER KENT, former American Embassy Clerk in London, was imprisoned because he obtained confidential information showing that CHURCHILL and ROOSEVELT were plotting war and that this information was later obtained by Russian OGPU. SMITH also related his difficulties in attempting to obtain entrance to Dumbarton Oaks Conference; discussed platform of America First Party.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 12/4/82 BY

REFERENCE: Bureau File No. 62-43818.
Teletype from Detroit to Saint Louis dated September 19, 1944.

DETAILS: AT SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI

~~FILED RECORDING~~

Subject GERALD L. K. SMITH held an America First Party meeting September 22, 1944, at Kiel Auditorium, Saint Louis, Missouri. Admission was by card only. Newspaper accounts indicated the attendance was between 500 and 600 and this figure coincided with the estimates given by [redacted]

[redacted]

b7c

The following synopsis of subject's talk and the events at the meeting were related by [redacted]

[redacted]

HANDLED BY

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: E. B. Morris SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

62-43818-578

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cc clerk 10/4/44

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41 OCT 20

EX-6

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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62-43818-578 Pgs 2-4

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FBI/DOJ

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/5/92 BY SP-8075/mlc

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: September 15, 1944

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

[redacted]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bendum
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Sharke
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mrs. Candy

There is being set out below the pertinent information obtained from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, for the period August 28 through September 11, 1944.

Informant advised that the first national convention of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY was held at the Detroit Leland Hotel in Detroit, Michigan, August 29 and 30, 1944, that there were five sessions in all, the first starting at 3:00 p.m. August 29, the second at 8:00 p.m. August 29, and the third, fourth and fifth starting at 10:00 a.m., 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. respectively on August 30, 1944. Informant advised in connection with the convention that of those in attendance Subject SMITH was suspicious of a [redacted]. Informant also advised that the convention nominated Subject SMITH as its candidate for President of the United States.

In further reference to the convention, informant said that Captain EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago had advised SMITH that a [redacted] was known by him as an operator. SMITH said that [redacted] was a jewess and tried to get on the convention program unsuccessfully. ~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

According to informant, during the above period of time there has been considerable agitation in connection with a Senatorial investigation of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY national convention, and that on August 31, 1944, the following release came over the wire of the Associated Press from Washington:

> "The Senate Elections Committee agreed today to consider the request that it investigate the introduction at the AMERICA FIRST PARTY convention at Detroit this week of a resolution calling for either the deportation or sterilization of Jews. Chairman GREEN, a Democrat from Rhode Island, announced that the Committee would meet tomorrow to consider a protest of the non-sectarian Anti-Nazi League, whose headquarters are in New York City, that the resolution was designed to incite racial strife.

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-83848-579

HANDLED BY SCORES

OCT 18 1944

> "JAMES A. SHELDON of Boston, as chairman of the Anti-Nazi League, said in a telegram to GREEN that 'there is here a plain conspiracy to incite and encourage racial strife in America in time of war and to deprive American citizens of their civil rights under the guise of carrying on activities as a political party.' SHELDON also protested to the Senate Committee against the AMERICA FIRST adoption of a resolution calling for a vast public investigation of the Jewish in-

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OCT 25 1944

fluence in the Government and the war.

"'We respectfully suggest and urge your Committee to immediately undertake investigation of the possible misuse of the political party machinery and other electoral practices by a group which poses as a political party but in fact is a subversive propaganda agency', SHELDON said.

"The deportation resolution proposed that 'all Jews should be deported to a later designated area if they do not leave America voluntarily within five years and that those remaining be sterilized.'"

Informant stated that when inquiry was made by a representative of the Associated Press as to SMITH'S answer to a request for Senatorial investigation, SMITH said off the record that somebody at the convention had made the statement allegedly but that it was not adopted and not even voted on. Later on the same day SMITH made the following release to the Associated Press, which he claimed to be in answer to Mr. SHELDON of the "so-called Anti-Nazi League".

"JAMES A. SHELDON, who wants me investigated, is the head of a Gestapo-like organization which racketeers on Jewish contributors. Our convention was covered by the press. Any newspaper man who covered our convention knows that the MAERZ resolution was not even considered. A careful investigation of SHELDON'S outfit will reveal that they have spent hundreds and thousands of dollars to smear such good Americans as HENRY FORD, Colonel ROBERT McCORMICK, CHARLES A. LINDBERGH and numerous members of Congress. SHELDON is mad because we kicked one of his higher stooges out of the convention on his ear. Let's investigate everybody and alternate the questions between SHELDON and myself and let the American people decide who is right."

Informant advised that on September 1, 1944, a story had come into the Associated Press to the effect that no action was being taken by the Senate Committee in connection with the investigation above referred to. The story was not clear on the point as to whether or not it was final that no action would be taken.

Letter to the Director
September 16, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

According to informant, SMITH on September 1, 1944, gave the following release to the United Press and the Associated Press:

> "I welcome an investigation by the American Legion. I would suggest, however, that the National Committee on Americanization or the Michigan Committee on Americanization would be more competent to judge than any local Legion leader who might hold a partial political viewpoint. In this connection, I received notification only this morning that my son, GERALD SMITH, JR., had been cited for the Purple Heart for wounds received in Burma where he volunteered to do dangerous duty. He has also received a Presidential citation."

The above was in response to a threatened American Legion investigation based on statements made during the national convention of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY by HARRY ROMER, its vice presidential nominee.

Informant said that following the AMERICA FIRST national convention, SMITH had been somewhat concerned over the position which Mrs. MURRAY KNOWLES of the American Mothers Association in Detroit, might take in the coming election, SMITH fearing that Mrs. KNOWLES would support Governor DEWEY for the presidency. Informant said that Mrs. KNOWLES had indicated that the mothers which she represented want to hear what both DEWEY and ROOSEVELT have to say before committing themselves as to their support, but that she was hoping that DEWEY would have a program that would meet with their approval inasmuch as she is opposed to a fourth term on the basis that it would perpetuate ROOSEVELT and make him too powerful. Informant was unable to supply information as to the position which Mrs. KNOWLES might take should she determine both DEWEY and ROOSEVELT unsatisfactory to herself and her group.

Informant said that on September 2, 1944, a press release was made to the United Press to the effect that CHARLES A. LINDBERGH is the idol of many AMERICA FIRST people; he has been their favorite son for years and that SMITH is sorry that he refused to assume leadership in the AMERICA FIRST movement but that since HARRY BENNETT of the Ford Motor Company is supporting DEWEY, it is reasonable to believe that LINDBERGH will go along with the company. The press release continued as follows:

> "It will interest our people to hear a statement from Mr. DEWEY concerning Mr. LINDBERGH. Presumably I would like to know whether or not Mr. DEWEY would accept Mr. LINDBERGH'S support, that is all."

In conclusion, SMITH advised the United Press concerning the wound received

by his son in Burma and the fact that his son had received the Order of the Purple Heart and that his son's outfit had received a Presidential citation.

Informant advised that during the above period of time, SMITH had been in contact with Reverend LELAND MARION of Pontiac, Michigan, who is the AMERICA FIRST candidate for Governor in the State of Michigan, and that Reverend MARION is planning a vigorous campaign in connection with his candidacy, an example of which being that Reverend MARION has himself sent out about 7,000 letters from which he has received very good response. The literature in connection with MARION'S campaign is going to be mailed out from Pontiac according to information supplied by informant.

Informant said that SMITH is apparently still making an effort to secure radio time on the same basis as other political parties but that he has not yet met with success.

Informant said that SMITH had indicated to [redacted] that he had adopted a rigid policy of not taking anybody into his confidence or into the Party unless they had been with the group or the group of Father COUGHLIN or some similar group during the "hard years", and that SMITH had indicated that evidence more than conversation was needed, that the Jews have organizations now where they hire "guys" to trick you. Informant said that he had information to the effect that SMITH had contacted DREW PEARSON advising him that [redacted] is organizing DEWEY--BRICKER Clubs in Ohio and that SMITH had commented to PEARSON in effect that DEWEY is out trying to buy up the isolationists and steal his following, and further that [redacted] had been down to see Governor BRICKER in reference to the organization of DEWEY Clubs. According to informant, SMITH also has indicated to PEARSON that Governor DEWEY had sent a spokesman to try to line up the "We, the Mothers, Mobilize" in Chicago and that DEWEY is trying to line up all the obscure and unknown nationalists who are headed by O'CONNOR and O'DANIELS, and that they are organizing clubs for DEWEY.

Informant stated that SMITH had been sending out Captain EARL SOUTHARD'S book "Forty Years of ROOSEVELT" as a premium to his followers and that he had just received a letter from one of them to the effect that on page forty-two of his copy of the book there was a block which asked him to vote for DEWEY. Informant said that SMITH contacted SOUTHARD requesting an explanation and SOUTHARD claimed that the book does have a "box appeal" which states that people should go out and vote for nationalist congressmen and Senators but that the box does not contain any indication that people

should vote for DEWEY. Later, informant said that SMITH expressed himself to RALPH BAERMAN to the effect that he had run into sabotage on "Forty Years of ROOSEVELT".

According to informant, SMITH is sending copies of the AMERICA FIRST platform to Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS who is going to attempt to get it into the Congressional Record.

Informant stated that BERNARD DOMAN, SMITH'S secretary in charge of his office in Detroit, is terminating his employment and claiming to SMITH that he is going "down South" on his mother's farm, that his reason for doing so is that he had just had a tubercular test which was positive and that he wanted to go for a rest and try to re-build his lungs. Informant said that it was uncertain whether this is the correct explanation of DOMAN'S reason for quitting his job inasmuch as there is some indication of his making an effort to secure employment elsewhere in Detroit. Informant was unable to advise as to just when DOMAN'S employment was being terminated or as to who would take his place of employment with SMITH.

In connection with his campaign, informant was able to supply some information relative to future speeches which SMITH contemplated making, as follows: At the Truth and Liberty Temple in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on September 17, 18 and 19, 1944; at Chicago, Illinois, on September 21, 1944, at the 32 West Randolph Building, 12th Floor, under the auspices of the Constitutional American; possibly at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on September 20, 1944; at St. Louis, Missouri, on September 22, 1944; possibly a meeting at St. Henry, Ohio, on September 24, 1944; at Cleveland, Ohio, on September 27, 1944; at Buffalo, New York, on September 28, 1944. According to informant, complete plans for SMITH'S campaign tour had not yet been made.

[redacted] b7c

62-1126

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Detroit, Michigan

FILE NO. 100-7744

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Chicago, Illinois	10/4/44	9/20,22;10/3/44	[redacted] eak

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, was. AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - C SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

SMITH held America First Rally on 9/21/44 at 32 W. Randolph, Chicago, Illinois, under the auspices of the Constitutional Americans. About 500 persons attended. SMITH criticized ROOSEVELT and the present administration, DEWEY, the conduct of the sedition trial in Washington, D. C., the alleged political power of the Jews, and the conduct of the Dumbarton Oaks Conference. He expressed a preference for DEWEY over ROOSEVELT and predicted a greater advancement for the America First Party and Nationalism. GEORGE VOSE, candidate for Lieutenant Governor of Michigan on the America First Party ticket, and recently discharged from the U.S. Army, appeared in army uniform and expresses similar ideas. Mrs. ELIZABETH DILLING, defendant in Washington, D. C. sedition trial, CHARLES ANDERSON, a Republican nominee for Congress from Illinois 6th Congressional District, and GEORGE POSTER, Director of the Constitutional Americans, also spoke.

2nd Ex - last P came Chief Neil Orig & 1 to Churchill 10/13/44 JPH

Sent to Chicago O C Det. 10/14/44 JPH

- EUC -

HANDLED BY STOP DESK

REFERENCE: Bureau file 62-43818.

Letter from the Detroit Field Division to the St. Paul Field Division, dated September 14, 1944.

DETAILS: At Chicago, Illinois

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 12/1/82 BY SP2 SCTM

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: S. J. Dreyer SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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CC clerk 10/13/44 JPH

FBI 30 OCT 18 1944

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FBI/DOJ

JPHa:WMJ

62-43818 - 580
SAC, Chicago

October 14, 1944

RECORDED

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, was; AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - R; SEDITION.

With reference to the report prepared in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Chicago, Illinois, on October 4, 1944, it is noted that the last paragraph of page three carries certain references to an individual rather doubtfully identified as "Chief Hill."

The Bureau has heretofore received other data concerning the matter discussed in this particular paragraph and it would appear that undoubtedly these references are to Mr. Churchill, the British Prime Minister. You should, accordingly, amend the report so as to substitute the word "Churchill" for the words "Chief Hill."

cc - Detroit

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DATE 10/8/82 BY SP8BTJ/MC

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
★ OCT 14 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Coleman
A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Gurnea
Carson
Mendenhall
Crumpton
Jones
Quinn Tamm
Tease
Candy

53 OCT 25 1944

JPHa:WMJ
62-43818

October 17, 1944

Mr. Chester Bowles
Administrator
Office of Price Administration

62-43818-569

As a matter of information there are attached copies of a letter received by this Bureau from [redacted] under date of October 11, 1944.

Your attention is particularly invited to the references set forth in the third paragraph of the letter concerning gasoline rations, "hot rubber tires," and "other things." [redacted] letter has been acknowledged by this Bureau.

Enclosure

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DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/MA

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TOP DEPT

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&
INDEXED
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8 - XT

62-43818-581
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 20 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Oct 17 6 47 PM '44
RECEIVED READING ROOM
U S DEPT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Leadi
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Lamford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
OCT 18 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

58 OCT 26 1944
172

COM-4

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF
DATE

F.B.I. TELETYPE

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DATE OF REVIEW

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

[redacted] b1

FBI, DETROIT [redacted] 6-19 PM EWT MCM

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DIRECTOR URGENT

JURY. GERALD L. K. SMITH AMERICAN FIRST PARTY INTERNAL SECURITY - G. SEDITION [redacted], WHOSE IDENTITY IS KNOWN TO THE BUREAU, ADVISES SUBJECT IN CONTACT WITH ELIZABETH DILLING AT WASHINGTON YESTERDAY, DISCUSSED AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE POSSIBILITY THAT DIES COMMITTEE MIGHT BE DISOLVED AT ANY TIME IN WHICH EVENT SUBJECT AND DILLING BELIEVED IT ADVISABLE TO ATTEMPT TO SECURE SERVICES OF [redacted] DILLING STATED [redacted] ONE OF FEW PEOPLE IN THE COUNTRY WHO IS FULLY ACQUAINTED WITH ALL INFORMATION IN COMMITTEE FILES AND THIS INFORMATION COULD BE VALUABLE RESEARCH SOURCE FOR REALLY UNBRIDLED ACTIVITY, BY MEN SUCH AS SUBJECT. DILLING STATED SHE HAS SOLD [redacted] ON NATIONALIST MOVEMENT AND HE SHOULD BECOME ONE OF ITS FOUNDATION STONES. SUBJECT ADVISED DILLING TO TELL [redacted] MY ARM IS FRIENDLY AND THAT AFTER ELECTION, SUBJECT WOULD BE READY TO GO TO BAT AND HELP UNDERWRITE SOMETHING LIKE THAT, REFERRING EVIDENTLY TO PUBLICIZING OF CONFIDENTIAL DIES COMMITTEE RECORDS. SUBJECT SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY OF ORGANIZING NATION-WIDE SPEAKING TOUR ON BASIS OF CONNECTION WITH [redacted] DILLING REQUESTED SUBJECT TO KEEP OWN COUNSEL ON THIS MATTER, BUT THAT ACTION WOULD HAVE TO BE TAKEN VERY SOON, POSSIBLY WITHIN A WEEK AND THAT SHE AND SOME OF THE OTHER SEDITION TRIAL DEFENDANTS HAVE ALREADY CONTRIBUTED MONEY TOWARDS SUCH END SINCE IT WAS NOW OR NEVER. SUBJECT TOLD HER COUNT US IN ON THAT AND YOU WILL HEAR FROM US IN A DAY OR TWO. FROM INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY INFORMANT, IT APPEARS LIKELY SUBJECT AND DILLING ARE PLANNING SOME SORT OF PROGRAM TO OBTAIN CONFIDENTIAL DIES COMMITTEE RECORDS THROUGH [redacted] AND TO USE THEM ON BEHALF OF THEMSELVES AND OTHER NATIONALIST. ANY FURTHER INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY INFORMANT ON THIS MATTER WILL BE IMMEDIATELY SUPPLIED TO BUREAU. DEL GUERIN

RECEIVED: [redacted] 7:05 PM EWT

62-43818-582

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58 [redacted]

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- [X] For your information: Per your March 18, 1982 letter this enclosure was not xeroxed for release.
- [X] The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: 62-43818 - 583 Enclosure + SERIAL

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

TO : The Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation DATE: October 30, 1944

FROM : Tom C. Clark, Assistant Attorney General TCC:ESL:alv 146-28-43

SUBJECT: Gerald L. K. Smith; The America First Party; INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

Reference is made to your memorandum in the above entitled matter dated October 12, 1944, and to the enclosures transmitted therewith.

A copy of your memorandum of October 12, 1944, setting forth information concerning a possible violation of the Corrupt Practices Act has been referred to the Civil Rights Section, and the Bureau will be advised in the near future concerning this aspect of the case.

It is the view of the Criminal Division that the Bureau should continue to furnish information received from informants concerning the subject's activities as it has done in the immediate past.

this means the usual investigation

HANDLED BY STOP DESK at

62-4380-584

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EX-14

52 NOV 3 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN — FILE NO. 100-4766

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN	10-14-44	9-20,25; 10-5-44	[redacted]

b7c

TITLE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY

CHARACTER OF CASE
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Approximately 300 persons attended the GERALD L. K. SMITH meeting held at Jefferson Hall, 2617 West Fond du Lac Avenue, Milwaukee, on 9-20-44. Subject spoke under the auspices of the Women's Movement for Constitutional Rights. WILLIAM OCKERT, manager of Jefferson Hall, informed newspaper reporters that he would not have rented the hall, had he known SMITH was to speak. Subject's speech, in effect, covered all of the material contained in Volume 3, No. 5, of the Special 1944 issue of "The Cross and The Flag". The meeting was so well planned that the Communists presumably didn't know anything about it. Subject's speech was enthusiastically received. Newspaper men took several photographs of the speaker's platform and audience. Mrs. ARIMAIA JOHNSON, the president of the Women's Movement for Constitutional Rights, introduced GEORGE T. FOSTER of the National Constitutional League of Chicago who spoke. MILO MILSE PINKERTON author of the "Right to Work Vs. Slavery" sold copies of his book at the meeting. This book outlines all the points in the Nazi program and attributes the war in part to Roosevelt's failure to establish free world markets for all countries. The book sketches the philosophy of ALBERT ROBERTS [illegible] TURGOT

cc Clark - last pg. of rept
rewritten details of meeting
in synopsis beginning
"Approximately 300 persons
at a meeting was held
Hamilton Pg. att to back
of original."
10/28/44
JPK

TOP DESK

Letter to Detroit re Milwaukee
10/30/44
JPK

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: H. M. Johnson, SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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DATE 10/8/82 BY SP8BAJ/MC

79 NOV 9 1944

Milwaukee File
No. 100-4766

whose work is alleged to have been the basis of the Nazi program.

- R U C -

References: Copy of letter from Detroit to the St. Paul Field Division dated September 14, 1944.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 6-9-44 at Detroit, Michigan. b7c

Details:

The GERALD L. K. SMITH meeting in Milwaukee was held at Jefferson Hall located at 2617 West Fond du Lac Avenue, on September 20, 1944, at 8:00 P.M. Admission was by invitation only. The invitation read that the bearer and friends would be admitted to hear an address by the subject, and announcing the fact that the subject is a candidate for president of the United States on the America First Party ticket. The subject of SMITH's speech was scheduled to be "The Real Issues of the Hour" or "Dangerous Truth at its Best". The announcements also advertised that GEORGE T. FOSTER of Chicago would speak and the meeting was to be conducted under the auspices of the Women's Movement for Constitutional Rights of which ANIKALA JOHNSON is president in Milwaukee.

[redacted]

The writer accompanied by [redacted] of the Milwaukee Police Department attended the SMITH meeting on the date indicated. Approximately 300 people were in attendance, all of whom were specifically invited to attend by a form letter announcing the meeting and some of whom were guests of SMITH followers. The invitational letters to attend the meeting were sent out by BOB LOHBECK, Chairman of the Committee on Special Meetings. b7c

[redacted] and MILO MILES PINKERTON were in attendance at the meeting and were selling PINKERTON's book entitled "The Right To Work Versus Slavery". This book, in effect, states that the philosophy of one ANNE ROBERT JACQUES TURGOT was the basis for the formation of the Nazi program in Germany. This book states that a free world market would have prevented the present

world conflict and scores President Roosevelt for his failure to establish a free world market.

In this connection it is pointed out that [redacted] appeared at the Milwaukee office and furnished a copy of PINKERTON's book "The Right to Work Versus Slavery", [redacted] she was interested in ascertaining whether PINKERTON's book violated any existing federal law. She was referred by the writer to the United States Attorney for any opinion concerning the interpretation of existing federal statutes.

[redacted]

Reference is also made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 11-[illegible]-43 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in the case entitled [redacted]

This book is being retained in the file of the Milwaukee Field Division for possible future use, it being noted that on 1-6-44 the Bureau advised by letter that the material in the PINKERTON book had been referred to the Criminal Division of the Department for an opinion as to possible prosecutive action for violation of the Sedition laws. In this connection it is noted that Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark advised that further investigation was not deemed necessary in this case at that time.

Under date of 9-25-44 Acting [redacted] of the Milwaukee Police Department submitted his investigative report concerning the SMITH meeting on 9-20-44. The information hereinafter being set out in this report is the result of [redacted] and the writer's joint investigative effort in covering said meeting.

The GERALD L. K. SMITH meeting was held at 8:00 P.M. on September 20, 1944, under the auspices of the "Women's Movement for Constitutional Rights" in Jefferson Hall located at 2617 West Fond du Lac Avenue. GERALD L. K. SMITH, of Detroit, Michigan, the founder of the American First Party, was the principle speaker.

AW b7c

Milwaukee File
No. 100-4766

"Admittance to the meeting was by card only which were distributed through members of favorable organizations to the America First Party. It was understood that each member of the sympathetic organizations received three cards each and they were informed to give them widely and place them into the hands of true Americans. The persons on the mailing list of 'The Women's Movement for Constitutional Rights' received an America First Party letter signed by Don Lohbeck, Chairman of Committee on Special Meetings, with their admittance cards. The post script at the bottom of the face of the letter indicates that the meeting was held in cooperation with the 'Women's Movement for Constitutional Rights of Milwaukee' and anyone desiring extra cards was asked to telephone Mrs. Arleale Johnson at Sheridan 8458. A photostatic copy of the letter which contains the America First Party Platform Highlights is attached.

A table was placed at the entrance door on the inside of the main hall on which donation envelopes and copies of Gerald L. K. Smith's magazine, 'The Cross and The Flag', were placed. As the individual passed the table, an unknown woman gave each person a donation envelope which contained a small pencil. The face of the envelope was printed in the following manner: 'America First Party, National Headquarters, Detroit 31, Michigan. Gerald L. K. Smith, P. O. Box 459, Detroit, Michigan. You can count on me for $____ per month to help you carry on the organization activities necessary to the founding of the America First Party. Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Phone _____ Zone _____.

The stage was arranged with the speaker's rostrum just right of the center of the stage with the United States flag set in a standard to the right of the rostrum. A microphone was placed to the left of the rostrum and six chairs to the rear and left of the rostrum. The hall was arranged for a seating capacity of about five hundred persons. The audience consisted of about three hundred and fifty persons which was fairly well-divided by both sexes. They consisted mostly of middle-aged and elderly persons who were very much in accord with the principles of the speakers of the evening which was bore out by their spontaneous applause whenever an opportunity arose.

It was noted that Mrs. Arleale Johnson, President of the 'Women's Movement for Constitutional Rights' and Don Lohbeck of St. Louis, Missouri, Chairman of Committee on Special Meetings for the America First Party, had a long conference at the front of the hall just before the entry of the speakers.

Milwaukee File
No. 100-4766

"The speakers entered the hall and walked down to the right entrance of the stage. The audience applauded and cheered. The speakers seated themselves in the following order on the chairs on the stage from left to right. George T. Foster, Director of Constitutional America, address, 2607 Lawrence Avenue, Chicago, Illinois; Charles Anderson, 'America First Party' of Chicago, Illinois; Mrs. Arleola Johnson, President of the 'Women's Movement for Constitutional Rights'; Mrs. Gerald L. K. Smith; Gerald L. K. Smith, founder of the 'America First Party' and Mrs. Keaney from the State of Nebraska. A photograph of the group taken by the 'Milwaukee Sentinel' is attached.

Mrs. Arleola Johnson, President of the 'Women's Movement for Constitutional Rights' called the meeting to order at about 8:15 p.m. She extended her greetings to the audience and spoke about the purpose of the meeting and about the outstanding speakers to be presented in George T. Foster and Gerald L. K. Smith . She spoke about the Constitution and the importance of electing candidates who will preserve this document. She then talked on the question of money, stating that the money should only be controlled by the Congress of the United States as the Constitution intended and not in the hands of the Federal Reserve Banks. She made an introductory speech for George Foster of Chicago, Illinois and stated that he would address the audience on the birth of the Constitution and that he was a qualified authority on the subject.

George Foster then gave an address covering the history of the Constitution of the United States and the many set backs our statesmen had. After talking for about three quarters of an hour, he started his introductory address for Gerald L. K. Smith and the America First Party and the importance of having an America First Party in the United States.

Gerald L. K. Smith was the next speaker - his entire speech was made around the same material published in his editorial in the September 1944 issue of his magazine, 'The Cross and The Flag', pages 439 and 447 inclusive. He also covered the Negro question as per the item on page 437 of the same magazine. Gerald L. K. Smith is a forceful speaker, keeping his audience spell bound by his powerful voice. He asked the people in the audience to make their donations for the Party in the envelopes given to them when they entered the hall. He stated that all of the persons who donated more than $2.00 would be placed on the subscription list of his magazine, 'The Cross and The Flag', and those who donated $1.00 would receive a six-month subscription. He asked them to fill out the face of the envelope giving their name, address, phone number, zone number, city and state and all those who wished only to donate money were asked to leave off their names and mark the envelope 'Money.' He then advised the audience that the entire speech that he made could be read in his September issue of 'The Cross and The Flag'

"and that copies would be given to all persons who donated a quarter or more at the table outside of the main hall door. He stated that the revenue from this collection would go to Mrs. Arleale Johnson's organization.

The meeting was closed by saying 'The Lord's Prayer' and the 'Pledge to the Flag'. The meeting ended at 11:30 p.m. Many of the audience congratulated Gerald L. K. Smith personally at the stage.

William F. Ockert, manager of the Jefferson Hall and operator of the tavern in the same building located at 2617 West Fond du Lac Avenue at which address he also resides, was interviewed.

Mr. Ockert stated that Mrs. Arleale Johnson, President of the "Women's Movement for Constitutional Rights," rented the main hall for a political meeting for $25.00 and never mentioned who the speaker at the meeting would be. Mr. Ockert stated that he was shocked to hear that Gerald L. K. Smith was going to speak at the meeting on Wednesday, September 20, 1944. He stated that he would never have rented the hall to Mrs. Johnson if he had been informed that Gerald L. K. Smith was going to be the principle speaker.

A grey-haired couple distributed mimeographed circulars in front of Jefferson Hall for Mile E. Pinkerton, publisher of 1121 East Dayton Street, Madison 3, Wisconsin. One of the men who attended the meeting came out of the hall and said "Hello Mile" to the man distributing circulars. It is believed that the grey-haired couple was Mile Elish Pinkerton and his wife.

The following known persons were seen in the audience at the meeting:

[redacted] - National Constitution Party
[redacted] Nationalist Party
[redacted] Women's Movement for Constitutional Rights
[redacted] - Women's Movement for Constitutional Rights
[redacted] - Federal Bureau of Investigation file
[redacted] - Dan Hoan for Governor Club
Ben Lehbeck - Chairman of Committee on Special Meetings of America First Party
[redacted] - Milwaukee Jewish Council
[redacted] - Milwaukee Community Forum"

b7c

Milwaukee File
No. 100-4766

Several photographers from Milwaukee's leading newspapers were in attendance at this meeting and numerous pictures of the speakers, as well as the audience, were taken. As of possible assistance to the Detroit office a picture of GERALD L. K. SMITH is being sent as an enclosure with this report inasmuch as it is an excellent picture of the subject. There is also being enclosed a picture of the individuals seated on the speaker's platform with their names written on the reverse side of the picture. The individuals appearing on this picture are GEORGE FOSTER, speaking, president of the Constitution League of Chicago, Illinois, reading to the right appear Mrs. KEENEY of Nebraska, GERALD L. K. SMITH, Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH, Mrs. ARLEAIA JOHNSON, president of the Women's Movement for Constitutional Rights, and CHARLES ANDERSON of Chicago, Illinois.

In its issue of 9-21-44 the Milwaukee Sentinel carried a story to the effect that a hand-picked group of some 300 Milwaukeeans last night heard and saw a practical demonstration of rabble rousing by that old master of the art, Gerald L. K. Smith, presidential candidate of the America First party, who claims, among other things, to be the most hated man in America. Smith, who admits he's a great rabble rouser, spoke at Jefferson Hall at a meeting arranged by the Women's Movement for Constitutional Rights. Admission was by card only.

The article continues that Smith complained of a lot of things. He complained that the papers don't quote everything he says; that China isn't getting enough help; that the republican party is "pot-bellied"; that every time the world has a war Uncle Sams pays the bills; that people call him anti-Semitic. He complained of the Jews and of the way Dewey treated Hamilton Fish.

There were a few things he liked including Charles A. Lindbergh, whom he practically nominated for president in 1948 on the America First Nationalist ticket. He said the America First party has 167 local committees working in Wisconsin but he didn't mention any names.

The article continues: "Glaring and pointing at the Sentinel reporter, Smith thundered: 'He won't tell you tomorrow morning that I look and act like a real American.' Right you are, Mr. Smith."

The editor's note reflects that after the meeting WILLIAM OCKERT, manager of Jefferson Hall, asked the Sentinel to announce that he would not have rented the hall to the Women's Movement for Constitutional Rights if he had known Smith was to speak.

Milwaukee File
No. 100-4766

It is also noted that the Sentinel carried in the same issue mentioned above a large picture of the audience, as well as one of GERALD L. K. SMITH, captioned "A very select 300 hear rabble rouser". The caption under the picture reads "The picture shows what happens to a crowd under the influence of Gerald L. K. Smith, the nation's self-styled rabble rouser, and advises that Smith plans for a big mass meeting in the future (if he can get a hall)."

The Milwaukee Journal article dated 9-21-44 and reporting on the SMITH meeting states that SMITH attacked the British who he said are "picking our pockets". He attacked the Russians and Stalin. He advocated a "homeland in Africa" for the Negroes. He called Sidney Hillman the "Rasputin of the White House," and President Roosevelt "an old man, tired and impotent." He called the presidential campaign a pillow fight, and lashed at Dewey for denouncing him publicly.

SMITH predicted that the next America First Party candidate would be the next president of the United States.

In the event SMITH holds another meeting in this area arrangements will be made to cover it and a report will be submitted to Detroit covering the results of the meeting.

ENCLOSURES: TO THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION:

One picture of subject GERALD L. K. SMITH;
One picture of individuals seated on speaker's platform at instant meeting.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION

TO THE

OFFICE OF ORIGIN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-5778

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
PITTSBURGH, PA.	10-18-44	10-6-44	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 12/8/82 BY [illegible]

Meeting of the America First Party under the sponsorship of the Defenders of George Washington's Principles was held 10-6-44 at the Carnegie Hall, North Side, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and was attended by some 300 people. SMITH stated Australia has been demobilizing for the past year. He placed the blame for the Pearl Harbor Incident on President ROOSEVELT. SMITH is supporting DEWEY as the lesser of two evils. He discussed the TYLER KENT incident. GEORGE VOSE spoke of the injustices done veterans of the First World War. CHARLES MADDEN, MARIE LOHLE, Father ALOYSIUS, and Mrs. SMITH were on the platform.

- EUC

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] 9-27-44, Detroit, Michigan

b7c

DETAILS: AT PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

A meeting of the America First Party which was held under the sponsorship of the Defenders of George Washington's Principles, was held on October 6, 1944, at the Carnegie Hall, North Side, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and was attended by some 300 people. Present on the platform with Mr. SMITH were Mrs. SMITH, GEORGE VOSE, CHARLES A. MADDEN, MARIE LOHLE, and Father ALOYSIUS.

GEORGE VOSE, a discharged veteran of this war, appeared in a United States Army Uniform and addressed the gathering. He spoke of the

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injustices done veterans at the conclusion of the First World War and that many of them sold pencils. At the conclusion of this war, the veterans should be the first to receive consideration. "If the Communists don't like this country when the veterans come back, we will send the Communists all back. Love America or get out." VOSE spoke very highly of GERALD SMITH as a man and as a candidate for President. VOSE also stated that he expected to be back in Pittsburgh in a few weeks to speak to the mothers of the soldiers.

Mrs. MARIE LOHLE, an officer in the Defender of George Washington's Principles, addressed the group, stating that she had attended the Detroit Convention. The theme of her brief talk was after the war, bring the boys back and keep them home.

GERALD L. K. SMITH opened his talk by knocking the President and his family. He mentioned that Australia has been demobilizing her army for the past year as the United States forced the Japs into the war. He also mentioned that Russia would probably help the United States in China if the United States would give Russia a free hand as to Communism, then Chiang Kai-shek will be out or a subordinate of some Communist. SMITH protested the secret meetings, Dumbarton-Oaks, and others, as being contrary to American traditions.

Referring to Pearl Harbor, SMITH claims that someone must have received the warning and holds the Commander-in-Chief responsible for the 3,000 deaths until the court martial of SHORT and KIMMEL proves adequately that the warning was sent and received. Both SHORT and KIMMEL want the court martial to take place, however, ROOSEVELT wants to wait until after the election. SMITH mentioned that his campaign expenses amounted to 10¢. He voluntarily appeared for questioning. He was of the opinion that it was not necessary to file until money had been raised.

SMITH stated that he hoped DEWEY would be successful as the lesser of two evils; however, he would not underwrite DEWEY.

Cornpicking machines were not available to the farmers until they would join the A.A.A. Yet, mail order catalogues from London indicated that they were available without waiting. SMITH quoted CLAIRE HOFFMAN as saying, "These machines were made from American lease-lend steel."

SMITH stated that he had received the story of TYLER KENT from Mrs. KENT, the boy's mother. Young KENT was a diplomat in England in the

service of the United States. He was very apt in decoding messages. It is claimed that messages, when decoded, were made available to CHURCHILL, who at the time was not Prime Minister. Some of these messages were secret agreements between ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL in which ROOSEVELT promised CHURCHILL that if England became involved in the war, that CHURCHILL could be assured of American help. It is claimed by SMITH that some of these messages are now in the hands of Russia and are being held over ROOSEVELT's head. KENT had stolen some of these messages and had kept them in his room. KENT later went to a member of Parliament whom he thought could be trusted and told him the story. When this information came to light, KENT was immediately dismissed from his position and arrested by the English police and placed in prison on the Isle of White.

At the conclusion of SMITH's talk, a collection was taken up.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JPHarWM.

SAC, Detroit

62 - 43818 - 586

October 30, 1944

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

EX-25

GERALD L. K. SMITH, was; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C; SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION.

Reference is made to the report prepared in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on October 14, 1944.

b7c

The Bureau has rewritten the first page of this report, omitting the following sentence from the synopsis: "The meeting was so well planned that the Communists presumably didn't know anything about it." Copies of the rewritten page are attached and should be substituted in the copies of reference report maintained in the files of the Detroit and Milwaukee Field Divisions.

cc - Milwaukee

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-8TJ

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Gray

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10-28-44

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

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For your further information in your consideration of this case, there are attached copies of the following two additional reports which have now been received:

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on October 18, 1944.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on October 14, 1944.

Enclosure

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Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hoover
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

NOV 8 1944

JPHarWMJ
[redacted]
10-23-44

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

The Bureau has just been informed by a confidential source of information that according to Ralph Baerman of Washington, D. C., a new organization or movement known as "Impeachment" has recently been formed. Our confidential source of information stated that "the nature of this group was not disclosed but it was indicated that it would be anti-Roosevelt." Baerman further indicated that the leader of the group is a Mrs. McNeill (phonetic) who was described as a member of the Illinois State Legislature.

No additional details were available to our confidential source of information but it appears that this information was related by Baerman on or about October 1, 1944, when Baerman was in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on the occasion of an America First Party rally which was addressed by Gerald L. K. Smith. You will recall, of course, that Baerman's name has been previously mentioned on several occasions in reports submitted in connection with the Smith investigation. Baerman is allegedly a rather close confidant of subject Smith.

In the event any additional information is received concerning this new organization, it, of course, will be immediately furnished you.

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Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Beaton
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
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74 NOV 8 1944

JPHa:WMJ

SAC, Detroit [redacted] October 28, 1944

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Reference is made to your letter of October 17, 1944, summarizing information received from [redacted] during the period from September 29 through October 15, 1944. b7D

The Bureau is particularly interested in the report that Smith's Secretary, Bernard Doman, was subpoenaed to appear before the Dies Committee at Washington, D. C., on October 16, 1944. To date the Bureau has not received any other information or noticed any publicity concerning Doman's appearance.

Accordingly, it is desired that in following this case through [redacted] as well as through [redacted], you be particularly alert for any other information along this line, especially as to whether Doman actually appeared and, if so, the nature of his testimony, Smith's reactions, etc. Additionally, assuming Doman did actually appear, the Bureau would like to have any data coming to your attention tending to suggest that Smith strongly counselled or urged Doman to pervert or to falsify his testimony in an effort to cover up the activities of the America First Party. b7D

However, the Bureau is not requesting any actual investigation with reference to this particular phase of the matter, as it is merely interested in being promptly furnished with any information of this type which may come to your attention through the services of informants.

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Mr. Hendon
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Mr. Nease
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Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 14-7 FLA

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	10-26-44	9-26,28,29-44	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted]

On 9/28/44 at Mary Seaton Room, Kleinhans Music Hall, Buffalo, N.Y., SMITH addressed a meeting of 250-300 persons under the sponsorship of Buffalo Economics League. Essence of remarks set out. GEORGE WOSE, candidate for Lieutenant Governor of Michigan, also addressed gathering.

- RUC -

7-25-77 6080 LEDW

REFERENCE: Letter from Detroit Field Division to Buffalo Field Division dated September 14, 1944.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated September 27, 1944 at Detroit. b7c

MS to FIELD Re declassification 7-25-77

DETAILS: AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK

This is a joint report reflecting investigation conducted by Special Agent [redacted] and the reporting agent. b7c

[redacted] who has been cooperative with the Buffalo Field Division relative to the League's sponsorship of meetings at which the subject, GERALD L. K. SMITH, has appeared, made available tickets to the meeting on September 28, 1944. b7c b7d

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1944. [redacted] of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation police also made available tickets to the meeting. The ticket bearing the symbol of the America First Party, consisting of the words "America First Party, U.S.A." and a likeness of George Washington, is set out below:

"THIS CARD will admit bearer and friends to hear an address by

G E R A L D L. K. S M I T H

(America First Party symbol)

America First Party Candidate for President of the United States. Mr. Smith has had some very sensational experiences since he last appeared in BUFFALO. He will reveal many things not published in the newspapers.

- - - - - - - - - - - - - AND - - - - - - - - - -

V E T E R A N G E O R G E V O S E

Mr. Vose has just been mustered out of the Battle Creek Military Hospital. He served two and one-half years in the Army.

KLEINHANS MUSIC HALL
(Mary Seaton Room) * Buffalo, New York

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1944 * 8:00 p.m.

Cooperating with BUFFALO ECONOMICS LEAGUE,
JOSEPH STOFFEL, Director
- - - - - - - - - - -Admission by Card Only * - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

It is to be noted that although the ticket indicates that admission is by card only, admission was open, and it was not necessary to surrender a card in order to gain admittance to the meeting.

b7c
b7.

[redacted] of the American Legion, was contacted, and he advised that he had noted some newspaper publicity relative to this meeting but that otherwise he had heard nothing concerning it and that apparently it was causing little or no interest in Buffalo. He was unable to furnish any other information relative to the meeting, except that as in the past it was being held under the auspices of the Buffalo Economics League of which JOSEPH STOFFEL is the Director.

[redacted] observed that whereas [redacted] of the [redacted] of the American Legion had previously associated himself with the subject but has since abandoned this course through the pressure of the American Legion. He, [redacted] is not much interested in the contemplated meeting on September 28, 1944.

Special Agent [redacted] and the reporting agent attended the meeting in the Mary Seaton Room of the Kleinhans Music Hall at 8:00 p.m., September 28, 1944. It was observed that the meeting was attended by approximately 250-300 persons. Special Agent [redacted] made stenographic notes on the address of the subject, which are being maintained in the file and are reported below.

JOSEPH STOFFEL, Chairman of the Buffalo Economics League, opened the meeting at approximately 8:30 p.m. and after a short discussion relative to the unconstitutionality of the U.S. currency he introduced the subject, GERALD L. K. SMITH.

SMITH stated that he had no illusions about his candidacy for the office of President of the United States but said that he was running for such office as a challenge and a crusade to bring out the real issues between the two principal candidates. The subject then declared that the real issue in the present campaign are not being discussed by the President or Dewey because they are agreed in advance on foreign police and war policy. SMITH stated that he believes that Dewey now must realize the kind of politician he is up against since Roosevelt made his first speech. SMITH declared that in his opinion Dewey will get the majority of votes and that he will likely get a strong anti-New Deal, anti-Communist Congress. SMITH then recommended that his hearers read an article entitled "The Communist Conspiracy" by a former Soviet official appearing in the October, 1944 issue of the Readers' Digest. SMITH stated that our alliance with Russia in the prosecution of the war should not permit a Communist to use war propaganda to take this country over. SMITH then related how his son had been deprived of a chance to go to Officers' Candidates School because of his father's alleged un-Americanism but later distinguished himself with Merrill's Marauders in Burma, winning several decorations but no promotion.

SMITH then answered a charge that he had trampled on the American flag which he claimed had been made in an editorial occurring in the Buffalo Courier Express at the time of his last visit to Buffalo. SMITH stated this was the Union Now flag, the flag that the internationally minded wanted to place above the American flag. SMITH then referred in derogatory terms to Walter Winchell and made the remark that out of all this persecution against the so-called Nationalists, whom he represents, there would be refined the gold of statesmanship which will save the nation.

SMITH then pointed to GEORGE VOSE, a discharged veteran who was seated on the speakers' platform, showing that the America First Party was determined to fight for the rights of the returning World War II veterans to ample pensions. SMITH then attacked various aspects of what he called the New Deal dictatorship and Bureaucracy. He referred to an America First meeting held at St. Henry, Ohio, where he had eight "convicts" on the platform. He stated that these convicts were American farmers who had the courage to resist A.A.A. demands that they cut farm production. As a consequence the A.A.A. denied them priority in the purchase of farm equipment. The farmers thereupon put the purchase price down on the counters and hauled off the farm equipment without priority. For this offense they were held at $20,000 bail each but needless to say the America First Party was able to put up the $160,000 bail in ten hours. SMITH stated that he is hated because, like these farmers, he would not capitulate to bureaucratic tyranny. The farmers were later sentenced to from one to five years in a Federal Penitentiary, but the U.S. Attorney made the suggestion that their sentences be suspended because they were not responsible as they acted under the malevolent influence of GERALD L. K. SMITH.

SMITH further remarked that Representative Clare Hoffman and not SMITH really started this farmers' revolt when he brought out the fact that a farm equipment catalogue published by an English firm advertised that farm equipment could be secured without priority by simply writing to England and that this equipment was made out of lend-lease steel.

SMITH then turned to the Dumbarton Oaks Secret Conference at Washington, D. C., stating that he had made a written protest to the State Department about its secrecy. SMITH said he tried to get into this meeting as an American citizen who wanted to know what was going on and after much discussion with the military guards he finally obtained the information from them that even a Senator of the United States, charged with the duty of conducting our foreign affairs, would be shot if he attempted to enter the Dumbarton Conference without Executive permission. SMITH stated that this framed the issue of secret covenants secretly arrived at when foreigners and appointed bureaucrats can get together on our soil and make decisions which will affect our future destinies and a Senator, an elected representative of the only body having full treaty-making power, cannot get in.

SMITH then referred to the America First Party Convention being held in the Stevens Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, at the time of the Republican National Convention. SMITH stated that his Party had

secured space in that Hotel by a contract, but that certain forces in the City had sought to high-pressure the Hotel officials to deny the America First Party their rights under this contract. However, by simply marching into the hall and holding their convention, they defeated these un-American forces who were seeking to stifle freedom of speech and thereby took a bridgehead for free speech. SMITH stated they thereby demonstrated that they were not going to lose one of the Four Freedoms in Chicago while their sons were dying for the Four Freedoms in China, France and Italy. SMITH stated that the America First Party should be firm on the constitutional rights of freedom of speech and press and peaceful assembly, and those who have sought to stop him from speaking in Buffalo betray their country.

SMITH then turned to the matter of the anti-Jewish resolution which had been proposed at the America First Convention recently held in Detroit. He accused the press of not publicizing the fact that this resolution was made by one delegate from the floor, was not seconded, and was immediately opposed by SMITH from the platform. He then went on to say that the real anti-Semite in the world is the British government which will not allow the Jews to migrate to Palestine. He then stated that the propaganda which was trying to identify the America First Party with anti-Semitism was but one of the devices employed by racketeers who were attempting to prey on the hysteria of the Jews. SMITH stated he is going to expose those who are thus betraying the Jews, and he wanted the country to know that the America First Party does not stand for the materialistic and pagan solutions of the Jewish problem which the country was led to believe by the newspapers which did not print the full truth of what went on at the Detroit Convention.

After an interruption of his remarks to hear an appeal by GEORGE VOSE for support for the Nationalist Veterans of World War II, an organization which is being sponsored by the America First Party, SMITH continued by stating that the issue in the next four years is between Communism and Nationalism. He quoted John Knight, publisher of the Detroit Free Press, as stating that Britain even now has agents in this country feeling us out on the possibility of our underwriting her first peace-time budget. He also quoted an article appearing in the Chicago Daily News by C. RAY ROBINSON, described as former legal advisor to Admiral Halsey, in which it was stated that the United States will get very little help from her Allies in the war against the Japanese. SMITH said the Australians are already demobilizing part of their Armed Forces and that a British M.P. had stated in the House of Commons that it was the United States who forced the war against Japan.

SMITH then went on to say that the United States was actually indemnifying Britain for damage caused when our troops recaptured British possessions from the Japanese. He stated that on one occasion when our vessels arrived in New Zealand bearing troops and supplies for the defense of that country, New Zealand laborers refused to unload the ships and it had to be done by the American soldiers. Worst of all, the union men who sat around idle demanded that they be paid for the time that the soldiers worked.

SMITH then stated he was going to relate the most shocking story of the century. He then recited what he termed were the statements which appeared in an affidavit over the signature of Mrs. TYLER KENT, mother of the young United States Embassy employee who had been sentenced to prison by British Courts for alleged espionage. SMITH said that the issue in regard to this case was not whether TYLER KENT was guilty of the accusations made against him, but whether he could be tried by British Courts when he was clothed with diplomatic immunity.

SMITH summed up by stating that the America First Party was striving to get a discussion of the following as the real issues in the coming election, e.g., the imperialism of Great Britain; the European policy of Russia; the mystery of TYLER KENT; and the mystery of Pearl Harbor. With regard to the latter so-called issue, SMITH had stated that it did not appear to him that Admiral Kimmel or General Short could consider themselves guilty when they were appealing for a trial, and that if they were not guilty, then the blood of 3,000 American boys was on the hands of the President.

Following his address the subject introduced GEORGE VOSE as the candidate on the America First Party ticket for the office of Lieutenant Governor of the State of Michigan. VOSE appeared on the platform throughout the meeting in the uniform of the United States Army. He was accompanied on the platform by his wife. The subject's wife and Mr. STOFFEL also were seated onthe platform during the meeting.

VOSE addressed the meeting briefly in a very impassioned almost hysterical manner. He deplored the low pay and inconsiderate treat of U.S. soldiers and the coddling of prisoners of war. He declared for a Government program affording returning veterans job opportunities and security.

[redacted]

670

[redacted] b7D

It is to be noted that the meeting proceeded without incident and there was no effort made to break up the meeting with one exception. It was observed that eight persons in the uniform of the U.S. Army were seated together in the Hall during the meeting. Other than the fact that they were Army personnel, their particular place in the service could not be determined. They were very young and in some cases appeared to be teen age soldiers. At 10:00 o'clock during the speech of SMITH this group arose and walked out of the Hall in a body. At this time SMITH called for a round of applause for the departing men. The walkout was without further incident; it was very quiet and orderly and did not have the appearance of a demonstration.

[redacted] of the Jewish War Veterans Organization, Buffalo, advised that he was unacquainted with any of the soldiers who left the Hall but observed that one of them was Jewish. He stated he believed the soldiers were students at a local service school and probably attended the meeting out of curiosity and left at 10:00 p.m. to meet their curfew. There were no other persons in service uniforms at the meeting. b7c b7D

All logical investigation relative to the described meeting having been conducted, this case is being referred upon completion to the office of origin.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

RECORDED JPHa:WMJ
11-2-44

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

62-43818-588

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information in your consideration of this case there is attached a copy of an additional report prepared by Special Agent [redacted] at Buffalo, New York, on October 26, 1944.

b7c

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SA8BTO/ink

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Humford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
NOV 4 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

50 NOV 13 1944

Date: Oct 1944

Subject:

To Honey

How come George Vose, G.L.K. Smith's Lieutenant discharged from the army sometime ago, is still wearing a United States uniform - especially when he speaks from Smith's platforms.

In a recent speech Vose threatened "to clean out Washington from the bottom up."...If he stands right where he is he could start the job.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/8/82 BY SP2 [illegible]

62-43817-589

337

78 NOV 14 1944

EX-14

RECORDED & INDEXED

16 NOV 1944

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

4-750 (2-7-79)

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- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- [ ] Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.
- ____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.
- ____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):
- [ ] For your information:
- [X] The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: 62-43818-592

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FBI/DOJ

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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☒ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) DEPT OF THE ARMY, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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FBI/DOJ

JPHa:WMW

62-[illegible]-573

RECORDED

SAC, Detroit

102317

October 31, 1944

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

X EX-39

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your information there are attached photostatic copies of a [redacted] b7c
confidential army report concerning the service record of [redacted]
who is, you will recall, currently associated with Smith in the America First Party.

This report is furnished for your confidential information and in including the substance of the report in a regular investigative report in this case, you should appropriately conceal its identity and by the use of paraphrasing, make certain that this concealment of identity is secured.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/2/82 BY [illegible]

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
NOV 1 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

79 NOV 24 1944

Serial 592 SMF

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 35

PAGES REVIEWED: 91

PAGES RELEASED: 81

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
October 17 - 1944

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND INTERDEPARTMENTAL ADVISORY SLIP(S) IN Declassification DATE 2/3/78 NJS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/16/80 BY SP1 SSE/DP. Comp# 86,239

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth herein the pertinent information obtained from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, for the period from September 29, 1944, through October 15, 1944.

b7D

The informant advises that SMITH returned to Detroit on October 8, 1944, from an extensive speaking trip and campaign tour through various cities of the East and Middlewest. He has told various people that he had a fine trip and referred to the meeting in Philadelphia on October 1, 1944, as a "humdinger, a knock-down and drag-out affair."

During the course of his trip he appeared as a witness on October 3, 1944, before the House Committee investigating campaign expenditures of political candidates. Prior to his appearance before the Committee he had indicated that since he was considered a candidate for the purpose of allowing the Committee to inquire into his collections and disbursements, he also wanted to be considered a candidate by the O.P.A. for the purpose of having extra gasoline allowed him for campaigning. He indicated that if he did not get the gas he could not be considered a candidate and would not have to report on collections.

HANDLED IN STOP DESK

It is not known whether he actually assumed this attitude before the Committee, but he did tell friends after he had testified that the Committee was not able to get much out of his testimony and was not able to embarrass him with its questions. He was before the Committee for five hours and although he was confronted with some figures by the Committee, SMITH stated the figures were false. He advised [redacted] after the hearing that the Committee had [redacted] "built up as quite a character." SMITH thought that people with "angels" find it more difficult to get along than the persons who, like SMITH, depended on contributions.

b7C

Sent to Detroit 10/24/44
Memo to Director M. Wendell 10/27/44

RECORDED 62-43818-594
INDEXED 56
53 NOV 3 1944

78 NOV 20 1944

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205 OCT 18 1964

EX-37

Letter to the Director
October 17, 1944

SMITH'S reaction to attacks on him by WALTER WINCHELL and DREW PEARSON in their radio columns was to refer to them as "a couple of jerks." After the statement by WALTER WINCHELL in his radio program on October 8, 1944, that SMITH had perjured himself in stating before the Committee that his average income was about $200 a day whereas the Committee had positive evidence in its possession that his income was about $600 a day, SMITH contacted Congressman CLINTON ANDERSON of the Committee at Chicago.

ANDERSON advised him the Committee had no such evidence whatever and he could give SMITH a letter to that effect. SMITH insisted in his contact with Congressman ANDERSON that the organization was receiving its money from the sources indicated and was doing only what it stated it was doing.

SMITH has had considerable difficulty in obtaining extra gasoline for his campaign. His request for supplemental rations was denied by the local O.P.A. and by the Regional Office of the O.P.A. in Cleveland, apparently on the theory that SMITH was not a bonafide or qualified presidential candidate since the Party was on the ballot only in two states. He subsequently modified his original demand for 20,000 gallons to travel throughout the country and requested 12,000 to campaign Michigan.

While in Washington he personally contacted the O.P.A. headquarters and was advised that supplemental gasoline would be granted to him. However upon returning to Detroit he contacted Local Board #35 but they still would not give him any gasoline. SMITH claimed that some one on the board may have been corrupted since he believed the Republicans did not want his candidates to be elected in Michigan.

[redacted] who SMITH claims to be personal secretary to R. J. THOMAS of the UAW-CIO, is chairman of O.P.A. Board #35 which denied SMITH'S request for campaign gasoline. The informant indicated that SMITH had finally gotten the gasoline, however, after the Local Board had been advised by O.P.A. headquarters in Washington to grant him supplement rations. b7c

On his return from this campaign trip, SMITH began work on his state campaign in Michigan. The opening meeting of the state campaign was held October 12, 1944, at the Italian Garden Room of the Book Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, Michigan. They have planned to hold meetings at Kalamazoo, Pontiac, Saginaw and possibly other cities.

GEORGE VOSE, candidate for Lieutenant Governor in the State of Michigan, arranged for a meeting place in Kalamazoo which will seat a thousand people. As late as October 14, 1944, the dates had not been set for the Kalamazoo meeting and definite arrangements have not been made

for other meetings out in the state. It is not believed there will be any meetings prior to October 21, 1944. The informant believed that SMITH was planning a rather intensive campaign in the state, however, since Dr. LELAND MARION, candidate for Governor, has the names of more than 30,000 people to whom he wants to send literature. Literature will not be put into the mail, however, until about ten days before the election.

SMITH has also made inquiry as to the radio stations located at Saginaw, Lansing, Bay City, Sault Sainte Marie, Marquette, Flint, Kalamazoo and Jackson, indicating the possibility of some sort of radio campaign in those cities.

In addition to the state campaign, the informant says SMITH claims he is conducting a "write-in campaign for president in twenty-one states where the America First Party could not get on the ballot officially." According to a story related to the local papers, SMITH indicated that at the meeting of October 12, 1944, which launched the state campaign SMITH discussed his testimony before the House Committee, his incident in New York involving JOHN ROY CARLSON, author of "Under Cover", facts concerning the Tyler Kent case and other matters which he considered pertinent to his campaign.

In the course of his extended Eastern and Midwestern trip, SMITH spent a day or two in New York during the latter part of September. He had a press conference at his hotel room in New York during the course of which JOHN ROY CARLSON, author of "Under Cover", who was attending the press conference as a reporter, identified himself. SMITH claims that when he learned that CARLSON was in the room he went over to him, grabbed him by the seat of the pants and threw him out of the room. He stated that the story was all over the New York papers and the "New York Times" said it could not have been better if it had been staged by a Hollywood scenario writer.

With reference to the Tyler Kent case, SMITH continues to take a lot of interest in this matter, according to the informant, and has recently had printed up a revised story of the case as given to him directly by TYLER KENT'S mother. The informant believed SMITH intended to use this as campaign literature.

Although SMITH has referred to DEWEY in recent campaign speeches as the lesser of two evils, he claims that he is not supporting DEWEY; that the DEWEY strategists would like to "drink my blood in New York and get my support in the Middlewest." SMITH stated he is not interested in DEWEY but does want a Republican Congress and that he is not supporting DEWEY.

Letter to the Director
October 17, 1944

In a recent contact with Captain EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago, SMITH spoke disparagingly of DEWEY stating that since DEWEY had endorsed the Dumbarton Oakes conference, DEWEY was committed to preserving the British Empire and helping the Russians keep what they had gotten through aggression.

SMITH told SOUTHARD that he thought Senator NYE was very naive "though well-meaning." NYE had written a letter to SMITH introducing a certain [redacted] whom SMITH later learned was identical with the individual named [redacted] was identified by SMITH as being an "Operator" and was ejected from the National Convention of the America First Party. [redacted] later admitted being a representative of the Non-sectarian Anti-Nazi League for which organization he was covering the convention. SOUTHARD was also advised by [redacted] believed to be Rev. [redacted] had been put in contact with HARVEY SPRINGER by SMITH since SPRINGER and [redacted] were both fighting the same enemy. [redacted] is considered a young people's leader in the Detroit area and has been contacted in connection with young people's work by members of the American Youth for Democracy, a Communist organization. He is not believed, however, to have Communist leanings.) b7c

SMITH is apparently using a good number of SOUTHARD'S book, "Forty Years of Roosevelt" and recently ordered five hundred additional copies.

SMITH has been in contact, according to the informant, with RALPH BAERMAN, who is his Washington representative. BAERMAN recently told him that things are "very interesting at the school house", which is believed to refer to the sedition trial now being conducted in Washington.

ROGER BALDWIN (head of the Civil Liberties Union) and other individuals from New York "are trying to horn in and get some of the credit." According to BAERMAN, LIBBY (believed to refer to ELIZABETH DILLING) was well-pleased with some cards furnished to her and was giving BAERMAN six hundred of her best names. SMITH has requested Senator GREENE to investigate the Non-sectarian Anti-Nazi League and the "Friends of Democracy" against whom "we have clear-cut cases."

Following services of a subpoena upon SMITH'S secretary, BERNARD DOMAN, on October 14, 1944, SMITH contacted BAERMAN again, advising him that DOMAN would be in Washington on October 16 to appear before the Dies Committee under subpoena and that BAERMAN should stick with DOMAN while he is in Washington.

Letter to the Director
October 17, 1944

The service of the Dies Committee subpoena upon DOMAN has apparently caused SMITH considerable trouble. When the subpoena was served on DOMAN by a [redacted] a representative of the Committee, SMITH questioned [redacted] at some length concerning the reason for the service of this subpoena and pointed out that DOMAN was in poor health which would make a trip to Washington inadvisable and in addition the time was very short since the subpoena was served on Saturday for testimony to be given on Monday in Washington. SMITH assured [redacted] that he is not trying to evade anything and would be delighted to appear himself before the Committee. [redacted] assured him that the subpoena was not served for the purpose of embarrassing SMITH and stated that COSTELLO, the Vice Chairman of the Committee, would probably handle the inquiry. SMITH then contacted a Dr. MATTHEWS of the Dies Committee in Washington and said he would cooperate one hundred per cent but that he did not want DOMAN to be kept in Washington any longer than necessary. MATTHEWS said this particular investigation was being handled by persons other than himself, probably by a Mr. STRIBBLING, and that MATTHEWS would give him SMITH'S message.

b7c

SMITH then spent a considerable amount of time instructing DOMAN as to how he was to testify and what he was to say. DOMAN pointed out he could not very well bring more than a very few books and records with him although the Committee apparently wanted all the books and records. SMITH told DOMAN, "That's just what they want but that's not what they'll get." He then advised DOMAN, "Don't ever let the sheenies get hold of the names on your daybooks."

SMITH prepared several memoranda with which DOMAN was requested to memorize so that he could present properly answers to the Committee as to his reasons for not having complete records with him. The substance of these memoranda was that the complete records were kept in Detroit and it would be physically impossible to transport all of them to Washington but a representative of the Committee was welcome to examine these records at any time in Detroit.

DOMAN was to testify that all money received was spent on payrolls, printing, travel, postage, paper and on publicity and mailing of the magazine, "The Cross and the Flag." He was advised to tell the Committee that the Treasurer, E. M. SMITH (GERALD L. K. SMITH'S wife) has been sick in bed for the past week making it impossible to assemble as much data as he would have liked to have brought. DOMAN was admonished to remember that the purpose of the Committee is to investigate subversive activities and that there are only two things subversive; one was taking money from the wrong source and two, spending money on the wrong thing. "That's all they have a right to know."

(Letter to the Director)
October 17, 1944

DOMAN was reminded that he should not answer questions as to what happened more than three years ago and that if he were asked for information as to "my reports, for example from [redacted] and all that stuff, you don't know anything about that. Don't hesitate to pass the buck." DOMAN was told to advise the Committee that SMITH runs the organization and any further information could be gotten from him. He was told that he could always answer, "I don't know." or "I don't remember." He could advise the Committee that he would not answer the question on the grounds that it would make no contribution to the Committee.

DOMAN was advised to take only the later day books with him and that he should not let the Committee keep any of the books. He was further advised to remember that the Committee was working for him and that "they are the servants, you're the citizen. If there is anything you think you shouldn't answer, don't answer it."

DON LOHBECK, who is apparently going to take over DOMAN'S duties as SMITH'S secretary, was said by SMITH to be "getting the swing of the thing." [redacted] SMITH told LOHBECK that [redacted] (who has worked in Detroit as an investigator for many years and was recently employed in New York,) is back in Detroit working again and tried to get [redacted] an associate of SMITH'S in the America First Party, to denounce the Party. SMITH has recently requested legal information from [redacted] a local attorney. This is the first time that SMITH is known to have been in contact with this individual.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]
62-1126

ALL
b7C

TELETYPE

NOV 10 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

FBI DETROIT 11-10-44 11-17AM EWT

DIRECTOR URGENT

GLOW

GERALD L. K. SMITH, ET AL, SECURITY MATTER, SEDITION. ELIZABETH DILLING, ONE OF DEFENDANTS IN WASHINGTON SEDITION TRIAL, WILL BE FEATURED SPEAKER AT MEETING SPONSORED BY SUBJECT AND HIS MAGAZINE, QUOTE THE CROSS AND THE FLAG, UNQUOTE, TO BE HELD NOVEMBER FIFTEEN, INSTANT AT EIGHT PM IN ITALIAN GARDEN BALLROOM, BOOK CADILLAC HOTEL, DETROIT. INFORMANTS STATE ABOUT FIFTEEN HUNDRED INVITATIONS HAVE BEEN MAILED BY SUBJECT TO HIS FOLLOWERS, ALTHOUGH SUBJECT IS NOT PUBLICIZING MEETING OUTSIDE HIS ORGANIZATION, FEARING HOTEL WILL CANCEL CONTRACT FOR BALLROOM IF THEY LEARN NATURE OF MEETING. INFORMANTS WILL COVER MEETING, BUT NO AGENTS WILL ATTEND.

RECORDED & INDEXED

STOP DESK

62-45418-595

NOV 11 1944

GUERIN

cc: Mr. Ladd

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/8/82 BY

NOV 10 1944

10 AM OK FBI WA

...NOUS COMMUNICATIONS
KEEP ENVELOPE ATTACHED

This Paper was picked up in the corridor of Curtis Estate trust Bldg. in phila. may be important to you...

11-9-44

HANDLED BY
...TOR DESK

RECORDED & INDEXED

162-43118-596
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31 NOV 11 1944

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79 NOV 27 1944

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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4 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):
PER YOUR LETTER OF 3/18/82.

☒ For your information: HANDOUT FROM MEETING OF HUNTINGTON FIRST CRUSADE

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
12-43818-576

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FBI/DOJ

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JCS:SBM

TO : MR. LADD

DATE: 11/7/44

FROM : MR. STRICKLAND

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Mr. Nelson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

With reference to your inquiry as to the facts surrounding the handling of the attached teletype from the Detroit Office, the following facts are set forth:

The teleype is dated October 18, 1944, and the original was received in the Internal Security Section on Saturday, October 28, 1944, at 5:18 P.M.

Although no specific instructions accompanied the teletype, it was felt that the information ought to be sent to the Criminal Division and, accordingly, the attached memorandum was dictated on Monday, October 30, 1944. A mistake appeared in the original transcription and it was accordingly necessary to redictate portions of the memorandum and to transcribe it again. The memorandum cleared the Internal Security Section on November 4, 1944.

Every effort is being made to handle these matters as promptly as possible but it is pointed out, as in connection with the instant matter, that a delay in the receipt of the original communication imposes a considerable handicap upon prompt handling of such material.

Attachment

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-8CTS/pwc

RECORDED
EX-40
162-43818-597
F B I
27 NOV 14 1944
HANDLED

JTHA:WMJ
11-4-44

62-43818
62-7850

597

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

[redacted] b2c

The Bureau has recently been informed by a reliable source of information that Gerald L. K. Smith has discussed with Mrs. Elizabeth Dilling the possibility of planning some sort of program to obtain Dies Committee records (or information appearing therein) through the services of "J. B. Mathews," described as being in charge of research for the Dies Committee.

Reportedly, Smith thinks the Dies Committee may be dissolved at any time and that if the services of Mathews could be secured, Mathews would be helpful inasmuch as he allegedly is minutely familiar with practically all of the material in the Dies Committee files.

Mrs. Dilling allegedly told Smith that she had already talked with Mathews and that the latter seemed anxious to associate himself with Mrs. Dilling. The suggestion was also made that a nation-wide speaking tour might be organized on the basis of any connection which might be made with Mathews in apparently publicizing to some extent the information contained in the Dies Committee files.

Our confidential source of information further said that Mrs. Dilling commented that she and some of the "other sedition trial defendants have already contributed money toward such an end since it was now or never." Our source was of the opinion that Smith and Dilling were planning to use Mathews and his knowledge of the contents of the Dies Committee files in behalf of themselves and perhaps in behalf of some of the individuals now under indictment for sedition.

Should the Bureau receive any other information with reference to this subject it will, of course, be furnished to you. However, it is absolutely necessary that the identity of our source of information be appropriately concealed and, accordingly, I shall appreciate your considering this data as being of a most confidential nature.

cc - Mr. C. John Rogge
Special Assistant to the Attorney General

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Rumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SLB/STJ/ALM

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
NOV 2 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

58 NOV 20 1944

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

To Chase

Excerpt from a report of G.L.K.Smith's meeting in Philadelphia on Sunday, October 1st.

"After describing how he tossed Carlson out of his suite, he lapsed into the usual tirade against the Jews, the so-called Jewish Gestapo, etc. He stated that the ADL and Walter Winchell created more anti-Semitism than anyone else on earth. He hoped that when his own 'wounded and decorated hero son' returns from this war he will immediately come to New York and take a punch at Winchell's nose."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/2/82 BY SP-8057/MW

RECORDED & INDEXED 162-43818-598
F B I
27 NOV 14 1944

[redacted]

b2c

4/4
DEC 1 1944

9-5-44

[redacted]

Mr. Winchell

Dear Sir

Here is what a Rank Republic Paper - and Editor says - give him a dig

[redacted]

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY [illegible]

ack w.w. 11/13/44

62-43815-589

62-43112-599

62-43815-

16 NOV 1944

INDEXED

93Y

55 NOV 18 1944

NEWS AND VIEWS

By J. T. NORRIS

ASHLAND (KY.) DAILY

[illegible] who [illegible] body who decl[illegible] for America, his homeland, first, looked down upon and bedeviled by the efficient artists of smear. I make haste to say that, in the days of international bickering and jockeying just before us, we are going to need some men in high places who are for America first.

Stalin is for Russia first, Churchill is for Great Britain first. Nobody blames them for that position. But let any man say that the cause of the United States and its people is foremost in his thought and he is branded immediately an isolationist, a reactionary and a selfish provincial who has no conception of America's position in the world, nor of her Heaven-formed mission to aid all her Little Brothers.

Who is doing the branding? Why, the myriad of writers who smear their opponents for the internationalist clique in Washington. They are the Winchells, the Jay Franklins, the Dorothy Thompsons, to mention only a few of the most prominent. They smear with innuendo and insinuation. They seldom present facts or reasoning. That method they have taken over lock, stock and barrel from the Communists.

Some day we are going to wake up and find that America badly needed somebody who was for her first, last and only, to stand up stubbornly for her at the council tables. That is what happened in 1919, when, after we had won the war, we lost the peace.

Perhaps, if we have no more backbone than to permit every man, who stands for his own country first, to be shouted down into oblivion, we will deserve to have it happen to us again. But if we do permit it, we are unworthy indeed of the boys who are dying all over the world in the uniform of the United States armed services, under the decided impression that they are giving their lives for America first.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY 50-8075 [illegible]

12-43818-599

ENCLOSURE

4-750 (2-7-79)

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☐ For your information: _____

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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-600

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FBI/DOJ

How come George [illegible] rald L.K.Smith's first lieutenant and main reachmaker, is still wearing his army uniform? He's [illegible] out of service for me months. [redacted] says he doesn't know the law on wearing a uniform after u're out of service, but it seems to me you're allowed to wear it for out 30 days.)

CONFIDENTIAL

13367

To Hoover

b2c

[redacted] b1

CLASS. BY SP-8 [redacted]

DATE OF REVIEW [redacted]

10/8/82

Case presented [redacted] Retract + pros. declined MOH

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

11/13/44

RECORDED [redacted] b1

INDEXED

35 NOV 14 1944

EX-6

[redacted] b2c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE [illegible] BY

414

CONFIDENTIAL

JPHa:mr
62-43818

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

SAC, Detroit

November 11, 1944

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF Declassification
DATE 2/3/75 rsb

The Bureau would like for you to advise at your earliest convenience as to the showing which subject and the other members of his slate of candidates in Michigan made during the recent elections.

It is definitely not desired, of course, that any inquiries be made relative to this phase of the matter, but it is felt that from available public records and publications you can ascertain the following which supported Smith, Reverend Marion, Vose, and the other America First Party candidates in Michigan. It would appear that the showing they made would be a good indication as to the scope and influence of their asserted following in that area. However, for very obvious reasons it is again re-emphasised that no investigation, overt or otherwise, is to be undertaken relative to the specific question of their candidacy and the results of the elections.

It is assumed that Smith's name as a candidate for President was entered on the ballot only in Michigan. However, in the event he was actually entered elsewhere it would be of further help for you to ascertain from the appropriate field offices and then relay to the Bureau data as to his showing in any other states where he may have been officially a candidate. Again, with reference to any inquiries you may make of other offices as to Smith's showing, it is desired that you emphatically set forth that no investigation is being requested and that it is merely desired that any information publicly available be furnished.

1-9-78 9431 APW

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

RECORDED

62-43818-602
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
NOV 16 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

EX-35

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/8/87 BY SP2-4/5/MFM

74 NOV 22 1944

CC:EIC

November 13, 1944

Mr. Walter Winchell
The New York Mirror
235 East 45th Street
New York, New York

Dear Walter:

The communications which you forwarded were received on November 11, 1944.

Thanks very much for referring these matters to my attention. You may be assured that the data contained therein will receive prompt consideration.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Cordially,

J. Edgar Hoover

C. L. K. Smith

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DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-8073/mlm

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

RECORDED 62-43818-603
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
NOV 16 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

See 62-43518-589

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Dunford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Keane
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
NOV 14 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

78 NOV 20 1944

Oct. 26. 1944

[redacted]

b7c

Mr. Winchell:

My dear Sir:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8B05/MC

I am writing to you, in the knowledge that what I may say will be strictly confidential.

I am a mail man, here in Newark, so you can see that I cant afford to get in trouble.

Some years ago I wrote you with regard to an organization in Springfield N.J. that I thought was Nazi controlled. I received a letter from the F.B.I. thanking me later on.

I am writing to look into an outfit known as the American Friends Service Committee. I do S.12 Phila. It may be something it is my The name recalled to my mind

62-43808-509
11/13/44

RECORDED & INDEXED
185 EX-37
NOV 15 1944
NOV 22 1944

American Friends of New Germany
of some years ago.

By the way, there is a chap at
[redacted] who
receives literature, books & etc. from
your very good friend & mine, the
Rev. Gerald Winrod. The catch is that
this chap is colored. None so blind as
those who will not see.

I hope I can be of service,
to you, in any form whatsoever.
I admire you a lot & rest assured,
there are millions more like me. I am
a recently discharged War Veteran, but
do feel I must still go on serving my
Country wherever I can do so

Thank you, & may God Bless
you & grant you good health & many
more years so you can carry on your great
work —

Sincerely

[redacted]

[redacted]

HW
b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE NO. 100-6185

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
GRAND RAPIDS	11/15/44	11/3/44	[redacted] HMG

TITLE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, et al
AMERICA FIRST PARTY

CHARACTER OF CASE
SECURITY MATTER - G
SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject, in America First rally 11/1/44 at Kalamazoo, Michigan, critized the President for failure to reveal the truth about Pearl Harbor. He denounced foreign affairs policy of the administration and discussed at length the TYLER-KENT case, as well as making comments on the DUMBARTON-OAKS conference. Newspaper account set forth.

- RUC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-PBT/mh

REFERENCE: Letter from the Detroit Office dated 10/23/44.
Letter from the Detroit Office dated 10/24/44.

DETAILS: AT KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

[redacted] advised that GERALD L. K. SMITH talked before a group of approximately 150 individuals at the Masonic Temple auditorium on 11/1/44. [redacted] that SMITH critized the President as well as the administration of foreign affairs policy and referred to the President as "King Franklin". [redacted] that Subject SMITH critized the President for his failure to bring out the real truth in the Pearl Harbor affair.

[redacted] that SMITH discussed at length the recent TYLER-KENT case and pointed out that an American embassy

b7D

E B I
MAIL ROOM SECURITY
HANDLED BY

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: H. I. Babbitt
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE
DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
62 REGISTERED 43818-605
RECORDED & INDEXED 146

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2 - Detroit
2 - Grand Rapids
cc G.R. 11/30/44
COPY IN FILE
COPIES DESTROYED 205 OCT 15 1964

E B I
38 NOV 18 1944

EX - 56

(G.R. File 100-6185)

employee in London was imprisoned illegally in a British concentration camp. [redacted] that from allegations of KENT's mother, which were quoted, that KENT was arrested and tried contrary to law by the British Government for the theft of secret cables between President Roosevelt and Winston Churchill.

[redacted] that SMITH critized the democratic party and pointed out that HILLMAN and BROWDER were behind it. [redacted] that Subject SMITH's prime objective was America for Americans and in that connection pleaded for the America First Party. [redacted] that SMITH stated that in 1948 the America First Party would be the leading one.

[redacted] that Subject SMITH had stated that he had visited the scene of the DUMBARTON-OAKS conference and had made an attempt to gain admittance with negative results. SMITH pointed out that he had questioned guards at the entrance to the conference and asked if he were to go through if their only recourse would be to shoot him, and in answer to this question the guards replied "I guess that it would be necessary".

[redacted] that GEORGE VOSE, who is running on the America First Party ticket for the Lt. Governor, State of Michigan, spoke in a rather forceful manner and emphasized and urged that each man receive an amount of $1,000 at the time he is mustered out of the armed service. It is to be noted that VOSE was attired in an army uniform and was discharged in August of 1944 from the hospital at Ft. Custer.

[redacted] that LELAND L. MARION, candidate for governor of Michigan, on the America First Party ticket, also spoke in a general manner. [redacted] that he did not hear any statements made by Subject SMITH or other speakers that could be interpreted as being un-American or seditious.

The reporting agent examined the Kalamazoo Gazette, edition of 11/3/44, and found the following article, relative to the meeting, which is being set forth:

"The future of President Roosevelt cannot stand the truth of the Pearl Harbor attack nor the telling of the story of Tyler Kent", asserted Gerald L. K. Smith, in an address here last night.

"Speaking before a large audience at a rally of the American First party held at Masonic temple, Smith, America First candidate for the office of President of the United States, denounced the foreign policy of

HLV
DJD

(G.R. File 100-6185)

the administration. He predicted a strong nationalist government would rise in the country when the service men return from overseas.

"Making much of the case of Tyler Kent, Smith charged that Kent, an American embassy employee in London, was imprisoned illegally in what he termed a 'British concentration camp' on the island of Wight where, he still landguishes.

"Saying that he quoted from allegations of Kent's mother, Smith indicated that Kent was arrested and tried, contrary to law, by the British government for the theft or revelations of secret cables between President Roosevelt and Winston Churchill, then first lord of the admirality. Smith continued, saying these cables are alleged to have committed the United States to the assistance of Great Britain as early as 1939.

"Touching on the mystery of Pearl Harbor, Smith demanded that the truth be revealed. He charged that a deliberate conspiracy with Japan couldn't have been more effective in damaging the fleet. When the truth is known, he said, the name of Roosevelt will be forever annihilated from the future of the United States.

"Asserting the America First party is pointing toward the 1948 election, Smith said he does not expect to win the election this year. He said the country should wait until the soldiers have returned before making plans for the future and warned the United States must 'keep the foreigners from picking our pockets so we will have something to plan with after the war is ended.'

"George R. Vose, Kalamazoo, America First candidate for the position of Michigan lieutenant governor, appeared in the uniform of the United States army, from which he explained, he was honorably discharged, presented a fiery address in which he stated he would fight for the returning servicemen and promised a $1,000 payment to every discharged veteran when the war is over.

"Also appearing on the program were C. J. Smith, Belding, the party's candidate for state treasurer and Dr. Leland L. Martin, Pontiac, candidate for governor."

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

(G.R. File 100-6185)

INDEX

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1204

SYMBOLS
DL = Day Letter
NT = Overnight Telegram
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

CLASS OF SERVICE
This is a full-rate Telegram or Cable-gram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

To Hoover

6NP J 16 Englewood Colo 338p Oct 7 1944

Walter Winchell

Care Blue Network Rf NYK.

[redacted]

Check Denver police records.

[redacted] Englewood Colorado Lotions of love.

Mike.

635p

HANDLED
STOP D

RECORDED & INDEXED
95

162-43818-
F B I
35 NOV 14 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/16/86 BY 5860

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

NOV 30 1944

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: November 13, 1944

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G, SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION
(Bureau file 62-43818)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP4 BTJ/mc

In accordance with your letter of September 21 the following additional information was obtained recently from confidential informants of this office concerning the Subject's attitude toward [redacted] of Chicago. It will be recalled that some time ago the Detroit Field Division reported that Subject was suspicious of [redacted] and thought that [redacted] might be spying upon him.

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau states that within the past few days [redacted] has been in Detroit and in contact with Subject's office in an effort to have a meeting with Subject. The purpose of this meeting is not known to informant, but Subject has indicated that he does not want to meet [redacted] and is still suspicious of him. This suspicion apparently is intensified by some actions of [redacted] in connection with the campaign of Representative CLARE HOFFMAN of Michigan for re-election to Congress. [redacted] was apparently working for HOFFMAN in his campaign. The exact nature of [redacted] actions referred to by Subject are not known to informant. Informant knew of no specific action of [redacted] which had aroused Subject's suspicions, but stated that Subject did not trust [redacted] because the latter was apparently able to travel widely and yet did not appear to have any job or other source of income. His personal manner is apparently quite aggressive and annoying, and this also probably has some bearing on the Subject's attitude toward him.

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau states that EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago, in a conversation with Subject on November 8, 1944, inquired as to Subject's opinion concerning [redacted] stating that he, SOUTHARD, thinks [redacted] is a "plant" and advised Subject to stay away from him. According to SOUTHARD, [redacted] has "two bad connections" in Chicago, one of them being a mysterious fellow across the street from him who has an office with no name on the door. Subject told SOUTHARD that in view of the "HOFFMAN deal" which [redacted] "pulled," Subject thought he was either an operative or a school kid.

HANDLED BY STOP DESK

EX-39 45 RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818-607

The same informant stated that on November 9 DON LOHBECK who is Subject's assistant advised that a certain "he," believed to refer to [redacted] wanted to see Subject about some things that he had arranged. Subject scoffed at this and advised LOHBECK to tell "that fellow" that it

414

56 NOV 27 1944

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205 OCT 19 1964

Letter to the Director
dated November 13, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was., et al.;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G, SECURITY
MATTER, SEDITION

is "no dice" and that "he" did not contribute to the cause by his activities concerning HOFFMAN.

As further information is received concerning any additional information regarding [redacted] and Subject's reasons for distrusting him, it will be forwarded to you.

b7c

[redacted] b7c

TELETYPE

NOV 14 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FBI DETROIT 11-14-44 7-25PM EWT

DIRECTOR URGENT

WENT.

GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, SECURITY MATTER, SEDITION. REMYTEL DATED NOVEMBER TEN. [redacted] ADVISES THAT THE MEETING OF THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY WHICH WILL BE ADDRESSED BY MRS. ELIZABETH DILLING AT THE BOOK CADILLAC HOTEL, DETROIT, NOVEMBER FIFTEEN, WILL BE PICKETED BY PERHAPS FIVE THOUSAND PEOPLE CARRYING PLACARDS. THE DEMONSTRATION WILL BE LED BY THE CIVIL RIGHTS FEDERATION. THE DEMONSTRATION WAS SUGGESTED BY [redacted] AND [redacted] MEETING WILL BE COVERED BY INFORMANTS.

62-43818-608

RECORDED
INDEXED
NOV 16 1944

BACK AND HOLD PLS

56 NOV 27 1944

8.87 7-27 PM OK FBI WA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/8/80 BY

Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

4-750 (2-7-79)

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Edwards
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: November 21, 1944

FROM : SAC, Detroit

AIR MAIL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

DECLASSIFIED BY 1-9-78

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF DATE 2/3/21 RS

[redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, advises that on November 20, 1944, a Mrs. BILLINGS of Chicago was in contact with Subject's wife by long-distance telephone. Mrs. BILLINGS identified herself as secretary of "We, the Mothers" and is undoubtedly identical with Mrs. GRACE BILLINGS, who is presently secretary to Mrs. LYRL CLARK VANHYNING of Chicago, who is head of "We, The Mothers Mobilize for America, Inc." of 537 South Dearborn Street, Chicago. Mrs. BILLINGS explained to Subject's wife that in the recent Presidential election, twenty-one states failed to place on their ballots the names of Presidential electors and that their failure in this respect was contrary to the United States Constitution. Mrs. BILLINGS stated that her organization, backed by many people who did not like the way the election went, intended to start mandamus proceedings against the Secretary of State in at least one of these states and possibly in all twenty-one of them. Mrs. BILLINGS wanted to have the Subject's help in this project and wanted him to come to Chicago. She stated that if a suit were filed, UPTON CLOSE, the radio commentator, had promised that he would devote radio time to it. Subject's wife made no commitments concerning his possible activities in behalf of this project and Informant did not know what plans, if any, Subject had in regard thereto.

The project above referred to by Mrs. BILLINGS has been previously reported by the Detroit Field Division in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 4, 1944, at Detroit, in the case of [redacted]" Bureau file [redacted] in this report it was pointed out that [redacted] a resident of Los Angeles, California, had visited at [redacted] home in Detroit on August 19, 1944, at which time his program for upsetting the election results by filing a suit or suits along the lines above indicated was set out. [redacted] at that time indicated that it would take about ten thousand dollars to finance this program and [redacted] volunteered to put up one thousand dollars of this amount and stated that [redacted] of Chicago, who is an associate of [redacted], would put up the balance of the money.

Information received from Informant since the date of the above-mentioned report indicates that [redacted] has apparently not been able to obtain the results which he had promised and [redacted] has expressed disappointment at his failure, indicating that she was not going to finance him a[illegible]

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RECORDED 62-45818-610

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NOV 22 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/8/82 BY [illegible]

Memo to Clark 11/29/44

Letter to the Director,
November 21, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

longer. In a letter dated October 1, 1944, addressed to [redacted] recounts some of [redacted] activities in connection with the above program and requests further financial assistance from [redacted] In the course of this letter, [redacted] states, "We have to work silently and rapidly and when the time comes execute a 'blitz' before they know what is happening, and I believe now we have the instrument with which to work." b7c

A photostatic copy of the above letter of [redacted] together with further information concerning the activities of [redacted] and her associates is being sent to the Bureau in a report in the [redacted] case, which case is now in the course of preparation in the Detroit Field Division. b7c

As further information is received from [redacted] relative to any further activities of [redacted] and [redacted] this information will be forwarded to you. b7c

[redacted]mjf
62-1126

b7c

JPH:WMJ
11-29-44

-610

RECORDED
EX-37

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

We have received information from a source whose identity must be protected and remain anonymous, that on November 29, 1944, a Mrs. Grace Billings, who is thought to be associated with the Chicago organization, "We, the Mothers, Mobilize for America, Inc.," expressed the opinion to subject's wife that in the recent Presidential election some twenty-one states failed to place the names of Presidential Electors on their ballots. Mrs. Billings was under the impression that this failure is contrary to the American Constitution and she reportedly told Mrs. Smith that her organization, backed by "many persons who do not like the way the election went" intends to start mandamus proceedings against the Secretary of State in at least one of these states and possibly in all twenty-one. Mrs. Billings indicated she believed this might have the effect of upsetting the results of the election and she allegedly stated that if such a suit were filed, Mr. Upton Close, the radio commentator, had promised that he would devote radio time to the project. Our source of information related that subject's wife remained noncommittal and did not indicate whether subject Smith would enter into the matter.

The records of the Criminal Division will reflect that under date of September 28, 1944, I sent you a memorandum captioned, [redacted] outlining a similar plan which was reportedly outlined by one [redacted] of Los Angeles at the home of [redacted] in Detroit, Michigan. We are now informed by another confidential source of information that although [redacted] previously expressed her intention to contribute financially to [redacted] proposed plan toward upsetting the results of the election, she now feels that [redacted] is a "failure" and is not worthy of further support. However, the previously mentioned [redacted] allegedly communicated with [redacted] around October 1, 1944, asking for financial assistance for the plan and at the same time stating substantially as follows: "We have to work silently and rapidly and when the time comes execute a 'blitz' before they know what is happening, and I believe now we have the instrument with which to work."

In the event the Bureau receives any further information concerning this alleged plan I shall, of course, immediately furnish you such data.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Karnes
Mr. Egan
Mr. Leo
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
DEC 1 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DATE 10/8/82

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Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
November 20, 1944

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ATTENTION ROUTING SLIP(S) OF
DATE 2/3/55

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH,
with aliases,
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - SECTION
(Bureau File 62-43818)

1-9-7 4913 / APIM

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/18/82 BY SP-8B7/MLK

Dear Sir:

There is being set out below pertinent information received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, during the period from October 31, 1944, to November 16, 1944, inclusive. b7D

Subject SMITH has devoted considerable attention to politics during the past several weeks. His candidate for Governor of Michigan on the AMERICA FIRST PARTY ticket, Reverend LELAND MARION of Pontiac, Michigan, had a radio program daily from 5:45 to 6:00 p.m. over Station WCAR, Pontiac, during the period from November 1 to November 6, 1944, inclusive. In the course of this campaign he advocated the election of himself as Governor of Michigan, and the election of Subject SMITH as President of the United States.

Following the announcement of the election returns, MARION contacted SMITH and stated that he felt the AMERICA FIRST PARTY had won the election in Michigan, but that he was unable to learn how many votes had been obtained by the Party's candidates. MARION stated that their Party was being ignored and that the votes of the minority parties were being divided up among the Democrats and Republicans. MARION stated he had spent a lot of money on the campaign and expected some results. SMITH was skeptical of MARION's charges that the AMERICA FIRST PARTY candidates were being ignored and indicated to MARION that the official count would not be available for some considerable time, but that their votes would be counted eventually. 62-43818-611

SMITH advised [redacted] of Indianapolis, prior to the election, that he felt the Democrats were forcing people to turn more to Nationalism and against Communism. Following the election SMITH told [redacted] that the cause of Nationalism had not been adversely affected by the results and that "We are just beginning to fight." [redacted] wrote a letter to [redacted] of Milwaukee stating that there was no hope for the United States in any leadership from either of the old parties and that b7D

DEC 13 1944

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after careful consideration he had cast his lot with SMITH, since SMITH was fundamentally a sound leader. [redacted] stated to [redacted] that the AMERICA FIRST PARTY was considering a series of two-day institutes to be held during the Winter in different cities, at which fundamental political economy and economics would be discussed. b7c

SMITH advised [redacted] an associate of his in Baltimore, Maryland, that DEWEY discovered during his campaign in the Middle West that the majority of the people in that section of the country thought along the same lines as did SMITH. b7c

Mrs. BEATRICE KNOWLES, another follower of SMITH's, indicated that she was much incensed over the election of ROOSEVELT.

SMITH and EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago were agreed that it was now time to step out and organize a new nationalistic party since the Republican Party is believed to be dead as a result of the election. SOUTHARD thought the victory was a Communist victory, but SMITH thought that the results would be good for the Nationalist cause in the long run.

During the course of the campaign, SMITH was in contact with various Republican politicians. He advised a certain CARMICHAEL of the Wayne County Republican Committee on November 4, that at the meeting held by the AMERICA FIRST PARTY the previous day, one of the persons attending such meeting had stated publicly that he had attended a Ku Klux Klan meeting back in Missouri many years ago, at which Senator HARRY TRUMAN had been the principal speaker. CARMICHAEL indicated that he was interested in this story and SMITH gave him the name and address of the man who had made the remark about TRUMAN. SMITH also gave the story to the various Detroit newspapers.

On the same day SMITH sold to CARMICHAEL of the Wayne County Republican Committee, fifteen thousand pamphlets entitled, "Vote CIO and have a Soviet America." These pamphlets were published by JOSEPH CAMP of the Constitutional Educational League of New York. SMITH advised CARMICHAEL he could have the pamphlets for the freight charges, which were one hundred dollars.

SMITH has been much interested in the circulation of literature in recent weeks. In addition to the pamphlets mentioned in the preceding paragraph, he also received one thousand copies of a speech by Senator REYNOLDS, which copies were sent out to his followers, and has printed and set out a pamphlet giving what he states are the true facts concerning the Tyler Kent case.

SMITH contacted the Chicago Tribune to obtain two thousand copies of an article by JOHN T. FLYNN, which appeared in the October 22d issue of that paper. He also has been extremely concerned about the handling of his magazine

"The Cross and the Flag," and has instructed his assistants to make a double check at the Post Office to be sure the magazines are received by the persons to whom they are addressed.

BERNARD DOMAN, who was SMITH's Secretary for about three years, left his employment on November 3. DON LOHBECK, formerly SMITH's associate in St. Louis, Missouri, is now doing DOMAN's work. [redacted]

The Detroit newspapers have been in contact with SMITH relative to LOHBECK's draft classification and have indicated some interest in such classification and LOHBECK's connection with SMITH. SMITH has advised LOHBECK that the publicity being given to his (LOHBECK's) draft status is being instigated by the Jews. [redacted]

GEORGE VOSE, who was SMITH's candidate for Lt. Governor of Michigan on the AMERICA FIRST PARTY ticket, has also been an object of attention from the Detroit newspapers in view of the fact that he was court martialled and sentenced to six months at hard labor while in the United States Army a year or so ago. SMITH advised the newspapers that VOSE had an honorable discharge and that the recent publicity concerning his court martial was "A smear campaign." SMITH indicated that he believed the recent article in the New York Post concerning VOSE and his court martial was libelous, but that he would not file suit against the newspaper. SMITH advised VOSE that "the Jews are out to get you. They are a desperate gang of rats." VOSE was advised to tell any persons interviewing him that he had an honorable discharge from the army and was a victim of persecution.

SMITH has apparently run into some financial difficulty in recent weeks. On November 1, his bank account was overdrawn, but on November 2 he made a large deposit which took care of the deficit in his bank balance, and apparently the recent returnings received from his followers in the mail have been substantial. On November 1st, for example, he received two hundred twenty-nine dollars, on November 2, more than six hundred dollars, and on November 4, four hundred and eighty dollars. These represent the contributions received through the mail.

Letter to the Director
November 20, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH,
with aliases, et al
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

SMITH sponsored a talk by ELIZABETH DILLING, which was given at the Book Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, November 15, 1944. SMITH introduced DILLING and she and SMITH were the only speakers on the program. The meeting at which she spoke was held under the sponsorship of "The Cross and the Flag." SMITH arranged for DILLING's hotel accommodations during her stay in Detroit and the meeting was apparently well attended. DILLING thought that the writeup of the meeting, as given in the Free Press on the following day, was fair. This writeup indicated that a thousand persons attended the meeting and that DILLING had spoken about the sedition trial in Washington, in which she is a defendant. The article further stated that SMITH had called for a Congressional investigation of this trial.

SMITH is apparently still suspicious of [redacted] of Chicago, who has been in Detroit in recent weeks. In a discussion of [redacted] with SOUTHARD, the latter expressed the opinion that, in view of the "HOFMANN deal," that [redacted] had "pulled," SOUTHARD felt that [redacted] was either "an operative or a school kid"; that [redacted] had two bad connections in Chicago, one of them a mysterious fellow across the street who has an office with no name on the door.

[redacted] is apparently endeavoring to contact SMITH and transact some sort of business with him, but SMITH has advised LOHBECK "to make that fellow (referring to [redacted]) understand that it is no dice." SMITH does not think [redacted] contributed anything to "the cause" by his actions with HOFMANN (referring to Congressman CLARE HOFMANN of Michigan). LOHBECK in turn advised VOSE to be careful of [redacted] since "something is wrong."

SMITH endeavored unsuccessfully to contact Senator REYNOLDS at Washington November 8 and 10. He sent a [redacted] who is connected with the former's Grange in Washington, and an unknown individual out to see [redacted] former Executive of the Ford Motor Company. An unidentified friend of SMITH spoke to one of the officers of the Dearborn Independent (a small local newspaper formerly reportedly owned by HENRY FORD), telling him that ROOSEVELT was a Communist and "We have got to do something." The man at the newspaper agreed and SMITH's friend believed this individual was open to conviction and that SMITH should follow up the contact which had been made.

On November 12, SMITH flew to Milwaukee from Detroit for some purpose which was unknown to Informant, and returned to Detroit on November 13. Informant thought this might have been a purely personal visit since SMITH had been in contact with his mother recently and she lives in Wisconsin not far from Milwaukee.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

ALL
b2c

[redacted]
62-1126

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-22780

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.	10-31-44	10-19-44	[redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, was. THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G; SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

~~STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject addressed meeting sponsored by MRS. CATHERINE V. BROWN and MRS. LILLIAN PARKS, officers of National Blue Star Mothers of America at Phila., 10-1-44. Approximately 1,000 persons in attendance. Meeting was addressed by GEORGE VOSE and MRS. ELIZABETH DILLING.

- RUC -

b7c

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated September 27, 1944 at Detroit.

DETAILS: The following report on the meeting addressed by the subject, held at Turngemeinde Hall, Broad above Columbia Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on October 1, 1944, under the auspices of the officers of the National Blue Star Mothers of AMERICA, MRS. CATHERINE V. BROWN and MRS. LILLIAN PARKS, was furnished by [redacted] to this office: b7c

ORDER OF EVENTS

DEFERRED RECORDING

Called to order by MRS. ELIZABETH PARKS, 5004 Florence Avenue, Philadelphia, Secretary of the National Blue Star Mothers of America. She asked the audience to rise and repeat the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Introductory remarks by MRS. CATHERINE BROWN, 106 Main Street, Darby, Pa.

First Speech by GERALD L. K. SMITH.

HANDLED BY TOUR DESK

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: J. J. Dunn SAC — SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

ENCLOSURE — DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

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DATE 10/8/92 BY SP-1 BTS/M

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 7—2034

PHILADELPHIA FILE #100-22780

Collection for National Blue Star Mothers, asked for by MRS. CATHERINE BROWN.

Second speech by GERALD L. K. SMITH, who introduced RALPH BAERMAN sitting on the speakers platform; he however did not speak. Also introduced two other speakers - Veteran GEORGE VOSE and MRS. ELIZABETH DILLING.

Speech by GEORGE VOSE.

Speech and songs by MRS. ELIZABETH DILLING.

Third speech by GERALD L. K. SMITH, including the appeal for funds at conclusion of meeting.

Audience led by GERALD L. K. SMITH in reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Platform occupied left to right by GEORGE VOSE, RALPH BAERMAN, GERALD L. K. SMITH, MRS. GERALD L. K. SMITH, MRS. ELIZABETH DILLING, MRS. ELIZABETH PARKS and MRS. CATHERINE BROWN.

Approximately 1000 men and women attended this meeting.

MRS. PARKS:

Mr. SMITH, ladies and gentlemen of the America First Party in Philadelphia and honored guests, it gives me pleasure to welcome you tonight to this meeting of real Americans held at a critical hour in the history of our nation.

It also gives me pleasure to have such distinguished visitors as MR. GERALD L. K. SMITH, our fearless leader, and other members of his organization on the same platform with me. I know that you are impatient to hear the message which he brings to you tonight, so I will now present MRS. CATHERINE BROWN, head of the Blue Star Mothers in Philadelphia, who I am sure has a message you will want to hear. MRS. BROWN.

MRS. BROWN:

MRS. SMITH, honored guests, and members of the America First Party. It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to a meeting at which such distinguished persons as those you see occupying the platform will be able to speak to you on the problems which confront the great nation at this time.

This is an election year, a National election year, and after seeing the morass into which this country has been plunged by the Administration in Washington, I think you agree with me that the time is ripe for a change.

PHILADELPHIA FILE #100-22780

We cannot go on forever under the skullduggery and bungling of the Roosevelt Administration which has brought this great Nation to the verge of disaster. We cannot endure another four years of this kind of misgovernment without ruining this great Nation of ours.

What we need in this country today is a strong Nationalist Party in order to save us from the Communists and bureaucrats who have taken over the functions of our duly elected representatives, who want to govern by directive and subject us to more and more regimentation.

With the end of the war we want the end of rationing, not an extension of it. We want our boys to come home from this global war and not spend their time policing the world for the internationally minded bureaucrats in Washington to further their international plans.

We want a strong America, a place for Americans and not such slimy scum as Communists and there is one man who if elected will give us that kind of an America which we want and which our forefathers intended when they drew up our form of government which is now being so severely mistreated by those in power.

It now gives me a great pleasure to introduce the next President of the United States, the Honorable GERALD L. K. SMITH.

GERALD L. K. SMITH:

Ladies and gentlemen of the America First Party in Philadelphia, it always gives me great pleasure to greet such a loyal group of America Firsters as we have in Philadelphia and you certainly show your enthusiasm by the size of the crowd which has turned out tonight.

Your group is typical of America First groups all over the Nation which I have been addressing recently. You are fired with enthusiasm and a never say die spirit which will lead us to the formation of a nationalist party which will sweep all before it and the tidal wave will engulf the Nation. We are going to win and we will win, no matter what obstacles we have to overcome and how much we are laughed at and derided.

I stand before you tonight as the candidate for President of the America First Party. You know we had a convention not long ago and there were a lot of good America Firsters there from all over the country. They came from the North, the South, the East and West, but they were all loyal members of the America First Party.

They stand for the ideals of the party. They are nationalists and they will never stop being nationalists as long as they have a breath in their body. First of all I want to report to you about the convention then I have some other things to tell you.

PHILADELPHIA FILE #100-22780

Then, there are some people on this platform, all good America Firsters, some of whom will speak to you. I then have another message for you regarding the state of the party throughout the Nation and I expect to tell you one of the most sensational stories which I think I have ever heard.

This story has never been told before and I am telling to to you for the first time tonight. In my opinion it is so sensational that it should have a far-reaching effect on the political campaign and go a long way toward ridding us of an Administration which has lead us into all kinds of entanglements with its international policy, piled up an ever increasing debt, used all kinds of skullduggery to stay in power, now poses as indispensable, to the peace and welfare of the country, and crowns it's misrule by having Republican nominee, THOMAS E. DEWEY, cover it up.

I accepted the nomination for President on the America First ticket, fully realizing it would mean a trip to the cross. It means crucifixion. I know that I will be hounded and assaulted from all sides by such scandal mongers and character assinators as the Winchells and Pearsons.

I know all this but in spite of it I accepted. It might even lead to my assassination for there are forces in this country which would stop at nothing to get GERALD L. K. SMITH out of the way. I stood within six feet of Senator HUEY LONG, when he was shot down by an assassin in Louisiana. But if I fall in a pool of my own blood I know that I have done my duty to my country and a thousand others will spring up to carry on the work of the America First Party.

Remember friends, Christ did not become mayor of Jerusalem and St. Paul did not become mayor of Rome. But these men carried on their work despite the jeers and sneers of the populace and they have won eternal fame. We America Firsters, who are fighting for a great heritage are now being abused and derided by people such as the Communists and New Dealers in Washington and I am proud of the fact.

There is no middle of the road policy today. Either you are for America First or for the enemies of this great country who are trying to spoil the heritage left to us and seeking to become internationalists under the leadership of Roosevelt.

These debauchers have spent our money recklessly with lend-lease to any foreign power, saddled us with terrific debt and high taxes and now our boys are intended by them to take up the policing of the world after the war is won. I say bring our boys home, give them back their jobs, mind our own business and don't be concerned with what is going on all over the world.

PHILADELPHIA FILE #100-22780

Now I want to ask you a question, and before I do it, with all due respect to MRS. BROWN and not to make you think that I take her remarks facetiously, I do not think it is possible that I will be elected President this year. But, we have laid the groundwork for a powerful Nationalist Party in 1948 and we are going to win then. I don't know who the candidate will be, but whoever it is he will go to the White House and I mean the White House not a place having a red or pink tinge.

The question I wanted to ask you is: How many people know the name of the first candidate for President of the Republican Party? (several hands were raised - no one answered). Well, I see a lot of you ex-Republicans who are now America Firsters did not study up on the history of your ex-Party. Well, I will tell you. It was JOHN FREEMAN. It was JOHN FREEMAN and he laid the groundwork in 1856 for the success of Abraham Lincoln in 1860. Such things are not achieved in a short time, but with the servicemen returning - and all of them will be American Firsters after their experiences, we will sweep the Nation.

Now let me tell you about our convention and our platform. It is contained in the beautiful printed form which I hold in my hand. It contains the forty points in our platform, also the seal of the party which I want to explain to you. It is on the last page. The flag symbolized American Nationalism. The cross symbolizes Christian principle, the vignette is a picture of George Washington, the first great America First President, and the mascot is the American Bison. You know we selected a distinctly American animal for a mascot; they have tried to destroy the bison but he has survived in spite of their efforts just as we will.

We also took the bison because we don't want to be like the Republicans who adopted an African elephant, or the Democrats who adopted a European jackass.

(At this point MRS. DILLING passed a note to MRS. GERALD L. K. SMITH, who read it and then passed it to her husband. MRS. PARKS left the stage and went into the audience and questioned a man who was using a stenotype machine, "What are you, what paper do you represent?" She received no answer and continued, "You don't know who you represent but you are taking notes on a stenotype machine. Well, now that's something, I guess you had better leave the hall.")

Nowwait a minute young man. If you don't know who you work for, I might say that is strange. Representatives of the press are welcome here. I have found reporters to be generally good fellows. They do not control the editorial columns or the way news must be written in some papers.

They have to work for a living and do the best they can. I don't care what paper you work for. It can be the Record, the Inquirer, the Daily Worker, the B'Nai Brith News or any paper so long as you show your press card you are welcome here, but if you don't know who you are working for close your machine. I'll tell you what, you may stay as our guest. It's all settled now, he stays. When he didn't know who he was working for, he is probably telling the truth. His boss just told him to come up here and make a stenographic report of the meeting. But I'll bet that a little investigation would disclose the fact that you are working for the B'Nai Brith or the anti-defamation society. It's all settled now, you may stay as our guest.

Now I want to turn the meeting over to MRS. BROWN for a few minutes. You know money must be raised to pay for the rent of the hall and to carry on the fine work of the Blue Star Mothers in Philadelphia. I want to tell you that every cent which is put in the collection baskets, which the ushers will pass, goes to the Blue Star Mothers, not one cent to GERALD L. K. SMITH. After that I will be back to introduce some of the important people on the platform who I know you want to hear and then I will give you some more facts and sensational news. MRS. BROWN.

MRS. BROWN:

This is an unpleasant duty but it has to be done. Funds are required to carry on our work and we never receive any large amounts of money. The cost of renting the hall and bringing such speakers as MR. SMITH to Philadelphia costs money and we also have sizeable printing bills. With all the good work we have been doing we have never received a contribution through the mail as large as five dollars, so we are asking you to give as much as you can to help us carry on our fight against an enemy who seems to be well supplied with cash. (Collection taken).

GERALD L. K. SMITH:

I believe the top interest of every loyal American is in the fate which will befall our sons and daughters when they return from this terrible war. At the present time, pensions are inadequate and refugees are taking the jobs. You see this disabled soldier sitting on the platform. Well the government gives him a miserable thirty four dollars a month for being disabled in the leg. When he first returned to civilian life what do you think happened to him? He had a friend who secured a job for him with a big concern. His injured leg, however, required the use of a crutch most of the time to permit him to get around. Now, what do you think his friend said to him a few days after he was working? He said, will you please get rid of that crutch and don't be seen around here using it, you know this company isn't permitted to hire people unless they are in good physical condition.

PHILADELPHIA FILE #100-22780

I ask you, is this the sort of thing that is going to happen to our returning servicemen? Our bureaucrats and internationally minded upstarts in Washington can give away billions of dollars to foreign nations under the pretext of lend lease or what have you, but they do nothing to prevent such conditions at home.

The other day MR. EARL BROWDER, that ex-jailbird who was released by Presidential pardon, addressed a big meeting in New York. These termites who have penetrated into the very core of our Government and tell Roosevelt what to do, now see a real opportunity for taking over our Government I tell you the real battle in the next four years is going to be between them and their Jewish masters and we people of America First. It is going to be a real fight and we won't lose.

Think of it, people of the ilk of Browder and Hillman back Roosevelt for re-election to a fourth term, and Mr. Dewey stumbling around and not accepting the support of the America First Party, the only people who have the real welfare of the United States at heart.

I am going to tell you something now which seems almost impossible. We have been so duped and mislead by the publicity of hocus-pocus put out by the Communistic bureaucrats and so confused by the veil of censorship that we do not know what is going on abroad. Things which are common knowledge in other countries are not known here. Britain knows more than we do about the war and someday the veil of censorship will be lifted and I predict that a tidal wave of nationalist sentiment will sweep the country taking all before it and put the America First party in power.

Right now, I make this statement and no one comes forth to deny it. Madam Chiang Kai-Shek is a fugitive in exile, the Chinese have been beaten by the Japanese, and the American Air Force in China is beaten. We are not told these things. We are only given the good news by the people who led us into this war.

I want a showdown now before election. I want to know what Mr. Churchill and Mr. Roosevelt discussed on that Atlantic Ocean meeting when the Atlantic Charter was spawned. What did they decide to do, and then refuse to tell the people. Strange isn't it that after Pearl Harbor when we declared war on Germany, Mr. Churchill should say, "Thank God for this. This is what I have been working and praying for for months". And while they are explaining that bit of skull duggery away they might as well tell us what they decided at Teheran. Three men sit down and make commitments involving millions of people and we are supposed to follow them blindly into an international policy in which Churchill is looking out for England and Stalin is looking out for Russia and I am sure all America can get out of it is the honor of paying the bill and sacrificing our sons and daughters.

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We have been led into an awful mess but we cannot continue to follow such leadership for the next four years or we will be regimented by the Hillman's and others until we cannot draw a free breath of air.

While this censorship is going on abroad, we loyal America Firsters are also subjected to persecution and false information right here at home. Such people as Walter Winchell, Drew Pearson and that man Roy Carlson, author of "Undercover" have been sent out subsidized by the Jews, New Dealers, and bureaucrats to smear everyone opposed to them.

By the way, that book "Undercover" which was such a sensation, has now deteriorated to the point where they will soon be giving it away to try to get people to read it. Think of it, a man like Carlson trying to smear such good Americans as Father Coughlin, Burton Wheeler and Gerald Nye.

The newspapers are also in this conspiracy. You know who owns most of the newspapers, I don't need to tell you. (Rubbed his nose and the audience howled). Well, they don't mind giving out some false information to cause us trouble. But, I caution you now, don't believe what you read in the papers. If we say we are going to have a meeting at a certain place and a certain time, you be there. We will have the meeting.

Let me tell you a story about the Stevens Hotel in Chicago during the Republican Convention. We had made arrangements for a meeting in the ballroom at a certain time, but on that day when I went over I found a Bricker for President headquarters in one section of the ballroom which had been closed off. Mind you, we had paid the rent for the rooms but were shut out.

Well, I told two of my workers to go over to the Bricker headquarters and offer to go to work passing out literature, buttons, shaking hands, talking to people or doing whatever they wanted them to do. They went over and the man in charge put them to work. They were covered with Bricker buttons, and since the room became stuffy and hot they asked the man in charge to open the doors to get better ventilation.

Well, the trick worked and we now had the ballroom complete, but a harmonica band moved in and started to play all afternoon. Well, the America Firsters who knew the meeting was going to be held were moving into the hall. These people knew we could hold the meeting so they were there.

Finally, I jumped on a chair and warned the band leader that he had better stop in two minutes if he hoped to get out with whole instruments and whole hide. Our enemies rushed out and called in the crews of about eight squad cars and the Police came rushing in with Tommy guns. But,

we had them fooled again, and they realized it. A lot of America Firsters had put on Bricker and Dewey badges and they knew if they fired a shot they would kill anybody so the Police Inspector intervened, yelled at the men not to shoot, and told the band leader to get out with his band before a riot started.

The Police called in to throw us out, threw out the band and the meeting got under way. And I must say in justice to the Manager of the Stevens Hotel that he came up on the platform and apoligized for what had happened and said he hoped we would understand that the hotel management was caught between two fires and was not responsible. Thank God a few such people still exist in this country.

These people will stop at nothing, and to further demonstrate to you what I mean, I want to tell you about an incident which happened in New York the other day. I had a press conference and I must say in justice to the average newspaperman who works for a living they are not bad fellows. They have to do what they are told to do, so I do not hold them responsible for what appears in the papers. It is their master who will be called to account.

Well, I had this press conference and a man came in after it started and sat on a window sill. Finally he asked a question and I looked over. It was Roy Carlson, the author of "Undercover". I said I will not honor that question from a slimy creature like you, walked over, grabbed him by the arm, pulled him from the window sill, grabbed him by the back of the neck and the seat of the pants and threw him out of the meeting. Now, I guess you will believe me when I tell you I am in good physical shape.

Think of it, a man who has tried to smear good Americans coming in and asking a question after we have been hounded by the New Deal Gestapo, put over the barrel and through the wringer by such agencies as Internal Revenue, FBI, OGPU and all the other alphabetical bums that they have set up to protect them and perpetuate them in power.

I tell you that I am not anti-semitic, anti-Catholic, anti-Methodist, anti-Temperance, or anti-anything. I am for America First. These agencies and such men as Winchell, Carlson, or Pearson do more to stir up anti-semitic feeling in an hour than I have done in my entire life and if they keep it up they will pay the penalty for it, I promise them that, and I know what I am talking about.

But now, I have some other people here on the platform that I want to introduce to you. They are all good America Firsters and are in the forefront of this fight to save America and the American tradition.

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First, I want to introduce MR. RALPH BAERMAN of Washington. He is an author and writer and supervises the putting out of many of the pamphlets which you receive which keep you informed regularly of the progress being made by our organization.

(BAERMAN got up and took a bow, but said nothing).

Now, I have to present a veteran of this war, GEORGE VOSE, who is traveling with me for the first time. He is looking the ground over and getting acquainted. You will hear a lot more from him in the months to come. He is going to organize the veterans of this war into America First groups and I tell you that they will all want to join after what they have experienced at the heads of our globalminded bureaucrats and President in Washington.

This soldier has an Honorable Discharge and character references from two of his Commanding Officers. I have them in my files where they will stay until it is necessary to produce them. He will shortly be a target for all kinds of character assassinations but this man is not afraid. He stood up under persecution in the Army and he will stand up in the cause of America First. It now gives me great pleasure to present GEORGE VOSE, a disabled veteran of the present war. (SMITH mentioned that the injury for which VOSE was given a disability discharge was cuased in a training accident in this country).

GEORGE VOSE who being in the uniform of an American soldier, then took the platform. MR. SMITH, honored guests and members of the America First Party in Philadelphia, I am a veteran of this war, an honorably discharged veteran who served more than two years in the United States Army, and who was injured while on maneuvers. I spent a lot of time in the Battle Creek Military Hospital and while I was there I came in contact with many men who had served overseas and saw sights that would make the blood of you fathers, and mothers of men in the service freeze in your veins.

My home is in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and when I got home, I decided to dedicate my life to organizing the veterans of the war who are returning home for the cause of the America First party. I realize the great fight that is being made by MR. SMITH for the Nationalist cause in this country and I earnestly believe that every returning American soldier, when he finds out what the America First party stands for, will join its ranks without hesitation.

No Communists or inspired Communist groups holds any terrors for me. As MR. SMITH said, if I am killed while performing what I believe to be my sacred duty, I will consider my life to have been sacrificed in a great cause and I feel sure that others will spring up immediately to carry on the work which I have started.

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I am not a speaker of the calibre of GERALD SMITH, but in my own way I will attempt to tell you and bring home to you the problems which are faced by returning servicemen and what my plans are for organizing them into a group that can successfully combat any attempts which may be made to take advantage of them as was done after the last war.

I know what that was. My half brother was a veteran of the first world war, and he, with thousands of others, returned home to find they could not get their old jobs back. They walked the streets and nothing was done for them. This time it is going to be different. Organized under the banner of the America First Party, we will keep this country for Americans.

I say put up the bars, and keep out these refugees right now. Twenty million of them are pounding at the gates waiting for an opportunity to enter this country and a lot have gotten in already and taken our jobs. I say send these refugees back where they came from and Americanize the people we have in our slums now. The veterans organized under America First will see that boats are furnished to send them back where they came from and then our boys can have the jobs which they are now occupying.

While in the Hospital I saw signs which would make you mothers and fathers of service men unable to sleep at night. Men returning from this global war with both eyes out, minus arms and legs and generally shot to pieces. Take my own case, I was injured on maneuvers and can now scarcely stand on my left leg. What did the Government do for me? They gave me a pension of $34.00 a month, less than the fifty dollars they paid me for an opportunity to get injured.

I want the returning serviceman organized so that such things are impossible and the disabled men are paid pensions in the right proportion to their injuries and I also want the government to pay pensions to you mothers and fathers who have been deprived of the support and financial help which your sons or daughters would have given if they had not been dragged out to fight this terrible war.

They have a law in Michigan which pays a small pension to old people. I came in contact with a horrible case while I was in the Hospital. A soldier, blinded in both eyes, called me to his bedside one day while I was walking through the ward and told me a horrible story. He had made an allotment of $22.50 to his parents, most of which came out of his pay. This was reported by the Federal Government and the Michigan authorities immediately cut off the pension to his parents.

They have money to send lend lease to Russia and Great Britain and can do anything else in this country that they want to do but this had to happen and as God is my judge, I am going to see that it is stopped and laws are passed which will prevent such actions against returning servicemen.

You should see these men in the Hospitals, terrible physical wrecks, which were once the flower of our young manhood. Wrecked absolutely wrecked. And for what I ask you, to further the international plans of our Bureaucrats in Washington who care nothing for the wounds, suffering, and death which they have caused all over this nation.

Now, look at what happened after the last war. The soldiers came home, couldn't get their jobs back, and the misery, and suffering was intense. The Government which had sent them abroad to fight did nothing to relieve the conditions. What happened? A group finally went to Washington to demand a bonus and what did they get?

Well you know, my half-brother went through it and I'll tell you. They were handled like cattle and thrown out of Washington by regular Army troops. They were driven with bayonets, stabbed in their backs, their wives and children were gassed and the few that had automobiles saw them burned right before their eyes. Is this the kind of treatment for veterans I ask you. It certainly isn't, and it won't happen again if the veterans organize on the principles of the America First platform.

I have been traveling around this country a lot, and with my uniform it is possible for me to visit canteens and other places where servicemen congregate. I talked to them and I tell you everyone of them is ready to join the America First Party, for it stands for the principles which these men want to see enforced in the United States. They all say, let the British look out for the British, and the Russians look out for the Russians, we will look out for the United States. That is the kind of a Nationalist spirit the servicemen have and they don't want to be spending their time policing the world after this war is over. They want to get home and form a Nationalist Party.

There is the man who will lead us to victory in 1948. (Points to SMITH). He stands for everything we want, and the platform of the America First Party is the platform of every returning serviceman.

Let me tell you about a few things that have happened while I have been traveling around the country. I was on a bus near Lima, Ohio, and some foreigner asked me where I was going. I told him home and he said it was too bad soldiers had to travel so much since conditions were so bad. In Russia, they wouldn't let them do it, he added. I told him if he liked Russia so well why didn't he stay there or go back now. He said he would stay here and this country would eventually be like Russia. All they need here, he added, is to get rid of these Priests and Ministers and this country would be all right. Think of it, get rid of the Priests and Ministers,

why those ungodly Communists would do anything to wreck our way of American life and accomplish their foul purposes.

I met another sad case near my home town. A soldier was hitch-hiking and I offered him a lift. I asked him where he was going, and he said to see his mother in a small town in Massachusetts. I said he was a long way from home and he said he had come from California. He then told me his story, and I am going to repeat it to you. He was back from overseas after two years abroad. He was in Camp in California and was going to be shipped out again. One day his Commanding Officer called him in and told him that under the circumstances he could have a 15 day furlough.

What can I do, he asked the Officer. I want to see my mother but I have only sixty cents. What did the Officer say? Well, I'll tell you. He said that's not my problem, do you want the 15 day furlough or don't you? Well, the soldier took the furlough and started to hitch-hike to Massachusetts for what might well be the last time he would see his mother. I tell you, when men in the service are treated this way, they begin to realize what is being done to them by a government which has no interest in their personal welfare. They realize what the principles of the America First Party mean to them and they want to join immediately.

Now, getting back to my case. The United States Army knew that I was an America First Party member and I was hounded all the time I was in the service. They did everything to me that could possibly be done to make my life miserable. Why, they even wanted to give me a dishonorable discharge. But truth and justice prevailed and my friends took care of me and forced them to abandon such tactics. I have an honorable discharge and two letters from my Commanders testifying to my character, honesty, and integrity. They are in Mr. SMITH's files and he will show them to anyone who wants to see them.

I could go on all evening telling you such stories of the treatment of soldiers under this system of government which we have in Washington and I tell you it is time for a change; that is why I say America First, last, and always.
(Vose saluted the audience with a military salute as he stepped to the microphone, reached several high pitches of emotion and threw them a kiss as he finished). The audience gave him a tremendous applause.

GERALD L. K. SMITH:

Now we have an outstanding woman with us tonight whom I know you will be anxious to hear. She is MRS. DILLING, the author of "Red Network". She has been indicted for her activities and has been sitting in Washington

for the past six months while the government agencies of the New Deal have been trying to make out a case against her. To date, they have done nothing and the case is dragging on. She will tell you some of the things that happened and how she is helping some of these unfortunate little people who have been hounded and persecuted for daring to raise their voices against the bureaucrats.

I know you are in a hurry to hear MRS. DILLING, but I must tell the story of the eight Ohio farmers which no newspaper in the country wants to publish. These eight farmers wanted some machinery which was badly needed to harvest a corn crop.

They went to a country fair near Selima, Ohio, and Representative CLARE HOFFMAN, who will have no part of the New Deal shenanigans, was there with an English farm machinery catalogue offering for sale all kinds of machinery which you can't get in this country without an OK from the triple A or some other government agency which is supposed to keep the farmer vote in line.

Well, these farmers wanted a corn picker and in a disgusted frame of mind went to the machinery dealer. He had one standing in a store but told them they would have to fill out a multitude of forms and get a priority before they could have the machine.

These farmers were really mad, they asked him how much the machine cost and he said $850. The farmers laid down the cash and took the machine out of the place. Mind you, the machine was standing there and they needed it to harvest a crop for the war effort, and the civilians could have gotten the same machine in England according to the catalogue. I guess they made it in England from lend-lease steel which is denied our manufacturers and sent abroad.

Well, when the bureaucrats heard of this they sent a smart young lawyer out there and had the eight farmers arrested. The bail was set at $20,000 apiece, $160,000 for this offense against the bureaucrats. The farmers were trundled off to jail, but the America Firsters in Ohio got busy and in 10 hours the cash bail was on the line and the farmers were back home.

They were tried and the case should have attracted National attention, but no, the newspapers and radio under the thumb of the New Dealers and the bureaucrats, afraid of invoking their wrath, gave it nothing. The Judge after they were convicted, realized that it would be wrong to put eight farmers in jail at this critical time, sentenced them to a year, then put them on probation. This I tell you is the kind of thing that is going on in this country right under your very noses and if it were not for that

man described as a rabble rouser and leader of the lunatic fringe, GERALD L. K. SMITH, you would know nothing about it.

But now I want to present to you a woman who is a leader in our fight and who I believe knows more about Communists than any other woman in the United States, MRS. ELIZABETH DILLING.

MRS. ELIZABETH DILLING:

Good evening you Philadelphians who are such loyal believers in the program of America First. It is a pleasure to appear on the same platform with our leader, MR. GERALD L. K. SMITH and others connected with his work.

I am one of those terrible people that have been indicted and am now being tried in Washington for trying to keep this country out of the clutches of the Jews and Communists who have permeated the New Deal. But I want to report they are not getting very far for the trial is a farce. The government prosecutor has been stumbling around for six months while we sit on benches day after day listening to him, trying to make out a case and he hasn't been able to do anything yet.

The trial is a disgrace to American justice for they have picked on a lot of small people who are poor and have no money to defend themselves. Before I am done, I will tell you how you can do something to help them and I have spent more than $150,000 of my own money just seeing that they have enough to eat while they are being forced to sit and listen to this travesty on Justice.

I didn't realize what was going on at first when a lot of them were brought into the Court room the first few days. Then I started to talk to them and they were not being properly fed and were being ill-treated. And do you know by whom? Well, they were being persecuted by Government agencies who pose as Investigators and those other people who are their masters.

I have a song here which will describe who I mean. (She then sang a song to the tune of the Marine Hymn "The Halls of Montezuma" but it was worded about a Jewish refugee from Europe who landed in this country and was immediately fed on the fat of the land).

Think of it, these people are allowed to come here, take our jobs, attempt to overthrow our form of government and do just as they please while our boys must go abroad to further the sins of our internationally minded people in Washington and beat down people all over the world who are only trying to look out for themselves and protect themselves from the horrors which the Communists will bring to their country.

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This trial is a farce. The Judge sits there (works her face like someone chewing and listens to the government trying to make out a case). Everytime something is questioned, the answer is always the same. He bangs his gavel, (thumps her fist on the desk), evidence admitted. With all the help they are getting, they can't do anything after six months.

(Then sang a song to the tune of "Three Blind Mice").

Now I have copies of a speech by Senator LANGER which I want you all to read. I will be selling these after the meeting and any contribution you make will be used to help these poor unfortunate people who are being tried and persecuted in Washington.

Thank you all for turning out tonight and I know that under the leadership of such a man as GERALD L. K. SMITH, our cause will triumph, maybe not this fall, but we will carry the fight in and sweep the nation in 1948. Thank you.

GERALD L. K. SMITH:

Well, now you have heard from two people who certainly know what is taking place in this great country of ours. I suppose you will want to hear them again and you will most certainly have the opportunity in the near future. You will have a chance to hear MR. VOSE deliver a long speech and tell you more about what the returning veterans in this war face.

By the way, I want to tell you what happened to my son. You know he was a handsome six-footer with six years of military training in military school. Well, he was in the Army and was supposed to go to Officers' school when the arch enemy of all American Firsters, Walter Winchell, got upon the radio and said this boy is the son of that despicable man, GERALD L. K. SMITH who stomped on an American flag. That rag I stomped on was an international thing devised by the Jews and Communists as a world flag to fly over our Stars and Stripes. Well, the Army got busy and he was put at the lowest job in the Army, leading a pack mule. But he is a real soldier, he never complained.. He was placed on a transport, we didn't know where he was and started overseas. The transport was torpedoed and he floated around in the water for hours. He was finally rescued and reached India. But despite all their attempts to keep him down, he is going to be one of the great heroes of this war for he got to Burma as one of Merrill's Marauders. This was a suicide assignment for 3,000 men. They volunteered and my boy was one of the volunteers.

They searched the entire armed forces for these men, for they had to be absolutely perfect physical specimens. Perfect teeth, perfect heart action, and all that goes with a military physical examination. Well, my boy was chosen and of his group of threehundred, two hundred were killed and the other hundred had to be hospitalized to a man. My son was wounded in the

hip and is now in a hospital. Think of it, fighting in the jungles and swamps of Burma, exposed to malaria and all those tropical fevers for what. To further the aims of a group of internationally minded bureaucrats in Washington who are hungry for world domination. A group which permitted the shipping of scrap iron and oil to Japan until just a short time before Pearl Harbor.

Think of it, junk men, and you know who they are, shipping scrap iron and oil with the blessing of those renegades in Washington, so my son could be wounded in the hip with a chunk of his grandmother's tea kettle.

These things are going to be stopped and those people called to account and the veterans of this war organized along with the loyal America firsters will put an end to it when they come home. How many veterans of the last war are here tonight? Let's see your hands. Well, you know what they did for you and it is not going to happen again.

Something is wrong with this country when a man has to come from a certain group of people, or from a certain section of the country to be elected President. I don't care if a man comes from the North or South, East, Middlewest, or Pacific Coast, so long as he has the principles of America First in his heart, let him be the leader of this great people.

Here you have two candidates of the Republicans and Democrats, both come from Duchess County, New York. One has a big estate, the other not so big. One is a little man with a big dog and the other is a big man with a little dog. The big man with the little dog will resort to any skull duggery to achieve a fourth term and the little man with the big dog has the effrontery to come before the voters and attempt to cover up his opponent's skull duggery.

I want to know what happened at the Churchill-Roosevelt conference on the Atlantic Ocean. It has been kept away from the people of this nation and it is time to know before election. I want a full report of what happened at Pearl Harbor when our ships were lined up for the Japs like ducks on a pond and our boys were shot like fish in a barrel.

Think of it, God only knows how many ships were sunk and 3000 boys killed and no one of the public knows the truth today. Reports from Australia tell us we were warned that the Japs were approaching five days ahead of time, but Mr. Roosevelt never took the trouble to warn Kimmel and Short. We were also told that our ships were firing on the Japs several days in advance, still no one knew it at Pearl Harbor.

What kind of skull duggery was this, it is time we all knew. Why don't they court martial Kimmel and Short? They both say they would welcome it and if they are guilty punish them instead of having them sit around paying them on a pension which is costing you and I and every other tax payer money. I'll tell you why they don't. They are afraid to bring it to light for the whole country, for the whole dirty mess will cause a lot of feeling in this country and everyone will become an American Firster.

The time to air this is right now before election, when the people, the voters, will have a chance to make their decision, not later when we will have to endure four more years of this kind of misrule. Think of it, such expenses saddled on the taxpayers along with the costs of guarding Mr. Roosevelt's estate in Duchess County and that guard is a regular military establishment maintained at heavy cost to the taxpayers. But that isn't the only thing I want to tell you about tonight. I am opposed to all these conferences, such as Teheran and Dumbarton Oaks, where the public is excluded and agreements are made about which we know nothing. I would be satisfied if representatives of the press would be admitted. Then we would feel that at least we were getting to know something, but even they are barred.

You have heard of the conference at Dumbarton Oaks. Well, I heard of it too and was heartily sick of such business and covering up as was going on in Washington. Secretary Hull, conferring with Mr. John Foster Dulles, a representative of Governor Dewey. That is what I am talking about when I tell you one party covers up the skull duggery of the other.

Well, I decided to go to Washington to find out what was going on at Dumbarton Oaks. So I went down and called Secretary Hull and as the Presidential candidate of the America First Party asked what was going on. I could not get an appointment with Hull but was asked if Breckinridge Long, his assistant, would do. I said yes, he would do.

Well, I had a meeting with him at which I presented several questions and proposals but he told me that the meeting was a closed one and no one could be admitted. So I went out to Dumbarton Oaks, got out of the car in which I was riding and started up toward the building.

A soldier stopped me and told me I could go no further. I asked him after telling him who I was, what he would do if I insisted upon going up and knocking on the door. Well, if you insist upon going further without the proper credentials and you don't have them, he added, I guess I will have to shoot you.

Then, I asked if it were possible to send in a message to Mr. Stettinus, it was very important, and I had propounded some questions which were written on a paper. He said no. If anything like that were done it would have to be taken to the State Department down town. By this time, some

other soldiers had gathered, including a Corporal, a sergeant, a Captain and a Major.

About this time a car drew up and some flunky got out wearing a big badge which gave him the run of the grounds. He came up the walk and I called him aside. I told him I had an important message for Mr. Stettinius and asked him if he would take it in to him. Sure, give it to me he replied, took it out of my hand and hurried off up the walk.

The soldiers were wide in astonishment, so I decided now was the time to get some real information. I turned to the sentry and asked him if a U. S. Senator came down here and demanded admittance what would he do, if he didn't have the proper credentials. The soldier answered, I wouldn't let him pass. Suppose he insisted on going in, I asked. Then I guess I would have to shoot him, the soldier replied.

Think of it, think of it, do you realize what that meant. A man holding the highest elective Representative power of the citizens of this country would be shot if he attempted to find out what was going on at this conference which makes decisions that vitally affect the lives of every citizen of this country. And at whose orders, the bureaucrats who have usurped every power that they can.

Well, I decided this was a good place to make a speech and I told those soldiers and officers just what was going on and no one opened his mouth. They just listened and something tells me that some day when this war is over and those men come back to civilian life, you will find everyone of them enrolled in the ranks of the America First Party.

I could go on all night telling you stories such as those I have been telling you about Pearl Harbor and Dumbarton Oaks. You could have a recess at midnight for a smoke and I could go on till morning but I am going to tell you a story which reaches an all-time high for double - dealing and needs a lot of explanation from "ashington. This is the story of TYLER KENT, a young man employed in the diplomatic corps in London. His father was a career diplomat and is now dead. He was not a rich man and his mother resides on a small estate in Virginia. What I am telling you is common knowledge in England, but the veil of censorship has kept our people in ignorance.

A Captain Ramsey, a member of Parliament, stood up and discussed the matter shortly after it happened and do you know what happened to him. He was imprisoned and only released a few days ago. He was jailed by the same powers that imprisoned KENT and was never tried until popular opinion in England forced his release.

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Well, this young man held a position in the American Embassy and his job was to decode messages which traveled back and forth between London and Washington. Suddenly he discovered something was wrong. A minor member of the British government was using the code to send messages to Roosevelt in Washington. Remember at that time, Chamberlain was Prime Minister and Churchill was in a minor position.

Well, this young man handled more than 1500 messages in which Stalin was referred to as that son of a b---- in Moscow, and the old b------ in the Kremlin. He became scared, knowing something was wrong and took some of the messages, determined to get them to the U. S. and put them in proper hands.

But the New Deal has a Gestapo in London and KENT was found out. He was discharged and as he walked down the Embassy steps he was seized by British Police, given a secret trial and imprisoned for seven years. He has languished in a British prison for four years. Mind you, this man had a Diplomatic immunity and still was seized and tried by the British.

I claim that this is part of a giant conspiracy between Roosevelt and Chruchill to secure world domination and I demand that this boy be brought home and given a public trial in America. Mind you, he admits taking the messages to prove his claim, so that the only charge they had against him was Larceny.

His mother, frantic at what had happened, gave a friend $5,000 and asked him to go to England and find out just what happened. This man did and through diplomatic channels was able to see young KENT on the Isle of Wight where he was imprisoned. He came back with a friend and the next day the friend was found mysteriously murdered in his hotel room. This effectively sealed this man's lips and the man who had talked to KENT refused to talk in fear of his life.

Well, I heard about this and went to see MRS. KENT. She told me the whole story and it has been prepared in pamphlet form which I want everyone of you to read. Don't take these people too lightly. My life has been in danger on several occasions as I have traveled about the country. How many of my true friends here will see to it that get safely into a taxi after this meeting to go back to my hotel. All right that's fine, when the meeting is over, just gather up around here and I will appreciate it, that you my true friends will get me safely to a cab.

I have told you a lot of things tonight and how many feel that we have had a real America First meeting. All those who think so say "Aye". Well, these things which I have told you must be explained. They are

reasons which people cannot vote for Roosevelt, why they can't vote for Dewey. I challenge them to satisfy the minds of the voter, that is why I am for America First, let them come to us.

Now I would like to stop here and go home, but if I do the work will not be kept up. You know when you come to America First meetings, put your carfare in one pocket and give the rest to us to carry on the work. Now the envelopes which the ushers have passed. Hold them up. All right, write down the amount you can give each month. You know I can't come back each month to take up a collection. If you want to make a cash contribution, just put it in and mark it cash. Write your name and address on the envelope.

Now everyone who puts ina dollar will receive the pamphlet on TYLER KENT. If you put in $5.00 you will receive this handsome leather volume containing the last 12 issues of CROSS AND FLAG. That's the magazine you must read to keep informed on what is going on.

Now, pass your envelope to the aisle, don't try to hold onto them, the ushers will take them from the person on the end. By the way, if any member of the audience has a car and you can identify yourself to MRS. PARKS or MRS. BROWN I will be delighted if you will be kind enough to give us a lift back to the hotel.

Now the only requirement is that you be properly identified by MRS. PARKS, or MRS. BROWN. I want to go for a ride but not a long one, some people would like to take me for a ride.

Now, remember, MRS. DILLING will be selling copies of Senator LANGERS address and the money will be solely for the victims of the sedition trial in Washington, and GEORGE VOSE will be selling subscriptions to CROSS AND FLAG in the lobby. He gets $.50 for each 6 months subscription and a dollar for each one for a year. We are taking this means to increase the ciroulation of CROSS AND FLAG and are going to give ex-servicemen a chance to make some money at the same time.

Now, my friends, will you rise please and recite the Lord's Prayer. We are taught to say it in different ways but we all say it and that is what counts.

The meeting closed at 11:30 PM.

The following circulars are being forwarded to the Bureau as enclosures: two circulars distributed at the GERALD L. K. SMITH meeting in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA FILE #100-22780

held October 1, 1944 by the NATIONAL BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA, one entitled "Bring the Boys Home" and the other entitled, "Dewey-Roosevelt, versus Tweedle de - Tweedle dum".

ENCLOSURES TO BUREAU: Two circulars distributed at meeting held 10-1-44 by Blue Star Mothers of America.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

Dewey - Roosevelt

versus

TWEEDLE DE - TWEEDLE DUM

Thomas Dewey, Republican Candidate for President, is an internationalist. His master mind and Advisor is John Foster Dulles, an internationalist lawyer of New York City, who represents the British Government in America.

Franklin D. Roosevelt is also an internationalist. Both men are puppets of the samé internationalist. We fear their plans are to restore us as a colony of the British Empire — the blood of our brave sons will have been spilled in vain.

Is there any hope in the two-party system? None whatever. Next November, herd-government will give us a full-dress exhibition. We shall see two immense herds of voting citizens, whipped to the polls by Republican and Democratic cowboys, whose only knowledge of political science consists in knowing how to drive the cattle to market. Such conditions precede revolutions. They indicate great wrongs and abuses.

HOW LONG WILL WE BE SLAVES TO POLITICANS?

American Nationalists will support for public office those men who have the welfare of the United States of America at heart and who will look after this country's interest before giving consideration to the welfare of other nations of the world. We believe in America first and not in America second.

Let's elect men to public office who have the courage to speak out in the interests of America, first.

NATIONAL BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA
Harrison Building
Philadelphia, Pa.

Distributed by Blue Star Mothers at 8th & Smith Meeting - Phila 10/1/44 HH

BRING THE BOYS HOME

If we allow the International Bankers to "city slick" our Nation into a World State after this war, hundreds and thousands of our boys will be permanently exiled.. If we have a World Police Force after this war as is wanted by the Internationalists, your son may not be brought home after this war. He will be kept in Asia, Africa or Europe, to enforce the will of the super state. He will be ordered around by the President just as the chief of police orders riot squads to move here and there within a city.

Keep your eyes open. Don't be deceived. Let us repeat this slogan until every ear in America has heard it:

BRING THE BOYS HOME !
BRING THE BOYS HOME !
B R I N G T H E B O Y S H O M E !

"While our boys are away from home fighting in foreign lands... the slickest gang of racketeers that ever operated are taking over the American government...

"The Communists, Socialists and fellow-traveling New Dealers in both the Democratic and Republican Parties who have taken possession of the people's government, are rapidly changing our American form of democracy into a dictatorial form of government, whereby the people are rapidly losing their freedom, their liberty and their constitutional form of government."

—Sen. W. Lee O'Daniel, Democrat of Texas

World Government Commonly Called World Federation Could Mean Only Perpetual War For America

We who cherish our independence must realize that our form of government is in greater danger from this TREASONABLE Betrayal which is in the making, than from our ENEMIES on the BATTLEFIELD.

We who love America and desire to perpetuate our free institutions must oppose this serpent of INTERNATIONALISM with all our strength.

Americans demand an investigation of the sponsors of this movement

Don't let them haul down the STARS and STRIPES

WORLD GOVERNMENT —

Will cancel the DECLARATION of INDEPENDENCE and destroy our CONSTITUTION.

WORLD GOVERNMENT —

You become a slave to INTERNATIONAL politics.

Our fleet would be required to police the seven seas. American troops would be called to police the world and defend Alien possessions.

Write your State Representatives at Harrisburg, Pa.

Write your Senators and Congressmen in Senate and House Office Building, Washington, D. C., opposing WORLD FEDERATION.

— Preserve Your Republic, Constitution, and Freedom HERE —

NATIONAL BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA
Harrison Building
Philadelphia, Pa.

Distributed by Nat'l Blue Star Mothers at GLK Smith meeting in Phila. 10/1/44 NSB

JFHa:WMJ
11-17-44

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

62-45870-612

RECORDING John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

EX-33

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your additional information in your consideration of this case there is attached a copy of a further report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on October 31, 1944.

b7c

As pointed out in a previous memorandum, this report reflects that George Vose, one of Smith's associates, continues to appear as a public speaker attired in the uniform of an American soldier. This is true despite the fact that Vose was reportedly discharged from the Army in August, 1944.

Military authorities are aware of this fact and unless you so request, no action by the Bureau is contemplated with reference to this particular phase of the matter.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-8 BTS/MLG

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Coyne
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mohr
Miss Candy
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
NOV 30 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 11-4-44

FROM : SAC, PHILADELPHIA

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was.-
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;
SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

I am enclosing herewith copies of a report in the above-entitled matter by Special Agent [redacted] dated October 31, 1944 at Philadelphia.

The attention of the Bureau and the Detroit office is directed to Page 10, Paragraph 5, of the enclosed report, wherein it is stated that GEORGE VOSE appeared as a speaker at the GERALD L. K. SMITH meeting in Philadelphia in the uniform of an American soldier.

Attention is further directed to the statement made by VOSE appearing on Page 12, Paragraph 4 of the enclosed report, wherein VOSE states that with his uniform it is possible to visit canteens.

In the absence of Bureau or Detroit instructions of the possible violation of the Illegal Wearing of Uniform Statute, no investigation of this matter is being conducted by this office.

Enclosure
gbg:gak
#100-22780
cc: Detroit

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-8B

RECORDED
INDEXED

100-43819-612

30 NOV 24 1944

HANDLED BY
TOP DESK

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: Director, FBI

FROM: SAC, Detroit

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/15/82 BY SP6B1/AL/DMS 204,433

DATE: November 3, 1944

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

~~PERSONAL and CONFIDENTIAL~~

There is being set out below pertinent information received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, during the period from October 16, 1944, to October 30, 1944, inclusive. b7D

The Subject is proceeding with his campaign in the State of Michigan and has made talks at various towns in the State. Other persons on the state ticket including Reverend LELAND MARION, candidate for governor, and GEORGE VOSE, candidate for lieutenant governor on the America First Party ticket, have also spoken at these rallies. Subject and the other candidates spoke at Pontiac, Michigan, on October 21, 1944, and Reverend MARION will have a radio program from a Pontiac station for fifteen minutes each night at 6 P. M. for a period of five nights beginning November 1, 1944. On the last night the program will consist of a thirty-minute speech. Apparently Subject will not talk on this program, the sole speaker being Reverend MARION.

Subject spoke at Saginaw, Michigan, on October 27, 1944, and at Bad Axe, Michigan, on October 28, 1944. Both VOSE and MARION were expected to appear with him on these programs and at Bad Axe KENNETH C. WEBER, attorney for the Farmer's Guild and close friend of SMITH, was also scheduled to speak. A similar meeting has been planned for November 1, 1944, at Kalamazoo, Michigan, and also for a meeting at the English Room of the Book Cadillac Hotel in Detroit on November 3, 1944. Paid advertisements in the newspapers in these various cities announced the dates and time of these meetings. An extensive program of direct mail advertising was also used to obtain publicity for the meetings. Form letters were sent to all persons who had been subscribers to the "Cross and the Flag." A special list of the one thousand people list of names in the Saginaw area, composed of former subscribers, present subscribers and persons who had previously attended SMITH's meetings were sent special mimeographed announcements by first class mail.

HANDLED BY STOP DESK

SMITH was much concerned about the fact that the Dies Committee subpoenaed his assistant, BERNARD DOMAN, to testify before it on October 16, 1944. He was in frequent contact with DOMAN and also with RALPH BAERMAN, who is his Washington assistant. SMITH was also much concerned over a report received at about the same time from [redacted]

DECLASSIFIED BY 49413 ON 1-8-78

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF Declassification DATE 2/3/78 KS

Contains memo to Lemon memo to Clark 11/15/44

COPIES DESTROYED 205 OCT 13 1966

RECORDED INDEXED

65-43718-613

F B I

NOV 22 1944

(5) b7c

MEMO, Director, FBI
November 3, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

who is secretary to ELIZABETH DILLING, one of the sedition trial defendants. [redacted] advised SMITH that DILLING had received information from a Congressman to the effect that BAERMAN had admitted to certain individuals that he, BAERMAN, was in the pay of B'nai B'rith. BAERMAN was supposed to have obtained pay from this organization for the purpose of testifying before the Dies Committee that [redacted] had given SMITH a large sum of money to split the Dewey vote. SMITH confronted BAERMAN with this information and BAERMAN categorically denied that DILLING's statement was correct. He stated that he would be glad to give SMITH an unqualified statement as to his loyalty to SMITH. b7c

Later, after direct contact with DILLING, SMITH discovered that the person she had in mind was not BAERMAN, but SMITH's assistant, DOMAN. DILLING further pointed out to SMITH that she had been in contact with [redacted], believed to refer to [redacted] for the Dies Committee, who had told her that the Committee had to "play with" B'nai B'rith in order to get its appropriation. A B'nai B'rith representative had told the committee that they believed DOMAN would testify, if called before the committee, that [redacted] had given SMITH large sums of money for the purpose of splitting the DEWEY vote. In a later contact with BAERMAN, SMITH indicated he thought the scheme to get DOMAN to testify to the above facts was possibly a republican plot to embarrass SMITH. Later SMITH personally advised CASPAR LINGEMAN, Clerk of Wayne County, Michigan, and a prominent Detroit democrat, that someone was trying to pull a double cross both on SMITH and the democratic party. He then gave LINGEMAN the facts concerning the alleged plot with respect to DOMAN's testimony. b7

Although DOMAN appeared at the offices of the Dies Committee on October 16, 1944, the date on which he had been sub poenaed, he was not called to testify until October 18, 1955, at 7 P. M. SMITH made every effort to get the Committee to expedite its proceedings in order to hear DOMAN, having contacted Congressman COSTELLO, who was in charge of the present investigation, and Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS as well as Elizabeth Dilling.

When he was finally called before the committee, DOMAN was questioned primarily about the handling, depositing and spending of SMITH's funds. DOMAN testified that SMITH's income was about $6500.00 per year. The Committee wanted to know about WEBER's connection with SMITH (probably KENNETH C. WEBER of the Farmer's Guild) and a check for $1,000 which was not further identified. They also wanted to know if SMITH was anti-semitic, to which DOMAN replied that SMITH had always said that he was not and DOMAN did not think that he was. DOMAN explained that he was leaving SMITH because an x-ray showed him to be suffering from a lung disease. He was also questioned about CLYDE MORROW and about individuals named GRUENWALD and TALLEY, neither of which DOMAN had heard of. The Committee at no time acted as if "they had run on to anything," but the questioning appeared to be a routine job for the record. They asked him about any connection which SMITH

may have with the Political Action Committee and DOMAN told them he knew of none and did not believe that SMITH was acquainted with R. J. THOMAS, head of the UAW-CIO. DOMAN testified that SMITH did not have any interests in any other enterprises outside of the America First Party. They inquired as to whether SMITH had been in touch with any important republican or democrat politicians. They inquired as to who FOSTER was (probably GEORGE FOSTER of Chicago, with the Constitutional Americans and a friend of SMITHS.) They did not inquire, however, about [redacted] or [redacted] (both connected with the Ford Motor Company) or about [redacted] (investigator for various organizations.) Present at the hearing were Congressman Costello, BIRMINGHAM, who is an investigator for the Committee, STRIPLING, who is chief investigator, and two girls. BAERMAN was not there, although SMITH had requested him to attend. No newspaper men were present. The hearing was held in Dies' office and the Committee was very polite to DOMAN, apologizing for having held him over several days. They finally inquired as to what the America First Party campaign consisted of and DOMAN stated that it consisted primarily of fighting Nazism and Communism. DOMAN was subsequently furnished with a transcript of his testimony before the Committee. BAERMAN believes that JOHN ROY CARLSON, author of "Under Cover," will be called to testify before the Dies Committee within a few days. SMITH expressed a desire to learn of the nature of CARLSON's testimony.

In the course of his discussion with ELIZABETH DILLING concerning the Dies Committee, DILLING stated that the Committee might "fold up any minute" and that if it did it is important that [redacted] for the Committee, be kept at work. DILLING stated that [redacted] looked to her as a teacher and that she had sold him on the nationalist movement and believed he should be one of the foundation stones of the movement when he severed his connections with the Committee. She considers him a very important man for her purpose since there are not five people who know all the material available in the Dies Committee files and he could provide very valuable information for SMITH and DILLING.

It is contemplated that SMITH and DILLING would organize a nation-wide speaking tour and that [redacted] through his information obtained from the Dies Committee, could furnish [redacted] for such speeches. SMITH was much pleased with DILLING's contact with [redacted] and suggested that she promise [redacted] the cooperation of SMITH and herself. DILLING indicated that she had been advancing some money toward this end and that "one of the prisoners is giving me a hundred dollars" (apparently referring to one of her "co-defendants" in the sedition trial.) SMITH told her she could count him in on that and that he would contact her shortly.

SMITH has been in contact on several occasions recently with Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS of North Carolina. SMITH wants from him a list of nationalists and inter-nationalist. REYNOLDS does not have such a list, but thought that HAMILTON FISH or Colonel ROBERT McCORMICK might have. REYNOLDS thought that during the absence of Congress-

ALL
b7C

MEMO, Director, FBI
November 3, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY.
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

man DIES from Washington "they" were trying to do some dirty work and that BILL GOODMAN, BOB HARRIS, MOORE and Dr. O'BRIEN had been before the Committee. They agreed that DEWEY had weakened his position by not discussing such issues as the TYLER-KENT case and the CHURCHILL and ROOSEVELT meeting in the Atlantic and that DEWEY had insulted the isolationists and nationalists. REYNOLDS thought DEWEY would win, but felt that regardless of who won, the position of the nationalists would be strengthened.

SMITH has forwarded to REYNOLDS a special copy of his version of the TYLER-KENT story. The KENT story of which SMITH has had a special printing made is being distributed by him to all his contributors and to all subscribers to "The Cross and the Flag." Copies of the book "Forty Years of Roosevelt" are also being widely distributed by him.

SMITH has also recently contacted [redacted], former secretary to HENRY FORD and for many years an executive of the Ford Motor Company, and returned to [redacted] a report which the latter had furnished him. Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER advised SMITH that he would be in Detroit for a period of about two weeks beginning on October 29, 1944, and that he would be preaching at the People's Tabernacle. They plan to have further contacts during the time that SPRINGER is in town. GEORGE VOSE, who is active in the Townsend Clubs in Michigan, has tentatively arranged a speech for SMITH to be given before the Townsend Club at the Headquarters of the United Sons of America, 89 West Forest Street, on November 19, 1944. b7c

SMITH is having financial difficulties since receipts at his recent meetings have not been as good as anticipated. He has requested DOMAN to cut down expenses and wants DOMAN to see how much money he can raise on his car, since SMITH must have $1,000 in order to meet the pay roll and pay the printer.

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

JPHa:WMJ
11-15-44

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

62-43718-613

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

The Bureau has been informed by a confidential source of information that Bernard Doman, Smith's secretary, was subpoenaed by the Dies Committee and appeared before that Committee on October 18, 1944.

On that occasion Doman allegedly testified that Smith's income was about $ per year and that in his opinion Smith is not anti-Semitic. According to the confid source of information, Doman was also asked as to whether Smith had any connection w Political Action Committee and in this regard Doman allegedly testified that he know of no connections of this type. This source further quoted Doman as having later remarked that it appeared the Committee "had not run on to anything" and that it was merely questioning Doman in a routine way "for the record."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE ____ BY ____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/9/82 BY SP6BJA/DMS
204,433

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Roosevelt
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

MAIL ROOM
NOV 15 1944

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit - Michigan

November 7, 1944

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND SERVICES
ADVISED REGARDING
SLIP OF Declassification
DATE 2/3/77 KSS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED BY 9913
ON 1-9-78 AP/SL

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

Dear Sir:

With reference to your letter of October 28, I am enclosing herewith a verbatim transcription of conversations between Subject and BERNARD DOMAN, his secretary, prior to DOMAN's testifying before the Dies Committee on October 18, 1944. Also enclosed is a transcript of DOMAN's conversation with SMITH following DOMAN's testimony before the Committee. The two conversations on October 14, 1944, took place shortly after DOMAN had received his subpoena early that day which directed him to appear before the Committee in Washington on October 16, 1944. DOMAN left Detroit the night of October 14, and the conversation of October 16 took place between SMITH and DOMAN while the latter was in Washington waiting to testify. The Committee did not hear DOMAN on October 16, but required him to wait until October 18 and the hearing was held at 7 p.m. on October 18 in the Committee's offices. The conversation at 9:17 p.m. on October 18 between Subject and DOMAN indicates the nature of the latter's testimony. This conversation took place after DOMAN had testified.

It is believed that a transcript of his testimony has been sent to DOMAN and if it is possible to do so, an effort will be made to obtain a copy of this transcript through informants.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/9/82 BY SP6BJA/OMS
204,433

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. Guerin, SAC

[redacted] jt
62-1126
Enclosures

b7c

65-43818 - 614

STOP DESL

INDEXED

NOV 22 1944

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

NOV 30 1944

DE-INDEXED
DATE 10/25/57

4

Conversation Between G. L. K. Smith and Bernard Doman
at Washington, 9:17 p.m., October 18, 1944

Doman: The hearing is all over. It lasted about an hour and a half. They spoke of Weber quite a bit. They wanted to know why he hadn't attended the meeting on Thursday night and they wanted to know if you had been in touch with the PAC and I told them they could get the whole story from David Conrey.

Smith: Who's he?

Doman: He's on your OPA Board.

Smith: Oh, yes.

Doman: They asked me the largest amount I had ever handled for you recently. I told them it was $1000 and they wanted to know who it was from. I told them I didn't remember the name. I told them it wasn't money for our organization but it was replaced money that had been used by some Republican in Chicago. The strongest points they asked me about were Weber and the $1000 check. They wanted to know how the money was deposited, how it was handled and how it was spent. They didn't even look at the payroll. They wanted to know what your income was and what mine was. I told them it was $6500 for mine and that now it's about forty-five hundred and never over five and when I started I said I never paid income tax until two years ago.

Smith: Were they nice to you?

Doman: Yes, they smiled and they were nice. They wanted to know about John Little. He was supposed to have given you some money in 1940 to pay your hall rent and he is supposed to be in jail now. I told them I remembered somebody gave us money a long time ago to pay hall rent but I don't remember the name.

Smith: What did they ask you about Weber?

Doman: When I had seen him last and if I knew why he wasn't at our meeting last Thursday night.

Smith: Did they bring out anymore about that?

Doman: No, I told them I had spoken to Weber Thursday morning and everything was all right then. I told them Weber wasn't supposed to speak at the meeting; that there was only one speaker, Gerald L. K. Smith, and then they wanted to know if you were anti-Semitic. I told them that you always said you were not. Then they asked me what I thought and I said I agree with him. So then I gave them a story. I said that everytime we come across a Jewish name we have to handle it with kid gloves as we are accused of being anti-Semitic, but that whenever we come to a good old Irish name we just pop off. So I think everything's o.k.

62-43616-614
ENCLOSURE
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/9/82 BY SP6BJM
204,433

Doman: (continued) I told Birmingham in Detroit that I was going this winter so they asked me about that and I told them that an X-ray showed my lung was partially collapsed, and I told them I was going down in Texas and take off for a while for that reason.

Smith: Was there anybody there?

Doman: Nobody, just Costello and this Stripling, two girls, a secretary and a stenotypist, and Birmingham. Ralph wasn't there. This was all sudden. I had to go earlier and I couldn't contact Ralph. I just talked to him now and he's sorry he couldn't be with me.

Smith: Well, the only thing is, we hope they wrote down what you said. You don't have any witness to what you said except them.

Doman: Well, I couldn't help that but there was a stenotypist right there to take everything down.

Smith: Yes, but we hope they took it down right.

Doman: Well, what can we do about that?

Smith: They called the meeting at 6:45 to get you away from Ralph.

Doman: No, they wouldn't know that. They notified me by telephone. They asked me who Ralph Baerman was and I told them I met him at the convention, that I saw him in Washington and he acted as my guide, that he is a high school professor and taught school a long time.

Smith: And then what did they say?

Doman: Nothing. They asked me about a Berryman and they asked me if I knew a Morrow in Washington and I told them I didn't know a Morrow in Washington but that I did know a Morrow in Detroit. Then they asked me who he was. I said he was the editor of a magazine.

Smith: The best you can figure, who else did they ask you about?

Doman: They asked me about a man named Grunwald that I never heard of. He may be in our files and called by another name. They wanted to know about Talley. I said I didn't know him and didn't know whether you knew him or not. They wanted to know if you had been contacted by Republican groups or by the PAC. They asked me who you were supporting for president and they wanted to know if you were supporting any political party and I said yes, you were supporting the America First Party. They wanted to know if you had endorsed any candidates and I said absolutely not.

Smith: Who else did they ask you about?

Doman: Well, nobody else.

Smith: When they asked you about Morrow, what did you answer?

Doman: Well, they asked me if I knew any man named Morrow in Washington and I said no. Then they named two or three men in Washington. One of them was Berryman.

Smith: Who?

Doman: One was Berryman. At first I got it mixed up with Baerman. They wanted to know why you went to New York City. I told them you just stopped over to interview the press and you only stayed there about 36 hours.

Smith: Did they have any fabricated notions about any money that I had gotten?

Doman: Yes, those $500 notes. I told them that was ridiculous, that I had read about it in the reports. They wanted to know what girls handled the mail and I told them their names, that's all. I told them the payroll averaged $350 a week. They wanted to know how the rest of the money was used. I told them that the radio time took more than 95 percent of the money spent. They went through the two report books and gave them back to me.

Smith: That satisfied them, didn't it?

Doman: Yes, they didn't even look at the payroll books.

Smith: Did they at any time seem as though they had run onto something? Or pursue you with any kind of a vigorous questioning?

Doman: No, it just seemed like a routine job for the record. The only thing they asked was about the PAC, if I knew what it was. I said yes, I had been reading about it in your office and then I told them about Conrey. They asked me if I had ever seen R. J. Thomas. I said the nearest I had ever been to him was that he was on the train coming down to Washington with me. I recognized him from his pictures.

Smith: They acted like somebody had been telling them we had been getting money from the PAC, I guess.

Doman: They wanted to know if we had any other interests, you or I, in any other enterprises outside of the organization and I told them absolutely no.

Smith: You told them about the Internal Revenue Department?

Doman: They wanted to know if our books had ever been audited and I said about twelve or fourteen months ago by the Internal Revenue Department.

Smith: What did they say?

Doman: They were satisfied.

Smith: Ha, ha, that's fine. You told them about my testimony before Anderson?

Doman: They qeustioned me about that $1000 check and whether I knew the name on it and I told them I was sure you were sending a report on it.

Smith: You told them that was a refund, didn't you?

Doman: I told them the money had been used for some purpose and this was a refund on it, that the meeting over there was sponsored by some Republican. They wanted to know if you had been in touch with any big Republican or Democrat recently. I said if congressmen and senators were big Republicans and Democrats, you may have been. They wanted to know who Foster was and I told them I had never met Foster. They asked about Southard and I said he was a world war veteran.

Smith: Did they ask you about [redacted]

Doman: Not a thing.

b7c

Smith: Did they ask about [redacted]

Doman: Not a thing.

Smith: What did they ask about Morrow?

Doman: Just his name, not even his first name. They said he was a Washington man.

Smith: Well, they got that out of Anderson's questioning. Did they ask about [redacted]

Doman: Not a thing.

b7c

Smith: Did they ask about the convention?

Doman: They asked how much money was taken in at the convention.

Smith: Did they raise that old phony question about someone bringing me big money at the convention?

Doman: Yes, I laughed and said that was ridiculous. I said I don't believe I have ever seen a $500 bill.

Smith: Did they act like they believed you all right?

Doman: Well they laughed at it.

Smith: What kind of a fellow was Stripling?

Doman: He's a rather nice looking fellow. He looks something like Foster.

Smith: Was Matthews in there?

Doman: No.

Smith: No newspaper men?

Doman: Not even one.

Smith: What room was it in?

Doman: Right in Dies' office.

Smith: Were they polite to you?

Doman: Very nice, they were sorry for holding me over.

Smith: Why did they say they held you over?

Doman: Well, Costello was held up in the War Department for ten days. He's on the Military Affairs Committee.

Smith: He was nice to you?

Doman: Very nice.

Smith: When they asked you why Weber wasn't at my meeting—

Doman: Well, they implied that there was something wrong that he wasn't there. But I didn't know anything about it. The meeting was Thursday and I left town Saturday and I didn't have a chance to see Weber. They wanted to know why I was interested in this work and how I got started. They had in mind the first meeting, but that was so long ago I said I was naive at that time and I don't remember things that happened then. They asked about the PAC and all that.

Smith: Well, they were on a fishing expedition to find out, you see?

Doman: I told them that if anything like that ever went on I would be the first to raise cain.

Smith: You told them we were not supporting either party.

Doman: They wanted to know what our campaign was.

Smith: Did they ask about Hubert?

Doman: Not a thing. There were one or two things, they wanted to know about the office way back there when John Rinderman left. And I told them I thought (unintelligible) and that's the reason no money was ever handed in in your name (unintelligible) but they were nice.

Partial Conversation Between G. L. K. Smith and
Bernard Doman at Washington, 6 p.m., October 16, 1944

Smith: I did a little checking on your business there and this fellow that's going to question you tomorrow. He may not be the best sort of a fellow, understand? So just keep your eyes open and don't be led into any trap.

Doman: Will the whole committee question me or just one man?

Smith: Well, I don't know, but be careful, keep your eyes open and just assume that nobody is your friend.

Doman: Yes.

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Doman: I didn't have a chance to, I just got home a few minutes ago.

Smith: Well, okay, don't ask me anymore questions then until you read that all over and read my testimony.

Doman: Okay.

Smith: That will answer all your questions.

Doman: All right.

Smith: But you've got all the records, you've got the records right down there in the office, you've got records of money received and money paid out and that all speaks for itself. And receipts and disbursements and as far as a complete audit is concerned no man can make a complete audit of his accounts in twenty-four hours.

Doman: How about disbursements: I have nothing to show how that is handled.

Smith: Well, you've got your payroll and you've got the cancelled checks.

Doman: Well, you don't want me to take them with me, do you?

Smith: No, don't take your cancelled checks. Just say that you've got your payroll and your receipts and you can estimate your postage and estimate your printing bill.

Doman: You don't want me to take the check book with me, an old one or something?

Smith: No, you don't need them, anything you don't have you will supply. Answer everything you can from memory and then supply what you don't have. Take just as little as you can. I didn't take anything.

Doman: They want all books and records.

Smith: Oh, well, that's just what they want but they're not going to get that, no.

Doman: Okay, I'll think of things from time to time and jot them down.

Smith: Okay, don't let anybody "euchre" you into that.

Doman: Okay.

Smith: All right.

Partial Conversation Between G. L. K. Smith and
Bernard Doman, 5:15 p.m., October 14, 1944

Smith: As to the direction of the office and the wages paid, purchases, etc., you just tell them the board meets once a year and authorized me to run the committee. That's all. That's the only minutes you have and I am responsible for everything.

Doman: If this fellow asks me about the records and about The Cross and Flag records I told them I would bring them down. The Federation of Americanization, do I have the records of that?

Smith: No, no, You've got the records. You've got everything there. You've got records and receipts of everything.

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Doman: I know but—

Smith: Yes, my gracious, you've got the best records, you've got the best records on earth, you've got receipts of everything taken in and everything paid out—

Doman: For several months—

Smith: Well, you can't take that all with you. All you do is take typical, you take two day books and take your payroll book and say, this is typical of the way we handle it but inasmuch as the record of our contributions is on a file index that runs more than 20,000 names that can't be moved; that we'd be glad to have a representative of the committee come down and look at it.

Doman: The record and the day books—

Smith: Leave them here, for God's sake, don't take them with you or ever let anybody "euchre" you into taking them out of your office.

Doman: I'll leave them down at your place tomorrow. I'll just tell them the books are being—

Smith: You don't need to tell them anything. Tell them that you brought two that were typical and if they ask you why you didn't bring the rest you tell them they are too cumbersome, too heavy, too much to bring.

Doman: O.K.

Smith: Yes, don't let those sheenies get ahold of all your names on your day books and everything. In fact, you really ought to take only one of each, in fact, I think that's the best thing to do. Take the next to the last one of each. Say this is the way we handle it and it's typical. See what I mean. Don't take two, take just one, that's better yet. Now did you look over that memo?

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Conversation Between G. L. K. Smith, Donald Lohbeck
and Bernard Doman, 5:50 p.m., October 14, 1944

Smith: Don Lohbeck will read you some memoranda; I want you to memorize them.

Lohbeck: Here they are. In our office we have a complete itemized record of all receipts, we have a complete record of all disbursements covered by cancelled checks and bills marked paid. A representative of the committee is welcome to examine these at any time. Inasmuch as notice to appear did not reach me till Saturday noon I did not have time to copy these items. To move these records would have required a truck. I feared to carry certain valuable documents because I travelled alone. It is a matter of common knowledge that subversive groups would be willing to commit murder to get hold of these documents. Under oath I am willing to testify that moneys received were spent on modest payrolls, printing, travel, postage, paper and on mailing and handling of the magazine, The Cross and the Flag.

Doman: Listen, ask Mr. Smith this. If I am asked that question could I submit the answer in typewritten form. Would they accept it in that manner?

Lohbeck: Just a minute. (Pause while Lohbeck refers matter to Smith) He wants you to get these in your mind.

Doman: O.K., then I'll do it on the train. Read the rest of it.

Lohbeck: He says this is the most important. The treasurer, E. M. Smith, has been bedfast with a streptoccic throat for the past week, making it literally impossible to assemble even as much data as I would like to have brought with me.

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Doman: O.K., do you have anymore?

Lohbeck: Just a minute.

Smith: Hello, now if they ask you what you mean by important documents, you can tell them that such things as cancelled checks and receipted bills are the only evidence which we have with which to protect us against any investigation by the Internal Revenue Department and we were thoroughly investigated by the Internal Revenue Department for a year and these documents were very fundamental and for you to take them out of the office and take them out from under lock and key would be a hazardous experience, and you couldn't afford to take the risk. But keep assuring them that you are only too happy to have a representative of the Committee come and examine everything. Any reasonable person can see that when your treasurer has been in bed all week with a strep throat and you didn't get notice till Saturday noon, nobody can expect you to appear with a full set of audited accounts—bank examiners don't

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ENCLOSURE

even expect things like that. Don't forget the purpose of this committee is to investigate subversive activities. There are only two things subversive; one taking money from the wrong source, and, two, spending money on the wrong thing. That's all they have a right to know. However, a fishing committee wants to find out as much as they can. Now, another thing, this is very important. Have you got a pencil there or something. You don't know anything about anything that goes back further than three years. The realm of your authority stops there. If they ask you anything about any moneys received, like for instance, they asked me about Harry Bennett and all that stuff, you don't know anything about that and you are well within your rights to say I don't know. Now here is another thing to keep fixed in your mind, to indeliblize it, underline it, or put a red circle around it—don't hesitate to pass the buck. Be perfectly free to say that our organization is run by Gerald L. K. Smith. We authorize him to run it and anything I don't know here, he is willing to answer. Be sure to say that he runs it. Clear it with Gerald. Say we authorize Gerald L. K. Smith to direct, put the word direct, direct and determine our activities and he has assumed that responsibility and is willing to take responsibility for everything.

Doman: Now when am I, is there any question they'll ask me that I can legally refuse to answer? Will they ask me anything that I will be within my rights in not answering?

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Smith: No.

Doman: Well, today they asked me a lot of personal questions about Connie (Mrs. Doman), and me and her mother. Now as far as her banking accounts are concerned I know nothing about that. But if they ask me about our accounts over here, where we have the accounts and all that?

Smith: Yes, you should answer that or they will hold you under great suspicion.

Doman: I did that.

Smith: Yes. There's only one question you can't answer, I don't know, I don't remember, and I refuse to answer on the grounds that it would incriminate me. But you don't want to answer a question that way, because there is nothing that you can answer that would incriminate you. But here is what you can say, take this down—Gentlemen, I would rather not answer that question on the grounds that it would make no contribution to the committee.

Doman: Now here's a comment I have to make. They'll ask me if we have any money saved. We have a few hundred dollars and it's in war bonds. I'll tell them that. That's o.k., isn't it?

Smith: Why sure, you took it out of your salary, didn't you?

Doman: I'll specify it's in war bonds so it'll help so far as the opposition is concerned. It'll help us.

Smith: Sure, the only thing that you could tell that would be wrong would be if you took more than your salary.

Doman: I'll just say it is Connie's and my salary. I have our Internal Revenue reports over here and I'll say that so far as my car is concerned I contributed most of that to the organization, part of my salary.

Smith: Yes, and the thing to do is this. What do you mean by that?

Doman: They won't think anything's excessive. They may ask, I don't think, I was just going to say, I don't have to though.

Smith: What?

Doman: If they ask about my travelling expenses and all that, that's just taken out of company funds, isn't it?

Smith: Which do you mean?

Doman: If I travel, they may not, he asked me over there whether or not I travelled a good deal for you.

Smith: Yes.

Doman: They asked me about you too, about your expenses too. That's all taken out of company funds, I'll just tell them that.

Smith: Well, what would you have, what would show that, what items would you have to account for on that?

Doman: For what, for travelling?

Smith: Yes.

Doman: Well, I haven't travelled in the last two years hardly.

Smith: No. Well you have, there's no items there other than just routine expense, is there?

Doman: No, no there is nothing in so far as—they'll probably ask me if I own any property. The only property I have is my car.

Smith: Well, you have the right to own six cars, you've been earning a good living wage for these years and it's none of their business.

Doman: Yes.

Smith: The only thing on earth you need to demonstrate is that you have paid for these things out of your salary.

Doman: We have a deposit box downtown. I haven't touched it for a year or so. Will they want to get into that, do you think? I told them about it. If they want to know what's in it I'll tell them.

Smith: Yes, if you told them they'll probably want to see it.

Doman: I've got in there a few bonds and some records you gave me some time ago for filing in pertinent files. I can get them anytime you want them.

Smith: Yes, how much have you got in there?

Doman: Oh, I don't know, I think the balance is about six or seven hundred dollars.

Smith: That's fine, that will be your credit. That's frugality and in case your mother has given you anything, you want to distinguish that. Has she given you anything?

Doman: No, her contribution is that she shares the living expenses.

Smith: Why, sure, that's just fine. In fact, that's made it possible for you to do that. Not only that, but that's to your credit. It shows you have saved about ten percent of your income.

Doman: There's nothing else, I guess. Those memos you left down here I picked up and I'll have time on the train to go over them.

Smith: Well those that I dictated today you had better go over before you leave.

Doman: I have already.

Smith: Now these that were just read to you we'll give those to you, those that were read to you.

Doman: Yes.

Smith: Now all expense that you've been put to in connection with your activities, you've kept receipted bills for all of those, have you?

Doman: What do you mean, the office and travelling?

Smith: Yes.

Doman: Oh, yes, just a small percentage like petty cash.

Smith: Well, when you draw a check for petty cash you put it down petty cash, don't you?

Doman: Yes, I've been doing this. I've been drawing cash on my postage and office expense and I always have receipts for that and there's a percentage, maybe one or two percent, that I don't have receipts.

Smith: Yes, I know, well that's very fine and there's not a thing there; however, you see the only thing they want to know, you see here, they want to find out if I'm making a million dollars and you're handling the dough for me. For instance, this fellow asked me the other day up there if it was true you had handed me two five-hundred dollar bills and nine one-hundred dollar bills, etc., at the convention. Well, nobody knows better than we do that you didn't hand me anything, not even two five dollar bills at the convention, but these kikes, you know, they steal so much money themselves that they can't imagine anybody collecting money and spending it all on the cause for which it was given. Now if they ask you what your wife does, for what she gets paid, you tell them that she's a proof reader for the magazine and the item is so small anyhow that there wouldn't be—what is it anyhow, fifteen dollars a week?

Doman: Yes.

Smith: Well, you tell them that she's a proof reader for the magazine.

Doman: Here's something I'll have to do, her name appears in some of those reports and checks. She helped me part time.

Smith: You tell them that her work is done at home and at the office. Now all those reports are signed by two people, aren't they?

Doman: Yes, there may be one or two where they slipped up. I'm going through them right now.

Smith: Now you have no doubt in your mind, for instance, anybody coming in to investigate in our office, that the total bank deposits, both in the America First account can be covered by receipted bills.

Doman: All the cash expenditures, yes. Now whenever I pay a telephone bill—

Smith: No, I mean either a cancelled check or a receipted bill.

Doman: I've got every cancelled check under lock and key here in a closet at my house. I've been bringing those home in the last couple years.

Smith: Now, wherever you have a cancelled check made out for a definite purpose wherever you paid a bill like a printer's bill, why the cancelled check is obvious. Now wherever you've written a check for cash you can support that with receipted and paid bills in your office, is that it?

Doman: That's correct, yes.

Smith: Well, if we carry those things out of our safe and carry them to Washington we ought to be examined for softening of the brain. Just a minute--Don was asking me--there's no check made out to the Cross and Flag, is there. Just like we discussed this morning that that was a stub code.

Doman: Yes, I marked every stub what the purpose was if the check was to cash. I put the purpose on the stub so I could check it later on with a receipt and once a month I would draw $125 or $150, whatever I would need.

Smith: For what?

Doman: I'd mark it deposit, second-class mailing, post office.

Smith: Oh, I see. Well, there's no way on earth that any organization could prepare anything except token documents. See what I mean, in such short notice so the thing to do is to take only one day book. Now remember, they may not question you about the America First Party.

Doman: One of each, huh?

Smith: Yes, one of each and don't take the last one, for God's sake, and don't let them keep them. Now here's the reason for not letting them keep them. You tell them that under the Corrupt Practices Act we're being required to make reports and we'll be unable to make those reports unless you bring them back. Now be sure and tell them that. Now remember, they're working for you, you're not working for them. You're the citizen, they're the servants, and if there's something that looks like you hadn't ought to do it, don't do it. Be just as stubborn with them as you would be with a printer or anybody else. Remember that, fix that in your mind, make that a part of your psychology.

Doman: This man called me just a few minutes ago.

Smith: Oh, did he, what did he say?

Doman: Well, he wanted to know if I got my reservations o.k. and I told him he could probably reach me at the Statler in Washington.

Smith: Did you find out where he is staying?

Doman: No.

Smith: Well if he calls again, don't say anything to him about these memos or anything like them.

Doman: No I won't. I think he was leaving--

Smith: I'll have these memos copied and remember this that there is nothing

that can be brought out anyplace that will embarrass you. You don't need to be afraid of the truth. The thing to remember is that they are not your father confessor, you don't have to tell them everything under the sun. They'll try to find out as much as they can. If you think they've asked you a question that has no bearing on unAmerican activities, why, tell them that you'd rather not answer them on the grounds that it doesn't bear on the responsibilities of the Committee. Well, then, if they force you to answer it, why, go ahead and answer it, but anything that happened more than three years ago was beyond the period of your responsibility and then most everything else that comes up you say, well, that was handled by Mr. Smith, he runs the committee. Well then they may say, why does he run the committee, aren't you an officer? You say, well we authorized him to run the committee, just like a bank director would authorize the cashier to run the bank, and he is authorized to o.k. the hiring of help, etc.

Doman: They put quite a bit of emphasis on ordering of printed matter, magazines, and that. And I'll tell them I ordered it at your direction. Office supplies and things like that.

Smith: Yes, absolutely, tell them that I take the responsibility for everything, and if you get in a tight place say Mr. Smith handles that, and if they say, well, why, does he look after everything, and then you tell them, well, he's the chief gyrasticutum, tell them you noticed that Mr. Roosevelt clears everything with Sidney and you clear everything with Gerald. Smile once in a while, there's nothing too serious about it.

Doman: O.K.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 36

PAGES REVIEWED: 103

PAGES RELEASED: 75

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
November 20, 1944

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH,
with aliases,
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION
(Bureau File 62-43818)

Dear Sir:

In connection with the Subject organization, it is noted that on October 24, 1944, you directed a letter to the Detroit Field Division requesting any information that might be developed concerning the new group known as "Impeachment."

There is enclosed herewith a photostatic copy of a letter obtained by an Informant of this office from [redacted] The letter, on the stationery of the Women's League for Political Education, is addressed by [redacted] of Chicago to [redacted] and gives some additional data concerning the information of a group referred to as "Impeachment Now." This would appear to be identical with the organization referred to in your letter.

[redacted] is the Subject of a current investigation in the Detroit Field Division [redacted] Bureau File [redacted] As additional information is obtained concerning "Impeachment Now," it will be furnished to the Bureau.

Yours truly,

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

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62-1126

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EX-72

NOV 24 1944

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

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ALL DEC

"Ye Shall Kn[illegible] Truth and The Truth Shall Make Y[illegible] J. 8, v. 32.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR POLITICAL EDUCATION

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, 6209 SOUTH LAFLIN STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE BOA[illegible]
GERTRUDE M. DAILY
FLORENCE HOBAN G[illegible]
HELENE JOHNSON
MARY LAHEY
GRACE KEEFE

September 18th, 1944.

Dear

The attached clipping will serve as an answer to your letter. Yest[illegible], Constitution Day, the Women's Committee for Impeachment Now was launc[illegible] in the home of .
We are [illegible]ending out letters asking all groups to coopera[illegible]te in this drive for "Impeachment Now." The plan is to get the demand coming from every individual and organization interested in getting the truth about this war before election. Our telegram sent to every member of Congress from Illinois and a number of other Congressmen read:

"On this anniversary of our Constitution (Sept. 17th) we protest any recess of Congress. Let us have the facts on Kimmel-Short, Tyler Kent, Philipps, et al BEFORE ELECTION. Seeming apathy of the people is the lull before the storm. This administration's policy of secrecy, usurpation and evasion warrants IMPEACHMENT NOW."

It has been reported that Congress expects to recess until after election, which would leave us little hope of getting any action on these matters until it would be too late. The ones who made this war are now making the "peace" and unless we can expose them quickly they will sow the seeds of another war just as they did at Versailles.

The Constitution provides the remedy for our present situation: Art 2, Sec. IV provides that :"The President, Vice President and all civil officers may be removed from office on IMPEACHMENT for and conviction of Treason, Bribery or other high crimes and misdemeanors."

We hope the cry of "Impeachment Now" will echo and re-echo through the nation these last weeks of the 78th Congress. There are some 213 Republicans in Congress and many Democrats who would gladly be relieved of the present leadership . We considered the idea of getting buttons with "IMPEACHMENT NOW" printed on them and possibly something else. We also considered getting out handbills for street distribution. The main effort of course will be to get people sending in demands to the Congressmen. I am hoping to get to Detroit shortly, but I would like to go to Washington also if Congress remains on the job. There is much I would like to discuss with you. Oh! I almost forgot. I did receive that cash from you before leaving for Washington in June, but thought you were referring to a later communication. I must have told you of receiving it when writing to you at that time.
In haste and hoping to see you soon, I remain Sincerely,

"The way to END WAR is to tell the TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH, and NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH."
—Gen. Smedley B[illegible]

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: November 25, 1944

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

In view of Bureau letter of October 6, 1944, indicating the desire for additional information concerning Subject's "Eastern representative," RALPH BAERMAN, there is being enclosed herewith a biographical sketch of BAERMAN. This sketch was furnished by [redacted] b2D b7C

[redacted] b7C a copy of this biographical sketch is being furnished to that office.

[redacted]/mjf b7C
Enclosure (1)
cc- Washington Field
Enclosure (1)
62-1126

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FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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☐ For your information: _____

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62-2385-616

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FBI/DOJ

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: November 28, 1944

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

AIR MAIL - CONFIDENTIAL

By letter dated November 21, 1944, we have indicated the possible connection of the Subject SMITH with the plan of [redacted] to have the Presidential election declared invalid. b7c

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that on November 25, 1944, [redacted] was in contact with SMITH, stating that he had come early "so that he could get more done" and that he would see SMITH shortly. b7D b7c

A confidential informant of the Detroit Field Division, who is acquainted with the activities of [redacted] Bureau File [redacted], stated that a [redacted]

SMITH, [redacted] that [redacted] had been working hard but his efforts had not been directed properly, and in the future he, SMITH, would work with [redacted] toward what SMITH stated would be a successful conclusion of their efforts. According to informant, SMITH indicated that he would have an important part in the future efforts to put [redacted] plan into effect.

[redacted]

As previously pointed out, [redacted] plan is to have the Presidential election declared invalid for failure to list the names of electors of twenty-one states.

Informant stated that although [redacted] had been in contact with [redacted] and other persons in Detroit, this was the first time that SMITH had taken an active part in his plan.

According to informant, [redacted] will leave Detroit in the next day or two and will make his headquarters temporarily at the LaSalle Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, from which [redacted] will be expected to his home in

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DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8 BTS/mc

62-4318-

Office memorandum to Director
November 28, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Los Angeles, California. Informant could not learn any further details as to when this plan would be put into operation. [redacted] b7c b2D

As we obtain any further information concerning SMITH'S activities along this line, we will forward such information to you.

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

JPH:EW
12/2/44
62-43818 617

14102

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

John Edgar Hoover, Director - Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

Reference is made to my recent memorandum in this case and to the communication of September 26, 1944, captioned [redacted] outlining certain information received concerning a reported plan to bring about an upset of the results of the recent Presidential Election. You will recall that my two previous memoranda dealt specifically with the reported plans of [redacted] and a [redacted] to commence mandamus proceedings in view of the fact that in the recent Presidential Election some twenty-one states allegedly failed to place the names of Presidential Electors on their ballots.

We have now been informed by a reliable and confidential source of information that [redacted]

[redacted] when [redacted] objected that [redacted] had made little progress, Smith reportedly replied that although [redacted] is sincere he has been poorly directed. [redacted]

[redacted]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E
Mr. C
Mr. Co
Mr. Olavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mease
Miss Gandy

In the event we receive any additional data with reference to this matter I shall, of course, advise you.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8BTJ/MLC

JPH:EW

11101

62-43818 617

RECORDED

SAC, Detroit

December 2, 1944

John Edgar Hoover, Director - Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY;
SEDITION

Reference is made to your letters dated November 21 and 28, 1944, outlining information concerning an alleged plan, supported by [redacted] b7 Gerald L. K. Smith and other individuals, to institute mandamus proceedings in an effort to upset the results of the recent Presidential Election.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Egan
Mr. Leavens
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coyne
Mr. Hogan
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Miss Gandy

The Bureau is interested in information of this type, and in connection with your general coverage of this case you should be on the alert for any further data of pertinence, keeping the Bureau promptly informed.

DEC 2 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8BT/Jah

RECEIVED HEADQUARTERS
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
DEC 2 4 19 PM '44

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: December 1, 1944

FROM : SAC, Detroit

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

The enclosed is the campaign card of WILLIAM C. RICHARDSON, a candidate for State Senate from the 12th District on the AMERICA FIRST PARTY ticket. [redacted] b7D

For your information, the Detroit Field Division [redacted] b2 b7

[redacted] b7C
62-1126

Enclosure (1)

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 ALEDM ON 8-8-

1 ENCL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8677

RECORDED & INDEXED

HANDLED STOP DEST

162-4381-619

50 DEC 12 1944

DEC 4 1944

VOTE *for*

AMERICA FIRST PARTY U.S.A.

William C. Richardson

Candidate for STATE SENATE 12th District

AMERICA FIRST PARTY TICKET

AMERICA FOR AMERICANS

AMERICAN VETERANS BEFORE ALL OTHERS

SQUARE DEAL AND EQUAL RIGHTS FOR LABOR, MANAGEMENT, AGRICULTURE, PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

Vote the straight AMERICA FIRST PARTY TICKET

4-750 (2-7-79)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

7 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- [X] Deleted under exemption(s) b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- [ ] Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.
- ____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.
- ____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): _____
- [ ] For your information: _____
- [X] The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: 62-43818-619-621

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

CAPT. MILES' Voice Of The Hour

THE ELECTION FARCE DID NOT DECIDE ISSUES

RACIAL JUSTICE OR NEW DEAL RACIAL INJUSTICE

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM OR NEW DEAL PLAYING POLITICS WITH ANTI-RELIGION

NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY OR NEW DEAL INTERNATIONAL INTRIGUE

A NEGOTIATED JUST PEACE OR NEW DEAL UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER

Forget your politics and join or support Capt. Edward Miles' Central Committee To Decide The Issues. (For more details mail 10 cents.)

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate and Congress and Fellow Americans:

I wish to remind you and all mankind, that the Churchill-Stalin-Roosevelt-Hillmans ignore the Jurisprudent FACT, that consent only can make law. And the human fact that consent only can make a just peace. And that our army and navy with the help of industry and farmers at home had won the war in Europe for U. S. A. before the invasion of France. And that our army, navy, industry and farmers had won the war in the east before the invasion of the Philippines. And they accomplished this under the great handicap of poor POLITICAL leadership and lack of statesmen at home.

With this much as a preamble I submit six exhibits that give you the general rule of action that I will take in helping you to obtain for U. S. A. a quick victory and a just peace. Book No. 1, My Humane Attitude. No. 2, My Foundation. No. 3, My Ideology. No. 4, My Foreign Policy. No. 5, My Platform. And the Evidence, 1935 to date.

The first thing I can do is to help you end the playing politics with race and religion that has been going on, especially by the New Deal, for the last 12 years. We can start this by letting each have their proportional representation in government. (See book No. 1.) Aside from this let each state, nationally, and country, internationally, work out their own racial and religious problems. (I direct your attention to plank 28, book No. 5.) In other words, race and religious leaders (locally) know what is best. It is not for you or me to judge which is best, or if it is to be called a religion or fraternal order, or which books or versions of them is correct. For that would be interference, and the only hopes of mankind is the cooperation with, and between, religions.

The second thing I can help you to do (since I am for plank 20, book No. 5) with background and past record that can be trusted nationally and internationally. Stop the slaughter of American youth by bringing about a just negotiable peace, that will be best for U. S. A. and all mankind's future

8

ENCLOSURE

62-93018-131

security. (See book No. 4.)

My part of Plan to help you [illegible] operation between nations [illegible] on the jurisprudence—FACT—that consent only (of all concerned) [illegible] workable law. And the human—FACT—that consent only (of all [illegible] can make a workable peace.

To adhere to these FACTS we must allow all neutral countries, together with Ireland, Sweden, Turkey, Switzerland, and Argentina, the same proportional part in the federation. (See page 14, book No. 1.)

To adhere to these FACTS we must allow the U. S. A., China, England and Russia the same proportional rights in the federation. (See page 14, book No. 1.)

To adhere to these FACTS we must allow Germany, Austria, Italy and Japan the same proportional rights in the federation. (See page 14, book No. 1.)

For these reasons we must allow countries invaded, together with Poland, Greece, Finland, Norway, Denmark, France, Philippines, India and the Balkans the same proportional rights in the federation. (See page 14, book No. 1.)

We must do all in our power to help, encourage and foster free press and free speech, nationally and internationally. At the same time develop and spread Practical Brotherhood as a common road of understanding. This was forecast in seven line spark I distributed around the world on the peace voyage of Sturdy, fall of 1928 to spring of 1932. (See page 9, book No. 2.)

Our own treatment in the latest election FARCE helps us to understand people that have become our enemies, from a long line of broken promises, and are now fighting us like demons with the strength of fanatics to not take any more promises from those we can not, do not, and should not, believe or trust ourselves.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Senate, Congress and Fellow Americans: Secret TRICKERY gave us no chance to nominate at either convention and the press and radio publicity, or there would have been elected by a big majority a statesman president, a political leader as good as we have leading our army, navy, industry and farmers. The way outlined here is the way to decide the issues.

Justice Is The Hope Of All Who Suffer And The Dread Of All Who Wrong

(1) BE JUST AND FEAR NOT

(2) SUPPORT AND GET THESE VOICES TO THE ATTENTION OF ALL POSSIBLE

(3) MAIL 10c FOR MORE DETAILS

(4) SUPPORT AND JOIN CAPT. MILES' CENTRAL COMMITTEE TO DECIDE THE ISSUES

Address: Capt. Miles, 716 W. Madison Street, Chicago 8, Ill.

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson
Mr. A. Tamm
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gandon
Mr. Quinn Tamm

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: November 18, 1944

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SEDITION
(Bureau file 62-43818)

DECLASSIFIED BY 60180 LCD/cd
ON 8-4-92

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ELIZABETH DILLING of Chicago, now on trial for sedition in Washington, D. C., spoke at the Book Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, Michigan, on November 15, 1944, at a meeting sponsored by the Subject. Estimates of the attendance ran from 350 to 1,000. [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, attended the meeting and stated the attendance in his opinion was about 700. There was no picketing or other disturbance prior to or during the meeting, although certain Communist organizations had threatened to throw a picket line around the hotel. b7c

DILLING was introduced by the Subject who stated that she was the best informed woman in the United States on subversive activities. DILLING's remarks consisted principally of a denunciation of the sedition trial and a number of songs and poems ridiculing the judge and other persons connected with the trial. DILLING attacked the Jews and the Communists vigorously and, according to informant, is very witty and clever in her presentation of these songs and skits. Informant did not believe any of her remarks were seditious and she did not direct any criticism at the administration or the conduct of the war. There was only one soldier in uniform, a First Class Private, in the audience.

At the conclusion of her talk, a resolution was unanimously passed by those present calling for a senatorial investigation of the sedition trial. Subject stated he would present this resolution to the Judiciary Committee of the United States Senate at an early date.

The Detroit News and the Detroit Free Press carried accounts of the meeting, the Free Press printing also a picture of DILLING. The Detroit News referred to the meeting in its headline as "Smith Stars Dilling in Song and Prance Act." This paper quoted DILLING as having said that there has not been a single piece of evidence introduced as yet at her trial to support a charge of sedition.

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818-6

Relative to the total vote obtained by Subject and his various candidates on the AMERICA FIRST PARTY ticket in Michigan in the recent election, please be advised that a canvass of votes is presently being made by the various election commissions in this state and will not be completed for about thirty days. Until such time, the total vote cast for minority parties will not be determined. When the total tabulation for Subject's party has been determined, you will be advised.

[redacted]

62-1126

memo & clack 11/30/44

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/12/92 BY SP-4 [redacted]

b7c

11-30-44

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark
Attention: Mr. O. John Rogge
John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

RECORDED 62-43817-682

[redacted]

b7c

EX-47

The Bureau has been advised that Mrs. Dilling was a guest speaker at a meeting of Gerald L. K. Smith's America First Party held on November 15, 1944, at the Book Cadillac Hotel in Detroit, Michigan.

Reportedly, there were approximately 700 persons in attendance at this meeting and, after being introduced by Gerald L. K. Smith, Mrs. Dilling directed her remarks primarily to a denunciation and ridiculing of the above-captioned trial. Reportedly, she sang several songs and recited poetry belittling the judge and other persons officially connected with the case.

Our source of information further reported that at the conclusion of Mrs. Dilling's address a resolution was unanimously adopted by those in attendance at the meeting calling for a "Senatorial investigation of the sedition trial." Prior to leaving the meeting place, Mrs. Dilling indicated she would present this resolution to the Senate Judiciary Committee at an early date.

According to our source of information, the Detroit News, a local newspaper, referred to the meeting with the headline, "Smith Stars Dilling in Song and Prance Act." The article quoted Mrs. Dilling as having stated that there had not been "a single piece of evidence" introduced as yet in the sedition trial "to support a charge of sedition."

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lester
Mr. Wilson
Mr. Nease
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Egan
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mohr
Miss Candy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
DEC 1 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

50 DEC 15 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8BT

NOV 30 5 31 PM '44

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: December 9, 1944

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8 [illegible]

In accordance with your recent request, the following information was obtained today by discreet inquiry. It was impossible to get this information prior to today, since the official canvass of votes cast by all parties in Wayne County was not published until yesterday. The statement of the official canvasser of Wayne County, which covers the City of Detroit, indicates that 875,093 votes were cast for President in Wayne County and that SMITH received 691 votes. This was the lowest total received by any candidate, except the one representing the Prohibition Party, who polled 650 votes in Wayne County. The parties having candidates on the ballot in addition to the Democratic and Republican parties were Prohibition, Socialist, Socialist Labor and America First Party.

The following tabulation shows in the lefthand column the number of votes cast in the Wayne County section for the State Officials indicated and in the righthand column the America First Party candidates and the number of votes received by him.

Governor	875,119	Marion	717
Lieutenant Governor	852,658	Vose	685
Secretary of State	849,598	Doman	679
Attorney General	842,665	Weber	747
State Treasurer	841,512	Charles J. Smith	825
Auditor General	840,810	Blanchard	713

STOP DESK

The America First Party candidates for each of the above offices received the smallest number of votes obtained by any candidate for the respective offices.

RECORDED 62-43818-623

The party's candidates votes received for the State Senate are listed below. In the lefthand column is the senatorial district and the total votes cast for all candidates and in the righthand column appears the America First Party candidate and the number of votes cast.

Second District	89,450	Leona Johnson	88
Fourth District	78,882	Mary Miller	68
Fifth District	102,820	Kathleen F. Jennings	74

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205 OCT 13 1964

Prior memo to Director 12/15/44 9PM

288

74 JAN 6 1945

Memo, Director
December 9, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

Eighteenth District	194,815	John C. Staraha	120
Twenty-first District	153,926	Ona A. Condit	93.

With the exception of Leona Johnson, who holds the second lowest number of votes in her district, each of the above candidates received the smallest number of votes received by any candidate for that particular office.

The America First Party slate of candidates for representative in the First District received from a minimum of 498 to a maximum of 554 votes each. There were twelve candidates on the party slate. The victorious Democratic candidates received a total of 400,000 votes each and the Republican candidates about 250,000 votes each. The votes received by the America First Party candidates were the lowest of all candidates for the office.

It was ascertained that the official canvass and tabulation for the entire State of Michigan will be completed and published probably within the next four or five days. As soon as these figures are available, they will be furnished to you.

[redacted] b7c
62-1126

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: December 12, 1944

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH,
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

The following additional information concerning the votes obtained in Michigan by the Subject and his party in the recent presidential election was contained in the Detroit Free Press this morning. The instant item stated that out of a total of 2,153,244 votes cast for the office of Secretary of State, The American First Party polled 1,549. Under the Michigan law, a political party must obtain one per cent of the total vote cast in order to remain on the ballot and when SMITH'S party did not do this, it will automatically be dropped from the ballot in Michigan in the next election. The other minority parties, namely, the Prohibition, Socialist, and Socialist Labor parties, also polled less than the required one per cent, but only the socialist Labor party polled fewer votes than the American First Party.

For the office of President of the United States, 2,205,223 votes were cast in Michigan with ROOSEVELT getting 1,106,899 and DEWEY 1,084,423. SMITH obtained 1,530 votes, which was the second lowest total received by any candidate for the office in Michigan.

If more detailed information concerning the number of votes polled by other America First Party candidates is desired, it will be necessary to make inquiry at the office of Secretary of State. In the event you wish this done, please advise to this effect.

[redacted]/mjf
62-1126

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY

Det to Detroit 12/23/44

RECORDED & INDEXED

HANDLED BY STOP DESK

62-43818-624
F B I

39 DEC 15 1944

EX-16

JFHa:WMJ

62-43818 — 624
SAC, Detroit

December 23, 1944

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

Reference is made to your letter of December 12, 1944, wherein, complyin with a previous Bureau request, you set forth certain data, appearing in the local public press, as to the number of votes polled by the America First Party. You pointed out that should more detailed information be required, it would be necessa to contact the office of the Secretary of State for the State of Michigan.

This is to advise you that the Bureau's request relative to this particular phase of the matter has now been satisfied, and, accordingly, it is not desired that any investigation or any other inquiries, official or otherwise, be made as to the showing of subject and his followers during the recent election.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/18/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mc

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
★ DEC 23 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DEC 28 19

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JDD:mva

TO : Mr. D. M. Ladd

DATE: December 8, 1944

FROM : J. D. Donohue

SUBJECT: [redacted]

INFORMATION CONCERNING

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/8/80 BY

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. T
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn T
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

On December 8, 1944, [redacted] Extension 2035, Enforcement Division, OPA, called the Director's Office and was referred to the interview room concerning the referral of a letter to OPA on October 17, 1944, which was written by the subject.

b7c [redacted]

According to [redacted] under date of October 11, 1944, sent a letter to the Director containing many accusations against Gerald L. K. Smith and some of his followers in Louisiana. It was also stated in this letter that these followers of Smith, namely [redacted] and [redacted] drive cars without gas rations and "hot rubber tires and other things." A copy of the letter was referred to OPA, particularly with reference to the possible violations of rationing regulations.

[redacted] said that he had just received a letter from his New Orleans office advising that [redacted] denied ever writing such a letter to the FBI and claimed that it was a plot to discredit him in the community. [redacted] also stated that he had received a letter from [redacted] denying ever having sent the original communication. It seems that when this Bureau referred the original letter to OPA that agency also sent an acknowledgement to the correspondent and the denial to OPA was in reply. [redacted] said that in order to clear this matter up he would like to have the original letter so he could then determine from the signature on the original letter and the letter he just received from [redacted] whether [redacted] did, in fact, write the letter to the Bureau dated October 11, 1944.

The Bureau files were checked and it was ascertained that 62-43818-569 was the original letter referred to above and 62-43818-581 was the referral to OPA, both of which were handled by Supervisor J. P. Hanratty. No value is placed on this original letter according to Supervisor Hanratty who was contacted and it may be returned as far as the case of Gerald L. K. Smith is concerned. The writer called [redacted] and he was told that the original letter was in our files but disposition would have to be determined by a particular division of the Bureau and he would be advised in a few days. [redacted] suggested as an alternative that he send the letter he has received from the correspondent to the Bureau for handwriting comparison with the signature on the original communication of October 11, 1944.

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-

As far as the Security Division is concerned, there is no objection to returning this original letter since it is of no value to the pending sedition case of Gerald L. K. Smith.

X-44

Rec'd 12/13 Smith stated legate name day

Ltr to OPA 12/14/44 JDD

5

Memorandum for Mr. D. M. Ladd

ACTION:

It is suggested that this memorandum be routed to the Investigative Division which handles OPA matters for a decision concerning the transmittal of the original communication from [redacted] OPA or make such other arrangements which appear advisable.

b7c

[redacted]

Nov 6 - advised no objection to furnishing original letter to OPA. [illegible]

IA-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

_____ 1944

____Mr. Rosen	____Ident. Division
____Mr. Pennington	____Crime Statistics
____Mr. Callan	____Crime Records
____Records Section	
____Mr. Bachman	____Mr. Peterson
____Mr. Bellino	____Mr. Price
____Mr. J. F. Carroll	____Mr. R. D. Scott
____Mr. Gunsel	____Mr. Schroeder
____Mr. Hair	____Mr. P. J. Shine
____Mr. Hayden	____Mr. R. E. Smith
____Mr. M. H. Horton	____Mr. West
____Mr. S. H. Horton	✓ Mr. McGrath
____Mr. Kennedy	Room
[redacted]	____Send File
[redacted]	____Bring file up-to-date
____Stenographers 5724	____Place on Record
____Typists 5724	____Place on Record
____Stenographers 5716	____and Return

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-8BTJ/W

We wrote to you transmitting original to OPA.

[redacted] 5716

SUPERVISOR

HVC
DJC

JPHa:WMJ
62-43818

62-43818-625

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

December 14, 1944

RECORDED

Mr. Chester Bowles
Administrator
Office of Price Administration

Attention: Mr. H. B. Diamond

Further reference is made to this Bureau's memorandum of October 17, 1944, transmitting for your information copies of a letter received by this Bureau from [redacted] under date of October 11, 1944. You will recall that this communication contained certain references pertaining to gasoline rations, "hot rubber tires," and "other things" in the state of Louisiana.

Pursuant to a telephonic request made by [redacted] of the Enforcement Division of the Office of Price Administration on December 8, 1944, the original of [redacted] letter to us is attached hereto for your information.

Enclosure

DECLASSIFIED BY 60801 LEDIL
ON 8-8-77

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP-8075/MW

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
DEC 15 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Detroit

DATE: December 8, 1944

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/8/82 BY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Leo
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harrington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mohr

[redacted] The following information has been received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, concerning the activities of Subject SMITH during the period from November 18 to December 5, 1944, inclusive.

b7D

Although he devoted considerable effort to his campaign as a candidate for President of the United States on the America First Party ticket, SMITH does not appear particularly concerned about his failure to win the election. While no official count of the vote obtained by the America First or any other minority party has, as yet, been made in Michigan, an article in the Detroit "Free Press" stated that the unofficial count for Wayne County, (the county in which Detroit is located) indicated that the America First Party polled 619 votes.

FONTAINE and five other candidates on the Party ticket have told SMITH, according to informant, that they were willing to put up $100 each to fight against having the party barred from the ballot in the future. According to Michigan law, a political party must obtain a certain percentage of total votes cast in order to remain on the ballot in succeeding elections. SMITH states that while his votes were thrown away and not counted, it would be foolish to fight concerning this matter since "they could put up a million for every dollar we could raise". Dr. LELAND MARION, who was the Party's candidate for governor of Michigan, is going to demand a recount since he is reported to have received only 449 votes and SMITH only 185 votes in Oakland County. SMITH has tried to dissuade MARION from doing this but MARION apparently is willing to go ahead with his plan and is willing to spend as much as $500 to put this plan into effect. MARION thinks that the demand for a recount will create a sensation.

In connection with his political activities, SMITH is still receiving communications requiring him to file statements under the Corrupt Practices Act.

EX - 33 RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818-626

Honorable CLINTON P. ANDERSON, Chairman of the House Committee on campaign expenditures states that SMITH has not yet furnished his office with the necessary records of campaign expenses as required by law. ANDERSON's Committee has been given a copy of the report sent by SMITH to a similar Com-

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Memorandum to the Director
December 8, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

cittee of the United States Senate which shows expenditures by SMITH of $39,370.65 in connection with his campaign. ANDERSON is not satisfied with this report since the expenditures are not itemized as required by law.

Mrs. GRACE BILLINGS of Chicago, who is secretary of "We, the Mothers Mobilize for America, Inc," was in contact with SMITH and outlined to him a plan which is being fostered by her organization and which has, as its purpose, the testing of the legality of the recent Presidential election. BILLINGS claims that her organization, which is backed by many people who did not like the way the election went, intended to start mandamus proceedings in at least one state, and possibly in as many as twenty-one states and that they desire to have SMITH help them. UPTON CLOSE, the radio commentator, has promised to devote radio time to this suit if it is filed. The basis for the suit will be that these twenty-one states failed to list on their ballots the names of their Presidential electors in the recent election. According to BILLINGS, this is contrary to the United States Constitution and invalidates the election. (This plan has been previously reported in the current investigation being conducted by the Detroit Field Division on [redacted] Bureau file number [redacted] b7c

[redacted] who is supposed to be handling this mandamus suit for the BILLINGS organization, was in Detroit on November 25, and contacted SMITH.

In accordance with the resolution passed at SMITH's recent meeting in Detroit at which ELIZABETH DILLING was the featured speaker, SMITH has advised DILLING that he intended to follow out this resolution and to present to the Senate Judiciary Committee a petition calling for a Senate investigation of the Washington Sedition Trial. DILLING stated that she had some recent information concerning JOE McWILLIAMS and GEORGE DETHRIDGE (Sedition Trial Defendants) and that these individuals had lost their jobs at the Central National Bank (city not indicated) because the Jews had started a run on the bank in protest to the bank having hired these individuals. SMITH told DILLING that the America First Party was going fine; that the membership had not dropped off and that all his members seemed to have remained loyal to him.

SMITH is interested in obtaining all available copies of DILLING's book, "The Octopus" and she is to send him the 1500 or 2000 copies which she still has. She will ship him 400 copies per week starting on the tenth of December for which she will be paid $140.00. DILLING said the book has more consolidated information on "kikes" than she has ever run across and that it would be fine if they could spread about 1,000,000 of these books over the country before they were stopped, but DILLING says that the Jew press in Chicago was making a big squawk.

Memorandum to the Director
December 8, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
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DILLING says she and [redacted] probably [redacted] her secretary) are laying the ground-work for future Western meetings.

SMITH told DILLING he was a little disturbed because Senator GERALD NYE did not seem particularly interested in joining SMITH's organization and working along nationalist lines.

DILLING indicated that she was going to Washington for the court session on Thursday (time not indicated) and she will fight for the sedition trial defendants and take legal steps to have the indictments against them quashed. She told SMITH she thought the case would end in a mis-trial but that anything could happen.

SMITH has also been in contact with [redacted] an employee of the Ford Motor Company, who has been a close associate of his. [redacted] told SMITH that [redacted] (known to the Detroit Field Division as [redacted]) lived at [redacted], and that he had about ten thousand books on the political creed for the Republican Party. He sends out postal cards to his friends asking them to send in the names of eight other people who might be interested in his work. [redacted] says [redacted] works on his own with no other help and does not hold any meetings. [redacted] did not know what he was doing at present.

SMITH inquired concerning JULIET K. HAMMOND and was told by [redacted] she had formerly run for Congress on the Republican ticket and had a good following; that she had nationalistic tendencies, and belongs to the rightist cause and is definitely anti-Communist.

[redacted] told SMITH that he saw [redacted] (former investigator for the Dies Committee) in Detroit on November 15 and November 18, and that [redacted] was working with a man from New York who was also formerly with the Dies Committee; that they were out here to endeavor to learn whether SMITH was interested in the Political Action Committee. They discussed HERMAN CRANDALL who calls himself "The American Savior", and that the articles supposedly written by CRANDALL were actually signed by DOROTHY WARING. SMITH stated that the Gallup Poll had conducted a survey recently to measure the growth or decline of anti-Semitism and the results showed that anti-Semitism had increased seventy-four per cent. SMITH sincerely believes that BROWDER and HILLMAN won the election for ROOSEVELT.

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Memorandum to the Director
December 8, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
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SMITH's further interest in anti-Semitism was indicated in a discussion he had with GEORGE FOSTER of Chicago known as "Constitutional Americans".

FOSTER told SMITH he was having some trouble in Chicago with the Jews and that they had been instrumental in forcing him out of the Atlantic Hotel where he had been holding his meetings, and that in the past two months he had been forced out of seven meeting places as a result of Jewish activity against him. The principal persons active against FOSTER are a group from the Anti-defamation League headed by a certain [redacted] from New York City, who had been mixed up "in the Senator Walsh business". SMITH remembered [redacted] FOSTER stated he had contacted [redacted] and accused him of interfering with his, FOSTER's constitutional rights. He told [redacted] that if the latter wanted FOSTER to match him with hoodlums, FOSTER would overmatch him. He told SMITH that the Jewish War Veterans, the Jewish Sentinal, and the Anti-defamation League seemed to be the principal forces behind the trouble. SMITH inquired as to whether or not his name had been mentioned and FOSTER said that [redacted] commented upon a speech SMITH made in Chicago saying, "You know what is wrong with him", referring to SMITH.

SMITH has begun sending letters to his followers in Chicago telling them that they have been shut out of that city; that a reign of terror has been instigated by the Jews, and that a censorship has been set up to prevent them from getting their case to the newspapers. SMITH said he was doing this in order to arouse his followers.

SMITH inquired about [redacted] whom he has suspected of being "an operative". FOSTER thought that [redacted] was all right. SMITH said that [redacted] had been indulging in some indiscretions and that he had heard from some people in Detroit that [redacted] was flush with money. FOSTER knew nothing about this angle.

According to informant, SMITH has made some efforts to contact BILL McKEEGAN, a prominent political figure in the state of Michigan. Apparently he has not been successful in reaching McKEEGAN.

He spoke to [redacted] former executive of the Ford Motor Company, concerning the articles called "The International Jews" which had been published in the "Dearborn Independent" some years ago and subsequently issued in book form. [redacted] did not know whether the book

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had been copyrighted. He stated that the Ku Klux Klan had attempted to use these booklets in Georgia some time ago but had been stopped by the local authorities. SMITH indicated that if he used these articles, he would state that they had been taken from the "Dearborn Independent" and that this newspaper is owned by HENRY FORD. In answer to SMITH's inquiry, [redacted] said he did not think FORD's life had been threatened at the time the articles were originally published. b7c

SMITH has also been in contact with [redacted] and an officer of the Koch Laboratories, Incorporated. (This corporation and Dr. KOCH were recently involved in an extended action in the Federal Court involving alleged violation of the Pure Food and Drug Act. SMITH has been friendly with KOCH for some years.) SMITH arranged to get some sort of pictures for [redacted] and was advised that [redacted] is still in Washington and that he is getting the run around on his case. b7c

SMITH continues to circulate literature and in addition to the book "The Octupus" and the articles "The International Jews", he has ordered one thousand additional copies from Senator REYNOLDS of his radio speech "Restruction of Immigration - Acquisition of Certain Bases".

GEORGE VOSE, SMITH's candidate for Lieutenant Governor of Michigan on the America First Party ticket made a speech in Covington, Kentucky during the latter part of November on "Labor and Townsend". He also made a speech before one hundred ten in Owosso, Michigan, collected $22.00 and got twenty-eight subscriptions to SMITH's magazine, "The Cross and the Flag".

DON LOHBECK, who took over the job of BERNARD DOMAN as Secretary to SMITH when DOMAN resigned on November 3, 1944, has been ordered to report to the Big Flats, New York camp for Conscientious Objectors on December 5, 1944. LOHBECK has sought legal advice as to whether he could avoid being sent to this camp, but according to informant, he apparently is now resigned to being sent there and will report for duty on December 5. His place in SMITH's organization will probably be taken by his wife, Mrs. VIRGINIA LOHBECK.

SMITH's son, GERALD Jr. who has been serving in India with the United States Army, and whom SMITH has frequently portrayed in his speeches

as being persecuted by the Army because of the fact that he is SMITH's son, has written a letter to SMITH stating that he will probably be home on a furlough shortly after the first of the year.

[redacted]/mam b7c
62-1126

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JPHa:mJ

TO : Mr. E. A. Tamm

DATE: November 15, 1944

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY; INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/8/82 BY

Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lack
Mr. Rohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

The following information, secured from a technical surveillance in the Smith case, shows that Smith's secretary, Bernard Doman, appeared as a witness before the Dies Committee on October 18 last. You will note there is some indication that his being subpoenaed might have been caused by an idea that the Political Action Committee was behind Gerald Smith in seeking to win votes away from Governor Dewey. However, actually it does not appear that this was the case.

Doman was examined by Congressman Costello and two investigators for the Dies Committee known as Birmingham and Stripling. No newspaper reporters were present and apparently the press was not aware of the fact that Doman had been subpoenaed. The Committee questioned Doman primarily about Smith's funds and was advised that Smith's income was approximately $6500 a year. They asked him whether Smith was anti-Semitic and were advised that in Doman's opinion Smith is not anti-Semitic. They specifically asked Doman whether Smith had any connection with the Political Action Committee and in reply Doman advised them that he knew of no such connections. Additionally, they inquired as to whether Smith was in touch with any "important Republican or Democratic politicians" and in answering Doman told them that Smith did know a few Congressmen. On the whole, the technical surveillance quoted Doman as having said that the Committee acted as if "they had run on to nothing" and were merely questioning as a "routine job for the record."

Furthermore, this technical surveillance revealed that Mrs. Dilling, one of the persons in the trial in the sedition case at Washington, contacted Smith and stated that [redacted], who is with the Dies Committee and according to past information has been friendly with Mrs. Dilling, told her that the whole thing had been caused by B'nai B'rith. Allegedly the Committee felt that it had to play along with B'nai B'rith in order to get its appropriation, and a B'nai B'rith representative had told the Committee that it was believed that Doman would testify that [redacted] had given Smith large sums of money for the purpose of splitting the Dewey vote. It appears that this was the explanation for the appearance of Doman before the Committee.

In the way of observation it may be stated that according to the information we have received in the Smith case it does not appear that the Political Action Committee has had any connections with Smith. However, the surmise that Smith might have split Dewey's vote would appear to be fairly well founded as it was rather generally conceded that any votes Smith might have received would have probably gone to Governor Dewey not in the way of active support but in the way of an attack on Mr. Roosevelt.

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ACTION:

In view of the political ramifications involved, the fact that this information does not have any direct pertinence to the investigation of the instant case, and the further fact that the source of this information is extremely confidential, it is not contemplated that this data will be given in any great detail to the Criminal Division. However, a memorandum is attached for the Criminal Division merely advising them that Doman did reportedly appear before the Dies Committee and, briefly, what he testified on that occasion.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

DETROIT FILE NO. 62-1126

REPORT MADE AT	DATE	PERIOD FOR REPORT
MICHIGAN	12/9/44	10/18,27; 11/2,9,17, 25/44

TITLE

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY

CHARACTER OF CASE

INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[redacted]

SMITH conducted extensive speaking tour through Michigan and various other States during past several months as candidate for President of United States on AMERICA FIRST PARTY ticket. In course of this tour he appeared voluntarily and testified on October 3, 1944, before committee of House of Representatives investigating campaign expenditures. Total vote cast for Party candidates in Michigan not yet officially tabulated but will apparently be negligible. No report of any votes for Party outside of Michigan. SMITH has been in contact recently with numerous nationalist leaders, [redacted] Senators GERALD NYE and ROBERT REYNOLDS, and Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN. Sponsored talk by ELIZABETH DILLING at Detroit on November 15, 1944. WILLIAM ROBERT LYMAN appeared at SMITH'S meeting in Detroit on November 3, 1944, and distributed anti-Semitic, anti-Administration literature. BERNARD DOMAN, SMITH'S secretary, testified before Dies Committee on October 18 and left SMITH'S employ on November 3, 1944. DON LOHBECK, DOMAN'S successor, [redacted] GEORGE VOSE, SMITH'S candidate for Lieutenant-Governor of Michigan on AMERICA FIRST PARTY ticket, is

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED R. A. Guerin SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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organizer of veterans' groups, has been under attack in newspapers for conviction by Court Martial prior to discharge from United States Army. SMITH will request Senate Judiciary Committee to investigate conduct of Washington sedition trial. SMITH looks upon election result as opportunity to organize vigorous nationalist party. Plans for future activities include organization of World War II veterans, formation of AMERICA FIRST PARTY committees in every county in the United States, qualification of Party for ballot in every State, and opposition to United States' participation in any world governing body after present war.

- P -

REFERENCE: (61-7055; 62-43818) Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated September 27, 1944, at Detroit, Michigan. b2

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan:

Following the convention of his AMERICA FIRST PARTY held in Detroit in August, 1944, SMITH embarked upon an extensive speaking tour which carried him to Minneapolis on September 17, 18 and 19, to Milwaukee on September 20, Chicago on September 21, St. Louis on September 22, St. Mary's, Ohio, on September 24, Cleveland, Ohio, on September 27, Buffalo, New York, on September 28, Philadelphia on October 1, Baltimore on October 3, and Pittsburgh on October 6, 1944. The results of these meetings have been set out in reports from the various Field Offices covering these cities and will not be re-stated here. Upon his return to Detroit in October, SMITH opened his campaign in the State of Michigan with a meeting at the Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, on October 12, 1944. He then went on a speaking tour in the State of Michigan, appearing in Pontiac on October 26, Saginaw on October 27, Bad Axe on October 28, and at Kalamazoo on November 1. The results of this latter meeting have been furnished to the Bureau in a report from the Grand Rapids Field Division and will not be set out here. SMITH'S final meeting prior to the election was held in Detroit at the Book-Cadillac Hotel on November 3, 1944.

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According to [redacted] ose identity is known to the Bureau, SMITH'S new assistant, DON LOHBECK, presided at the meeting held in Detroit on October 12, 1944. About 400 people attended this meeting. Seated on the speakers' platform with SMITH were a Mr. BROTHERS, a candidate for State Representative on the Party's State ticket, MARY ANN MILLER, candidate for State Senate, KATHLEEN JENNINGS, chairwoman of the Americanization Committee of the American Legion Auxiliary and a candidate for State Senate, C. J. SMITH of Belding, Michigan, a candidate for State Treasurer, Dr. LELAND L. MARION, candidate for Governor, GEORGE VOSE, candidate for Lieutenant-Governor, WILLIAM C. RICHARDSON, candidate for State Senate, and WALLACE GAMBER, who is SMITH'S bodyguard.

The speakers included C. J. SMITH, GEORGE VOSE, Dr. MARION and SMITH. VOSE appeared in his Army uniform and said that on the recent speaking tour in which he appeared with SMITH, he had made preparation to organize the veterans of World War II and had met with remarkable response. Dr. MARION stated he was in favor of union labor but opposed Communist leadership of labor, that he favored more liberal treatment of the veterans and aged. SMITH discussed in glowing terms the great success which he claimed to have achieved on his recent speaking tour and told with apparent satisfaction of the incident in New York in which he had thrown JOHN ROY CARLSON, author of "Undercover", out of a press conference in SMITH'S hotel room. He also described his appearance before the House committee investigating campaign expenditures. He denounced ROOSEVELT for having joked about his dog in his first campaign speech at a time when "your son and mine are fighting and dying". He insisted that DEWEY should make the "Pearl Harbor mystery" a campaign issue and should demand the immediate trial of KIMMEL and SHORT. If the facts of the TYLER KENT case are brought to light, according to SMITH, ROOSEVELT will not have a fourth term but will be impeached before election day.

[redacted] At this meeting informant stated that the only literature distributed was a folder setting out the candidates on the State and National ticket, also a card containing a picture of President ROOSEVELT and criticizing him for a statement that American boys would not be sent into any foreign wars. This card is distributed by SIVERT ERDAHL of 1221 North Capitol Street, Washington, D. C. Copies of this card and folder are being sent to the Bureau as enclosures with this report. A copy of a letter sent to his followers in October dealing with a meeting to be held on October 12 is also being sent as an enclosure herewith.

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[redacted] eeting held by SMITH on October 26, 1944, [redacted] Pontiac, Michigan. This Temple is the church of Dr. LELAND MARION, who was SMITH'S candidate for Governor. About 500 people were present. Reverend LUTHER SHEFFIELD of the Sunshine Gospel Tabernacle, Pontiac, Michigan, gave the invocation at the start of the meeting. Speakers included VOSE, MARION and SMITH. According to VOSE, help would be extended first to Americans instead of Chinese, Russians and other foreigners under the AMERICA FIRST PARTY principle. VOSE stated he was the first young man in America to advocate adequate pensions for old folks. MARION delivered essentially the same talk as that given by him at the Book-Cadillac Hotel on October 12. SMITH also delivered essentially the same talk as he had given on that date and in addition pointed out that VOSE, who had been honorably discharged from the Army, was receiving only $30.00 a month pension, while Senator BUTLER had revealed that the United States had spent six billion dollars "boondoggling" in South America. This amount, according to SMITH, was sufficient to provide $1,000.00 each for the first six million soldiers to be discharged from the United States Army at the end of the present war. [redacted] At this meeting the pamphlet "Rejected" and a folder setting out MARION'S qualifications for Governor were distributed, and copies of these two items are being sent to the Bureau as enclosures with this report.

At Saginaw, Michigan, on October 27, 1944, the Subject's meeting was attended by [redacted] that about 300 to 400 people were present. [redacted] advised Special Agent [redacted] that SMITH made a stagy entrance and was a clever platform man. When he first appeared he spoke about ten minutes and associated himself with Father COUGHLIN, GERALD P. NYE and BURTON K. WHEELER as Christian nationalists and indicted the Democrats as atheist Communists.

SMITH then introduced GEORGE VOSE, candidate for Lieutenant Governor on the AMERICA FIRST ticket. VOSE stated he was discharged from the Army in Africa and, although he was in uniform, he was not wearing any campaign ribbons. (It is pointed out that on November 5, 1944, WALTER WINCHELL over the radio stated that VOSE had a dishonorable discharge from the Army and had served six months' imprisonment at Fort Custer, Michigan, for Theft of Government Property.)

LELAND L. MARION, candidate for Governor of Michigan on the AMERICA FIRST PARTY ticket, gave a short address and then SMITH gave his

principal address. He continuously tied up Christianity with his AMERICA FIRST movement, accused the Democrats of being Communists, describing SIDNEY HILLMAN as being the RASPUTIN of the White House. He dealt for some time on the KENT case in England, saying that KENT was a code expert at the Embassy in England, that he had built up a file of fifteen hundred messages that had been exchanged in code between ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL, the theme of the messages being that if CHURCHILL could be made Prime Minister of England, ROOSEVELT would furnish him with all the ammunition and supplies he needed to conduct a war.

SMITH went on to say that KENT was fired and that as he left the Embassy, having lost his diplomatic immunity, he was arrested, tried by secret court and imprisoned on the Isle of Wight. KENT'S mother then gave a Boston newspaperman five thousand dollars to go visit her son, which he did, and on the way back by plane, this newspaperman told a man named OWEN from Nebraska, who was also a passenger on the plane, that he was going to spread the true story of the KENT case all over the country. The newspaperman was, soon after, murdered in New York City.

SMITH favors giving every returning veteran a thousand dollars. He believes that STALIN, CHURCHILL and ROOSEVELT plan to build a super-state and will only release soldiers at the rate of 100,000 a month in order that we can maintain a large standing Army for use in building this state. He feels that as soon as the war in Europe is over that England will immediately put all of her ships into commercial trade and that as a result there will be no ships to return the troops to this country. SMITH had hoped that one of the major political parties would have adopted the Christian American movement, but they failed to do so.

Informant did not feel that there were any seditious statements made, although SMITH'S address was full of innuendoes. A folder describing MARION'S qualifications, a folder on the State and National candidates, and the card on President ROOSEVELT above referred to were distributed at this meeting.

SMITH spoke at the Courthouse in Bad Axe, Michigan, on October 28, 1944. [redacted] b7D stated that SMITH designated himself a crusader rather than a Presidential nominee and said that he considered himself the FREMONT of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY. He explained that FREMONT was the first nominee for President on the Republican ticket, that he was an obscure man and remained so but that the next nominee of that Party was ABRAHAM LINCOLN. SMITH professes to believe that there will be many AMERICA FIRST Congressmen after the 1946 election

and that by 1948 the two old parties will be extinct. The real issue in 1948 will be an open fight between atheistic Communism and Christian nationalism. SMITH denounced the British, stating that British agents are now in Washington sounding out our Government to see if we will underwrite the full peacetime budget of Great Britain. He also accused Britain of intending to use her shipping facilities to recover her world trade at the end of the present war, and that the United States can expect no cooperation from Britain in helping return United States soldiers from Europe to the United States. He again called for a full statement of the facts concerning Pearl Harbor and indicated that attacks upon him by President ROOSEVELT were considered a high compliment. MARION also spoke on this program.

[redacted] meeting held by SMITH'S organization at the Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, on November 3, 1944. On the speakers' platform were MARY ANN MILLER, KATHLEEN JENNINGS, Dr. MARION, VOSE, LOHBECK, BILL MEZWIN, whose connection with SMITH was not explained, and a young discharged soldier named CHARLES CHAPMAN, whom VOSE had brought to the meeting. b7

VOSE, who was the first speaker, displayed photostats of his supposed honorable discharge and a commendation signed by 120 officers at Fort Custer, Michigan. [redacted] thought these statements by VOSE might have been in anticipation of the charges made by WALTER WINCHELL a few nights later to the effect that VOSE had received a dishonorable discharge and had served six months at hard labor while in the Army. VOSE claimed he had the original of these papers locked in a safe so that the New Dealers could not steal them. [redacted] b7 b

MARION, the next speaker, said he had heard rumors to the effect that if he and SMITH were elected they were going to kill the Jews. MARION then said, "There are some Jews who ought to be killed." This remark evidently was not pleasing to SMITH since he began his talk by referring to MARION'S remarks and stated that MARION was, of course, speaking figuratively and was sometimes carried away by the force of his convictions. SMITH warned his followers of a smear campaign against VOSE and set out in brief outline what he planned to do after the election, regardless of which candidate might win. He accused ROOSEVELT of wanting to stop the

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election but stated that he did not dare to.

[redacted]

[redacted] which speech was in Senator LANGER'S franked envelope; a pamphlet, "Why I Am Against That Man" by NORMAN A. ZOLLEZI, editor of the "Labor Digest"; a re-print of page 13 of the June 3, 1944 issue of the "American Glass Review" entitled "Strange Fruit Indeed", which denounces Mrs. ROOSEVELT, by EDWARD L. SULLIVAN; a re-print of "The Great Deception" by OSWALD GARRISON VILLARD, re-printed from "The Christian Century"; a folder about the size of an ordinary newspaper setting out the "Anti-Veteran Record of Candidate ROOSEVELT" and published by the Arlington County Republican Committee, 3119 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virgi[redacted] Copies of LANGER'S speech, the "little moron" card, SULLIVAN'S article, VILLARD'S article, ZOLLEZI'S pamphlet and the Arlington County Republican Committee folder are being sent with this report as an enclosure to the Bureau.

[redacted]

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De 62-1126

[redacted]

[redacted] The July, August and October, 1944, issues of this magazine together with campaign cards of MARY A. MILLER and KATHLEEN F. JENNINGS are being sent with this report as enclosures to the Bureau.

[redacted] stated that Subject did not make any radio talks during his campaign but that Dr. MARION, who has a regular religious program over Station WCAR, Pontiac, had a special political broadcast from 5:45 to 6:00 p.m. daily over this station during the period from November 1 to November 6, inclusive, with a half-hour program on the last day. In the course of these programs, he called for the election of himself as Governor of Michigan and the election of SMITH as President of the United States.

In the course of his campaign, SMITH was also in contact with various Republican politicians; according to [redacted] he advised a certain CARMICHAEL of the Wayne County Republican Committee that at a meeting held by the AMERICA FIRST PARTY on November 3, a person attending such meeting had stated publicly that he had attended a Ku Klux Klan meeting back in Missouri many years ago, at which latter meeting Senator HARRY TRUMAN had been the principal speaker. CARMICHAEL indicated some inter-

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est in this story and SMITH then gave him the name and address of the man who had made this remark about TRUMAN and also gave the story to the Detroit newspapers. At the same time SMITH sold to CARMICHAEL 15,000 copies of the pamphlet by JOSEPH KAMP referred to above. CARMICHAEL was told he could have the pamphlets for the freight charges which were said to be $100.00.

In the course of his campaign, SMITH had an extended argument with the Office of Price Administration relative to obtaining gasoline for the purpose of campaigning. He complained to the newspapers that Governor DEWEY was "running around the country on a luxury train" and that ROOSEVELT "has spent twenty million dollars on a trip to Honolulu" but that the OPA had refused SMITH'S request for campaign gasoline. The local rationing board apparently turned SMITH down on the theory that he was not a bona fide candidate for public office and therefore not entitled to such gasoline. However, [redacted] stated that SMITH finally contacted CHESTER BOWLES, head of the OPA, while SMITH was in Washington testifying before the House committee on campaign expenditures, and that a special gasoline allotment was finally made to him. SMITH gave a story to the newspapers after the allotment was made, pointing out that the OPA in Washington had overruled the local rationing board and that DAVID CONNERY, chairman of SMITH'S local board, was secretary to R. J. THOMAS, head of the UAW-CIO. SMITH claimed that CONNERY and THOMAS had refused his request for gasoline as a political move since, SMITH stated, THOMAS was connected with the Political Action Committee. b7D

In the course of his speaking tour through the East, SMITH appeared before the campaign expenditures committee of the House of Representatives on October 3, 1944. In subsequent talks and literature distributed by him he has played up his appearance before this committee and the fact that such appearance was voluntary. He has also made mention and made much out of his incident with JOHN ROY CARLSON, author of "Undercover", stating that he threw CARLSON bodily out of his hotel room when the latter tried to pass himself off as a legitimate reporter. This incident occurred on September 29, 1944, at New York City. In connection with his appearance before the House committee, [redacted] states that SMITH advised various of his friends that the committee was not able to make much out of his testimony and that they were not able to embarrass him with any of their questions. [redacted] an employee of the Ford Motor Company and an associate of SMITH'S, inquired of him as to whether the committee didn't know a great deal about him, SMITH, and whether they didn't have some figures concerning him. SMITH replied that there was nothing to know and that the committee did have some figures but they were false ones. SMITH also testified as to some contributions received by him some years ago from HARRY BENNETT of the Ford Motor b7D b7D

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Company. BENNETT issued a statement for the newspapers shortly after SMITH had testified admitting that he had given SMITH $2,000.00 some years ago but denying that it was for any purpose other than to "fight against Communism and racketeering in labor organizations". Subsequently, SMITH wrote BENNETT a letter explaining the reason for his having testified as to BENNETT'S contributions, and stated he had confined his remarks before the committee to those facts which BENNETT had already made public in interviews with the newspapers.

SMITH testified before the committee that his income from contributions would probably average about $200.00 per day. On the following Sunday, WALTER WINCHELL in his radio broadcast, stated that SMITH had perjured himself before the committee and that his income was actually about $600.00 or $700.00 per day. WINCHELL stated the committee had positive evidence of this fact. WINCHELL called upon the Department of Justice to prosecute SMITH for this misstatement. According to [redacted] SMITH immediately contacted Congressman CLINTON ANDERSON, chairman of the House committee before which he had testified, and pointed out to ANDERSON that his testimony had been correct and requested that ANDERSON tell him if the committee had any evidence of the type WINCHELL referred to. ANDERSON said that the committee did not have any evidence of this sort and he would be glad to send SMITH a letter so stating. A copy of SMITH'S testimony before the committee was obtained by [redacted] and is being sent to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report.

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SMITH has also filed, as above indicated, a report with Senator THEODORE F. GREEN, who is head of the Senate committee investigating campaign expenditures. SMITH is apparently more concerned with the reaction of this committee to his reports than he is with the reaction of the House committee, since he has stated that requests for information received from the Senate committee should be given immediate attention. Senator GREEN'S committee also requested information as to the number of States in which SMITH'S Party had elated candidates for President and Vice President and wanted the names of those who would appear on the official ballot of the Party. This information was furnished, indicating that the Party would have candidates in Michigan and in Texas but would conduct a "write-in campaign" in twenty-one other States. [redacted] stated that SMITH made an effort to get his candidates on the ballot in Alabama and in Maryland but was unsuccessful in both States.

There will be no official tabulation of minority party votes in Michigan until sometime in the early part of December and consequently it will not be possible to tell the exact number of votes cast for the AMERICA FIRST PARTY candidates. The Detroit Free Press in a story published during the latter part of November stated that an unofficial count in Wayne County, which is the County in which Detroit is located, indicated that the AMERICA FIRST PARTY had obtained 619 votes out of a total of several hundred thousand cast in this area. The writer of this article stated that if this estimate proved to be correct, the AMERICA FIRST PARTY would automatically lose its place on the ballot for future elections and would again have to qualify. [redacted] According to [redacted] five or six of the candidates for minor offices on the State ballot called upon SMITH after the election and stated they were willing to put up $100.00 each to help finance a fight to prevent the Party from being taken off the ballot. SMITH told them that while he felt that the Party's votes had been thrown away and had not been correctly counted, he felt they might as well drop the matter for the time being since while the total figures for the Party's vote could not be correct, yet their opponents could put up a million dollars for every dollar which they could raise. Dr. MARION said that he planned to demand a re-count of the votes since the unofficial count in Oakland County showed that he had gotten only 449 votes and SMITH 185. MARION stated he was sure he had gotten more votes than that from his church in Pontiac and his church in Birmingham and that he was sure many votes had been stolen

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from them. SMITH tried to dissuade MARION from going ahead with his demand for a re-count but MARION refused to be dissuaded, stating that he intended to go ahead with his plan even though it would cost him as much as $500.00. MARION felt that the results of such re-count would be sensational. [redacted]

During the latter part of his political campaign, SMITH was in some financial difficulty. [redacted] stated that he had received total contributions of $229.00 on November 1, $600.00 on November 2, $480.00 on November 4. These represent contributions of small amounts received through the mails. [redacted]

BERNARD DOMAN, who has been SMITH'S personal secretary for about six years, left his employ on November 3, 1944. DOMAN gave as his excuse for leaving, the fact that he was in ill health and had to go to Texas for a rest. However, [redacted] stated that DOMAN had been looking for a job elsewhere for some time and that apparently his real reason for leaving SMITH had nothing to do with his health although he did not want SMITH to know this.

SMITH sent a memorandum to DOMAN after learning that the latter intended to leave and advised DOMAN that he wanted a complete inventory of materials and lists of names prior to DOMAN'S leaving. He stated, particularly, "The lists and files must not be identified in any way that a stranger could understand." SMITH wrote DOMAN a note just prior to the latter's leaving pointing out that SMITH had given him a job six years before when he was un-

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employed and that he had advanced from $15.00 per week to $70.00 per week plus some extras. SMITH indicated in this note that he felt DOMAN'S real reason for leaving had nothing to do with his health but rather that DOMAN'S interests had been changing in recent months. SMITH indicated that while it was possible that in the future "situations may arise where I will be asked to account for moneys you have handled", nevertheless, "you may rest assured that I shall assume my share of the responsibility in a loyal and conscientious manner". SMITH closed by stating that "I shall do all in my power to see to it that no added responsibility involving past activities shall follow you." Shortly prior to leaving SMITH'S employ, DOMAN was subpoenaed to testify before the Dies Committee in Washington, D. C. The receipt of this subpoena by DOMAN caused SMITH considerable concern and he contacted a number of friends in Washington in an effort to learn the purpose for DOMAN having been called to testify. In the two or three days elapsing between the service of the subpoena and DOMAN'S appearance as a witness, SMITH was in contact with [redacted] who is in charge of research for the Dies Committee, RALPH BAERMAN, who is SMITH'S Washington representative, Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS, of North Carolina, and Mrs. ELIZABETH DILLING. According to [redacted] advised SMITH that BAERMAN was actually in the employ of B'nai B'rith and was supposed to have obtained payment from this organization for the purpose of testifying before the Dies Committee that SIDNEY HILLMAN of the Political Action Committee had contributed a large sum of money to SMITH in order to split the Republican votes. SMITH immediately contacted BAERMAN who insisted that he was loyal to SMITH and that [redacted] information was incorrect. Shortly thereafter SMITH learned from DILLING that the latter's original information had been incorrect and that it was DOMAN rather than BAERMAN who was disloyal to SMITH and would testify against him before the Dies Committee.

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SMITH immediately contacted CASPAR LINGEMAN, county clerk of Wayne County, Michigan, and a prominent Detroit Democrat, and advised him as to what he had heard, stating that it appeared somebody was trying to double-cross SMITH and the Democratic Party.

However, upon his appearance before the Committee on October 18, DOMAN did not testify to anything that could be considered a double-cross of SMITH. He was questioned principally concerning the handling, depositing and spending of SMITH'S funds. DOMAN testified that SMITH'S income was about $6,500.00 per year. The Committee wanted to know about WEBER'S connection with SMITH (probably KENNETH C. WEBER of the Farmer's Guild), and a check for $1,000.00 which was not further identified. They also wanted to know if SMITH was anti-Semitic, to which DOMAN replied

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that SMITH had always said that he was not and DOMAN did not think that he was. DOMAN explained that he was leaving SMITH because an X-Ray showed him to be suffering from a lung disease. He was also questioned about [redacted] and about individuals named [redacted] and [redacted] neither of which DOMAN had heard of. The Committee at no time acted as if "they had run on to anything", but the questioning appeared to be a routine job for the record. They asked him about any connection which SMITH may have with the Political Action Committee and DOMAN told them he knew of none and did not believe that SMITH was acquainted with R. J. THOMAS, head of the UAW-CIO. DOMAN testified that SMITH did not have any interests in any other enterprises outside of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY. They inquired as to whether SMITH had been in touch with any important Republican or Democrat politicians. They inquired as to who FOSTER was (probably GEORGE FOSTER of Chicago, with the Constitutional Americans and a friend of SMITH'S). They did not inquire, however, about HARRY BENNETT or WALLACE GAMBER (both connected with the Ford Motor Company), or about [redacted] (investigator for various organizations). Present at the hearing were Congressmen COSTELLO, BIRMINGHAM, who is an investigator for the Committee, STRIPLING, who is chief investigator, and two girls. BAERMAN was not there, although SMITH had requested him to attend. No newspaper men were present. The hearing was held in DIES' office and the Committee was very polite to DOMAN, apologizing for having held him over several days. They finally inquired as to what the AMERICA FIRST PARTY campaign consisted of and DOMAN stated that it consisted primarily of fighting Nazism and Communism. DOMAN was subsequently furnished with a transcript of his testimony before the Committee.

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[redacted] that an effort would be made to obtain a transcript of this testimony and if obtained it will be furnished to the Bureau.

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DON A. LOHBECK, who was formerly SMITH'S St. Louis representative, has recently moved to Detroit, and took over DOMAN'S duties when the latter left on November 3, 1944. LOHBECK, who is twenty-seven years of age, is married and has a small child, has recently been classified 4-E by Local Selective Service Board No. 10, St. Louis, Missouri.

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His position as a conscientious objector is based on the grounds that he is religiously opposed to war, although LOHBECK has stated that this opposition is his own personal belief and that he has no definite religion. The Detroit newspapers have been interested in LOHBECK'S position as a conscientious objector in view of his connection with SMITH. SMITH has advised LOHBECK that the publicity being given to the latter's Draft status is instigated by the Jews and is part of a smear campaign.

[redacted] b7c b7D

GEORGE VOSE, who was SMITH'S candidate for Governor of Michigan on the AMERICA FIRST PARTY ticket and who also is organizer of the World War II veterans, has likewise been under attack in the newspapers recently. During November the New York Post ran an article about VOSE stating that he had been Court Martialed and dishonorably discharged from the United States Army. This statement was also made by WALTER WINCHELL in one of his Sunday evening broadcasts. Detroit newspapers have also carried articles concerning VOSE but SMITH has advised the local papers that VOSE had an honorable discharge and that the recent publicity from New York was part of a "smear campaign" and that while the recent article in the New York Post concerning VOSE was libelous, no suit would be filed. SMITH told VOSE, according to [redacted] that "the Jews are out to get you, they are a desperate gang of rats". VOSE was advised to tell any persons interviewing him that he had an honorable discharge from the Army and was the victim of persecution. b7D

[redacted] b7c b7D

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[redacted]

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In recent months various organizations have called for an investigation of SMITH by the Government. According to [redacted], LOHBECK under pretext contacted the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People during the early part of October, 1944, and inquired as to what organizations beside their own had made formal re-

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quest of Attorney General BIDDLE that SMITH be indicted. The NAACP representative admitted that their organization had made such a request and stated she would get the names of the other organizations, but LOHBECK did not re-contact her, as far as informant knew, to obtain this information.

Following the appearance of ELIZABETH DILLING as a speaker at SMITH'S meeting in Detroit on November 15, 1944, a resolution was passed at the "Mobilized for Brotherhood" Service of the People's Institute of Applied Religion at the First Congregational Church, Detroit, which resolution condemned the activities of SMITH and DILLING and called for a demand by the churches that SMITH and DILLING be investigated by the Government. Reverend CLAUDE WILLIAMS, who was reported to be a Communist sympathizer, is in charge of the People's Institute of Applied Religion.

SMITH in turn has requested the investigation of certain persons and organizations which are unfriendly to him. On October 11 he made formal request of Senator THEODORE F. GREEN, chairman of the Senate committee to investigate campaign expenditures, which request was in the form of an affidavit and petitioned the committee to investigate the officers of the Friends of Democracy located at 137 East 57th Street, New York City, and the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League, also located in New York City. The request for investigation of the former organization was based upon the circulation by it of a pamphlet "Pattern for Revolution", which attacked SMITH and his political activities, a copy of which has previously been furnished the Bureau. The investigation of the latter organization was requested because a certain [redacted] when thrown out of the recent national convention of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY, admitted that he was an operative employed by the Anti-Nazi League. SMITH accused the organizations of attempting to deny him his civil liberties, intimidate his supporters and institute a program of libel, misrepresentation and character assassination. He further accused the organizations of helping to finance CARLSON'S book "Undercover", of misrepresenting facts to their constituents and financial supporters as well as to the general public and of cooperating closely with WALTER WINCHELL. SMITH stated further that if the above accusations could be established, and he was in a position to establish them, that a thorough investigation of the two organizations was warranted by the committee [redacted] At about the same time, SMITH also requested Congressman CLINTON ANDERSON, head of the House committee on campaign expenditures, to investigation the Friends of Democracy, and require such organization to report its expenditures and sources of revenue. He also requested that the officers of the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League be required

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to give an account of their sources of revenue. SMITH subsequently advised RALPH BAERMAN, according to [redacted] that "we have clear-cut cases against these two", referring to the two above-mentioned organizations. Informant has not heard, however, of any action taken by either the House or Senate committees in furtherance of SMITH'S request. b7D

[redacted]

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[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, stated that EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago, in a conversation with SMITH on November 8, 1944, inquired as to SMITH'S opinion concerning [redacted] stating that he, SOUTHARD, thinks [redacted] is a "plant", and advised SMITH to stay away from him. According to SOUTHARD, [redacted] has "two bad connections" in Chicago, one of them being a mysterious fellow across the street from him who has an office with no name on the door. SMITH told SOUTHARD that in view of the "HOFFMAN deal" which [redacted] "pulled", SMITH thought he was either an operative or a school kid. b7D

The same informant stated that on November 9 DON LOHBECK, who is SMITH'S assistant, advised that a certain "he", believed to refer to [redacted], wanted to see SMITH about some things that he had arranged. SMITH scoffed at this and advised LOHBECK to tell "that fellow" that it is "no dice" and that "he" did not contribute to the cause by his activities concerning HOFFMAN.

[redacted] b7C b7D

According to [redacted] SMITH has received within the last few months a number of vicious letters from a lawyer in Washington named [redacted] He has been somewhat concerned about these letters but was advised by BAERMAN not to pay any attention to them. However, on October 9 and again on October 16 he replied to previous letters by [redacted] In the first letter SMITH advised [redacted] he did not resent a disagreement in opinion but did resent the way in which [redacted] had impugned his integrity. He told [redacted] that those who gave lip service support to DEWEY will be as popular one year from today as those who gave similar service to WILLKIE in 1940 are today. [redacted] was told that SMITH'S real supporters who contribute money and prayerful support to his activities, do not share [redacted] viewpoint, and that SMITH numbered among his friends and supporters 98% of all true nationalists. He closed by telling [redacted] that the latter had made no contribution whatever toward the encouragement of one who is perhaps more persecuted and abused at the hands of internationalists than any other public figure. In his letter of October 16, 1944, answering a previous b7C + b7

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letter by [redacted] which apparently told SMITH that his political career was finished, SMITH stated [redacted] was a bit late in this description of SMITH'S predicament and that the latter's political career had been finished when he refused to go along with ROOSEVELT in Louisiana many years ago; that that refusal finished his political career with the Democrats and his refusal to go along with WENDELL WILLKIE and the internationalists finished his career with the Republicans. He advised [redacted] that his, SMITH'S, career was not that of a politician but of a crusader. b7c

SMITH has been in contact in recent months with various other nationalist leaders. According to [redacted], HARVEY SPRINGER, a preacher from Denver, Colorado, who calls himself "the cowboy Evangelist" and who has collaborated with SMITH in the past, advised SMITH that he would be coming to Detroit in October and might give him some assistance in his political campaign. Later SPRINGER stated he would be in Kalamazoo for two weeks beginning October 29, 1944, and would be preaching at the People's Tabernacle. SMITH subsequently contacted SPRINGER at Kalamazoo when SMITH was in that City on November 1 to make a speech but as far as informant knew, SPRINGER did not give SMITH any appreciable assistance in his campaign. SMITH has been in frequent contact with EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago. SOUTHARD is one of his close friends and associates. In a discussion with SOUTHARD in the early part of October, SMITH commented upon his own appearance before the House committee and remarked that people with "angels", referring to EDWARD RUMELY, who had had some difficulty in testifying before this committee a few days before and who was allegedly being financed by FRANK GANNETT, newspaper publisher, find it more difficult to get along than "those of us who have to depend on contributions." SMITH stated that he had given HARVEY SPRINGER'S address to [redacted], since they were both fighting the same things. SMITH said that Senator NYE was a willing man but very naive, that he had written a letter to SMITH introducing [redacted] also known as [redacted] who was an "operative" and employee of the Anti-Nazi League. SMITH concluded that it ought to have been obvious to NYE that [redacted] was a "phony", and while NYE was sincere, he was extremely naive. SMITH pointed out that he had been questioned concerning NYE'S letter before the House Committee but that he pulled NYE out of the hole. b7D b7c

Shortly after the election informant states that SMITH was again in contact with SOUTHARD and they were agreed that the time was now ripe to step out and organize a vigorous new nationalist party since the Republican Party was dead as a result of the election. SOUTHARD thought the victory was a Communist victory but SMITH did not agree and believed the

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results would be good for the nationalist cause eventually.

[redacted] b7

SMITH has also been in contact with Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS. He spoke to REYNOLDS several times during the period while DOMAN was in Washington waiting to testify before the Dies Committee, according to [redacted] As previously pointed out, SMITH was very nervous about DOMAN'S testimony and requested whatever assistance REYNOLDS could give him. REYNOLDS, however, made no specific promises as to what he could do. SMITH made numerous unsuccessful efforts to contact REYNOLDS from time to time and was in contact with him also when he, SMITH, was in Washington to testify before the House Committee on October 3, 1944. b7D

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[redacted] stated that SMITH, prior to the election, told [redacted] that the Democrats were forcing people to turn more to nationalism and against Communism but that following the election SMITH advised [redacted] that the cause of nationalism had not been adversely affected by the results and that "we are just beginning to fight". [redacted] subsequently wrote a letter to [redacted] of Milwaukee praising SMITH and stating that there was no hope for the United States in any leadership from the old Parties and that after careful consideration he had cast his lot with SMITH since the latter was fundamentally a sound leader. [redacted] was told that the AMERICA FIRST PARTY was considering a series of two-day institutes to be held during the winter in various cities, at which fundamental political economy and economics would be discussed.

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On November 28, according to [redacted] b7D SMITH inquired of [redacted] as to whether the articles called "International Jews", which were bound in booklet form after having been published in the "Dearborn Independent", had been copyrighted. [redacted] said he did not know, but that the Ku Klux Klan had attempted to use these booklets in Georgia but had been prevented from doing so by the local authorities. [redacted] did not know what tactics had been used by the authorities, however, to prevent the distribution of these booklets. SMITH said that if he used the articles referred to he would indicate they were taken from the "Dearborn Independent" and that this paper is owned by HENRY FORD. [redacted] did not think that FORD'S life had been threatened at the time the articles were published. In other contacts with [redacted] according to informant, SMITH had recently returned to [redacted] a report which the latter had furnished to him, and had also sent a [redacted] who is connected with the Farmer's Grange in Washington, and another unknown individual, out to see [redacted] Informant stated that an individual unknown to him had also been in contact with SMITH recently and advised SMITH that he had spoken to one of the officers of the "Dearborn Independent" and that this officer had agreed with him that ROOSEVELT was a Communist and that "we have got to do something." SMITH'S friend believed the man at the newspaper was open to conviction and that SMITH should follow up the contact which had been made.

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[redacted] b7D

SMITH has made several efforts in recent weeks to contact WILLIAM McKEEGAN, according to [redacted] Informant did not believe, however, that SMITH had been successful in such efforts. McKEEGAN is well known in this area as a prominent Republican politician. According to this informant, SMITH had an extended conversation recently with KENNETH C. WEBER of Detroit, attorney for the Farmer's Guild, chairman of the State convention of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY held in Detroit in July, and candidate for Attorney General on the AMERICA FIRST PARTY ticket in Michigan. WEBER told SMITH that the latter's followers were the life blood of the Farmer's Guild in Michigan and the two men agreed that they felt the same about the political issues of the day. b7D

[redacted] b7D

Reverend FREDERICK J. LIBBY of Washington, D. C., executive secretary of the National Council for the Prevention of War, and who is believed to have been allied with the "Peace Now Movement", was much pleased with certain cards that SMITH sent to him and gave SMITH 600 of his best names from his mailing list, according to [redacted] b7D

[redacted] b7C, b7D

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[redacted] b7c b7D

[redacted] stated that SMITH spoke to [redacted], an associate of his in Baltimore, Maryland, following the election and stated that in his opinion DEWEY had discovered during his campaign through the Middlewest that the majority of the people in that section of the country were nationalists and thought along the same lines as did SMITH. Mrs. BEATRICE NOWLES of Detroit, another follower of SMITH'S, was in contact with him following the election and indicated she was much incensed over the election of ROOSEVELT. b7c b7D

SMITH has had several contacts with [redacted] an investigator for the Ford Motor Company, who has been a close friend of SMITH'S for some time. According to [redacted] SMITH and [redacted] in their most recent meeting discussed CLAUDE SMITH, who is the organizer and leader of the Christocrats. CLAUDE SMITH has been for some years printing and distributing anti-Semitic literature. [redacted] advised SMITH that CLAUDE SMITH lived at 732 Parker Avenue, Detroit, and that he has 10,000 books on the political creed for the Republican Party. He sends out postal cards to friends asking them to send in eight other names of people who might be interested in his work. He works on his own with no other help and never holds any meetings. [redacted] and SMITH also discussed [redacted] whom [redacted] referred to as the American Saviour, DOROTHY WARING, and [redacted] was said to belong to the Rightist Cause, to have nationalistic tendencies and to be definitely anti-Communistic. Articles supposedly written by [redacted] are actually written by DOROTHY WARING, according to [redacted] b7c b7D

[redacted] stated a recent survey by the Gallup Poll indicated that anti-Semitism had increased 74%. SMITH thought that BROWDER and HILLMAN had won the election for ROOSEVELT and that the Democrat victory was the best thing that could have happened for nationalism. b7c

SMITH'S interest in anti-Semitism is further shown by a discussion which he had on November 29, 1944, with GEORGE FOSTER of Chicago, head of the Constitutional Americans and a friend of SMITH'S. FOSTER told SMITH that a certain [redacted] from New York City who had been "mixed up in the Senator WALSH business" had been instrumental in b7c

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forcing FOSTER out of the Atlantic Hotel, Chicago, where he had been holding his meetings. FOSTER claims to have been forced out of four hotels in the past two months by Jewish action and that he then called a certain [redacted] and accused the latter of interfering with free speech and of FOSTER'S constitutional rights. FOSTER claims [redacted] told him that he would not be allowed to speak in Chicago and that [redacted] would prevent him from getting a hall and would put the pressure on. [redacted] mentioned SMITH'S name to FOSTER, stating "you know what is wrong with him", referring to SMITH. SMITH stated that while no blood has been shed after his last meeting in Chicago, he had been pestered by a group of Jewish war veterans who attempted to provoke trouble. b7C

FOSTER claims that his difficulties are due to the Jewish War Veterans, the Jewish Sentinel and the Anti-Defamation League. He claims that a reign of terror has been instigated against him in Chicago and that he is sending letters to his people telling them of this. SMITH indicated he would discuss this situation in his letter to his followers in an attempt to arouse them. SMITH wants FOSTER to come over to Detroit and spend the day with him so they can discuss plans for their next big meeting in Chicago.

In connection with his various activities, SMITH has been distributing considerable literature both at his meetings and through the mail. He has ordered an additional 500 copies recently from EARL SOUTHARD of the latter's book "Forty Years of ROOSEVELT", and is distributing these to his followers. As referred to above, he has also gotten the book, "Vote CIO and have a Soviet America", and in addition to having sold 15,000 of these to the Wayne County Republican Committee, has also distributed many of them to his followers. [redacted] He has also received 1,000 copies of a speech by Senator REYNOLDS, the exact nature of which was unknown to [redacted] and has distributed these together with several thousand copies of the TYLER KENT story. He contacted the Chicago Tribune to obtain 2,000 copies of an article by JOHN T. FLYNN which appeared in the October 22 issue of that newspaper. As mentioned above, he has indicated a desire to obtain from the Dearborn Independent the booklets containing the series of articles called "International Jews". On November 28, 1944, he wired Senator REYNOLDS at Washington to rush him 1,000 more copies of the speech entitled "Restriction of Immigration — Acquisition of Certain Bases". This is probably the same speech of REYNOLDS which he had previously been distributing. [redacted] b7D

b7D

A copy of this speech is being sent as an enclosure with this report to the Bureau. SMITH has been in contact recently with ELIZABETH DILLING concerning

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a book of hers entitled "The Octopus" and wants to help her in publishing additional copies of this book. She has 2,500 copies left and SMITH indicated he would be able to use that many. It was agreed that she would start shipping him 400 copies per week starting on the 10th of December. She has told him that the book has more consolidated information on "kikes" than she ever came across and that it would be fine if they could spread about one million of these books over the country before they were shut up. SMITH stated he hoped they would not be shut up but DILLING stated that the Jew press in Chicago was making a "big squawk".

[redacted] b7

[redacted] b7 b7

As indicated above, SMITH has been in recent contact with ELIZABETH DILLING for the purpose of helping distribute her book, "The Octopus". In their most recent conversation, DILLING told SMITH that McWILLIAMS and DETHRIDGE (probably JOE McWILLIAMS and GEORGE DETHRIDGE, two of defendants in Washington sedition trial), had lost their jobs at the Central National Bank, presumably in Washington, because the Jews started a run on the bank in protest, and the management of the bank had to fire these two men. DILLING thought that soon they would have to do their speaking on street corners since GEORGE FOSTER had been prevented from hiring a hall for a meeting by the Jewish Central Group. DILLING indicated that she and [redacted] her secretary, had been laying the ground-work for some future Western meetings. b7c

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SMITH told DILLING that his Party was going fine and that the membership had not dropped off. All of the members seemed to have remained loyal. He told her that he planned on going to Washington about the 11th of December and that he intended to go through with his plan adopted at his meeting in Detroit on November 15 at which DILLING spoke, to the effect that he would demand that the Senate Judiciary Committee investigate the Washington sedition trial. SMITH said that Senator McCARRON, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, told SMITH that he had a desire to listen to SMITH'S petition for an investigation of this case.

The request for an investigation of the sedition trial above referred to was passed by resolution at SMITH'S meeting in Detroit on November 15. At this meeting, as stated above, DILLING was the principal speaker. SMITH gave her appearance considerable publicity among his followers and sent out a special card and notice of the meeting, which were obtained by [redacted] and are being sent to the Bureau as enclosures with this report. b7

[redacted]

b7c
b7D

There was no picketing or other disturbance prior to or during the meeting, although certain Communist organizations had threatened to throw a picket line around the Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, at which the meeting was being held. DILLING was introduced by SMITH who stated that she was the best informed woman in the United States on subversive activities. [redacted] DILLING'S remarks consisted principally of a denunciation of the sedition trial and a number of songs and b7D

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poems ridiculing the judge and other persons connected with the trial. DILLING attacked the Jews and the Communists vigorously and, [redacted] is very witty and clever in her presentation of these songs and skits. [redacted] did not believe any of her remarks were seditious and she did not direct any criticism at the Administration or the conduct of the war. There was only one soldier in uniform, a First Class Private, in the audience. b7D

The Detroit News and the Detroit Free Press carried accounts of the meeting, the Free Press printing also a picture of DILLING. The Detroit News referred to the meeting in its headline as "SMITH Stars DILLING in Song and Prance Act". This paper quoted DILLING as having said that there has not been a single piece of evidence introduced as yet at her trial to support a charge of sedition.

[redacted] b7D

Among the items of literature distributed at the meeting was a pamphlet by DILLING entitled "Christians, Awaken!", a copy of which is being sent to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report, and a copy retained in the files of the Detroit Field Division.

[redacted] b7D

Both SMITH and DILLING, according to [redacted] are very much interested in obtaining the services of [redacted] for the Dies Committee, at such time as [redacted] may sever his connection with the Committee. DILLING believes [redacted] is one of the few people in the country who is fully acquainted with all the information in the Committee files and believes this information could be a valuable research source for some "really unbridled activity" by men such as SMITH. DILLING claims to have sold [redacted] on the nationalist movement and thinks he may become one of its foundation stones. She has been in contact with [redacted] and SMITH told her to tell [redacted] that "my arm is friendly" and that after the election SMITH would be ready to help underwrite a project such as the publicizing of confidential Dies Committee records. The possibility of organizing a nation-wide speaking b7D b7D

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tour in which DILLING and SMITH would appear and discuss information contained in the Dies Committee records, was suggested. DILLING told SMITH to keep his own counsel on this matter but that some action would have to be taken in the near future since the Committee "might fold up at any minute". Informant was not able to learn whether SMITH or DILLING had taken any action with regard to [redacted] and the Committee records. b7c

In addition to the activities which he is apparently planning with DILLING, SMITH has recently become connected with another project in which [redacted] has been in contact for several months with a certain [redacted] of Los Angeles, who is probably known to SMITH since his name appears on one of SMITH'S mailing lists. [redacted] is being financed at least in part by [redacted] in a project by which he hopes to have the recent Presidential election declared invalid. He claims that there were twenty-one States which failed to list their Presidential electors on their ballots, that this procedure was in violation of the United States constitution and that therefore the electoral votes of such States cannot be counted. In this event it would be necessary to have the House of Representatives elect a President and [redacted] claims to have enough friends in Congress to be able to swing the election to his candidate, whom, incidentally, he has never named. [redacted] apparently has not achieved results in a manner satisfactory to [redacted] and she recently indicated she would withdraw her financial support. She had previously stated that $10,000.00 would be needed to finance this project and that she was giving [redacted] $1,000.00 of this amount. b7c

On November 20, 1944, according to [redacted] of Chicago, [redacted] spoke to SMITH'S wife and explained to her in some detail the project which [redacted] and [redacted] are sponsoring. [redacted] indicated that they would like to have SMITH'S help in this matter and that [redacted] intended to file a mandamus suit against the Secretary of State in at least one of the States above mentioned and possibly in all twenty-one of them. [redacted] said that the mothers' organization which she represented was backed by many people who did not like the way in which the election went. If a suit were filed, UPTON CLOSE, the radio commentator, has promised that he would give it publicity over the radio. During the latter part of November and following the above conversation, [redacted] came to Detroit [redacted] b7c b7

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[redacted] The discussion of the proposed law suit dealt with the twelfth and fourteenth amendments to the constitution of the United States although informant was not able to learn the exact nature of the legal action contemplated. SMITH succeeded in persuading [redacted] to continue her support of [redacted] that in the future SMITH would be closely associated with [redacted] project as above outlined.

[redacted]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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FBI/DOJ

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ENCLOSURES: TO THE BUREAU:

Card containing picture of President ROOSEVELT and criticizing him for statement that American boys would not be sent into any foreign wars, distributed by SIVERT ERDAHL, 1221 North Capitol Street, Washington, D. C.

Folder setting out candidates on State and National ticket of AMERICA FIRST PARTY.

Copy of letter sent to followers of SMITH in October dealing with meeting to be held October 12.

Leaflet "Rejected" and folder setting out Dr. LELAND L. MARION'S qualifications for Governor, distributed at October 26, 1944 meeting.

"Little Moron" card containing pictures of President and Mrs. ROOSEVELT on back.

Speech of Senator LANGER of North Dakota concerning Washington sedition trial, which speech is in Senator LANGER'S franked envelope.

Re-print of page 13 of June 3, 1944, issue of "American Glass Review", entitled "Strange Fruit Indeed", which denounces Mrs. ROOSEVELT, by EDWARD L. SULLIVAN.

Re-print of "The Great Deception" by OSWALD GARRISON VILLARD, re-printed from "The Christian Century".

Pamphlet "Why I Am Against That Man" by NORMAN A. ZOLLEZI, editor of "Labor Digest".

Folder setting out "Anti-Veteran Record of Candidate ROOSEVELT", published by Arlington County Republican Committee, Arlington, Virginia.

Booklet entitled "Vote CIO and Get a Soviet America" by JOSEPH P. KAMP and distributed by Constitutional Educational League, 342 Madison Avenue, New York.

Pamphlet entitled "The Platform of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY".

Mimeographed seven-page piece of literature entitled "The Story of TYLER KENT", distributed through mails by SMITH.

Leaflet entitled "When the War is Over" printed by AMERICA FIRST PARTY.

July-August and October, 1944, issues of "The Catholic Worker" and campaign cards of MARY A. MILLER and KATHLEEN F. JENNINGS.

Copy of SMITH'S testimony before campaign expenditures committee of House of Representatives on October 3, 1944.

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Copy of speeches by Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS of North Carolina in the Senate of the United States, August 7, 10, 11, 1944, entitled "Refugees; Restricting the Admission of Immigrants; etc."

Copies of magazine edited by SMITH, "The Cross and the Flag" for September, October and November, 1944.

Special card and notice of meeting at which ELIZABETH DILLING spoke in Detroit at Book-Cadillac Hotel on November 15, 1944.

Pamphlet by ELIZABETH DILLING, "Christians, Awaken!"

SMITH'S October and November letter to his followers.

Pamphlet, "The Cross and the Flag", edited by GERALD L. K. SMITH, Christmas issue.

- PENDING -

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE BALTIMORE FIELD DIVISION

* At BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, will conduct appropriate investigation at the time of the meeting to be addressed by Subject on October 3, 1944, and submit appropriate investigative report.

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At DETROIT, MICHIGAN, will maintain contact with confidential informants mentioned in the body of the instant report with reference to further activities of Subject.

Will determine by discreet inquiry and from appropriate informants the total number of votes received by SMITH and AMERICA FIRST PARTY candidates in Michigan and in any States outside of Michigan where votes may have been cast for such candidate.

- PENDING -

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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

All of the above individuals have requested that their identity be kept confidential in connection with this matter.

ALL
b7c, b7D

INDEX GUIDE

TITLE: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
AGENT: [redacted]
DATE: 12/9/44

CASE: INTERNAL SECURITY-G
SECURITY MATTER
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 17 OF 18

FILE NUMBER : 62-43818

SUBJECT GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 9

FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
REQUEST

SUBJECT GERALD L K. Smith

PAGES REVIEWED: 3994

PAGES RELEASED: 2979

NOTES: SECTIONS 43-48

NO DUPLICATION FEES FOR THIS PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 43

PAGES REVIEWED: 44

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NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

7563

Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Director, FBI

DATE: June 28, 1945

FROM: SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH; AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

On June 27, 1945, [redacted]

b7c
b8

This is the only information available in the Detroit Field Division concerning the alleged purchase of [redacted] temple on behalf of SMITH.

b7c

The Los Angeles Field Division is requested to endeavor to verify the above information and advise the Bureau and the Detroit Field Division as soon as possible.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/82 BY SP-8B75/mlc

[redacted] b7c
62-1126
- Los Angeles

Memo to Todd
7-13-45
EPB

RECORDED & INDEXED
62-45813-7
F F
JUL 30 1945
EX-22

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MEADE MCCLANAHAN
COUNCILMAN
THIRTEENTH DISTRICT

City Council
of the
City of Los Angeles -12
City Hall

COMMITTEES
BUILDING & SAFETY, CHAIRMAN
PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE
PLANNING

June
28th
1945

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/86 BY SP8B2 [illegible]

John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

IN THE MATTER OF GERALD L.K. SMITH.

Mr. Smith came to this City a short time ago and desired to hold public meetings in Los Angeles but met with considerable opposition. The opposition was, in fact, so strong that he was unable to lease an auditorium large enough to accomodate those desiring to hear him. I interceded in his behalf at the Philharmonic auditorium for a meeting held June 25th. Mr. Smith asked me to act as Chairman, which I did, and upon announcement of this fact, myself, home and office were immediately beseiged with numerous telephone calls and deluged with letters threatening, etc., intimidating my actions in trying to uphold Mr. Smith's right of free speech and assembly as guaranteed by the Constitution. I have, of course, received many letters and calls commending me and congratulating me on my stand. However, there are many influential persons who believe Mr. Smith's activities might be subversive or not conducive to upholding our American form of government and that his past activities and his present inclination is that of anti-Semitic and anti-American.

I am assured by Mr. Smith that your office is entirely familiar with his background, his Americanism, andall that he stands for and I am asking that you advise me by return mail as to whether-or-not it is unAmerican and might be attacking our country in a subversive way to lend any moral support or aid to Mr. Smith in any manner in furthering his campaign for Christian-Americanism - so-called by him.

Since this matter is urgent I am sending this by airmail and would appreciate your reply by airmail for which I am enclosing postage.

Yours very truly,

Meade McClanahan

MEADE MC CLANAHAN.

4 encl.

RECORDED
INDEXED
62-43818-
FILED

June 27, 1945

If this is the kind of company you keep I'm certainly sorry that I voted for you at the last election!

One of your constituents in the 13th District.

P.S. I will certainly be interested to follow your stand on other matters of community interest.

Buy War Bonds

G. L. K. Smith speaks second time here

Gerald L. K. Smith, "America First" leader, made his second public appearance in Los Angeles last night. He spoke at the Philharmonic auditorium.

He lumped virtually all of his "enemies" under the heading of "communists" and so designated a picket line which appeared outside the meeting hall, carrying signs charging Smith with being a "fascist."

The meeting was chaired by newly elected Councilman Meade McClanahan of the 13th district.

Smith Opens Crusade Here, Hints Political Intervention

America Firster Scores Communists, Defends Free Speech Before Packed Auditorium

Gerald L. K. Smith launched his America First crusade here last night before an audience that packed Philharmonic Auditorium despite a Workers' Party picket line that denounced the former Huey Long lieutenant with placards calling him a Fascist.

The hook - nosed, florid - faced spellbinder from Louisiana attacked everything which he considered out of step with the Constitution. He defended free speech and accused local Communists of attempting to prevent his talk. He served notice that he would intervene in local politics and left the impression that his movement might center in this area.

Smith indicated that the political wing of his movement was supporting City Councilman Meade McClanahan, who introduced him to Los Angeles.

Lands Councilman

Speaking of McClanahan, Smith said, "The man who presides here tonight can be mayor or governor or whatever he chooses to be. I have never met a man with more intestinal fortitude than Meade McClanahan."

The Councilman introduced Smith following an opening prayer by the Rev. Robert P. Shuler, pastor of Trinity Methodist Church. McClanahan said threats had been made against him and his family but that he sponsored the meeting because he believed Smith had the right of free speech.

Smith made free speech one of his many themes. "The issue," he said, "is: Shall we who love Christ maintain the right of free speech in this country."

Scores Management

He denounced the management of Philharmonic Auditorium for the restrictions which it placed upon him and which he enumerated to his audience. He said he put up $1000 cash to cover any possible damage to the auditorium, another $1000 to guarantee he would not deviate from the typewritten copy of his speech (and which Smith boasted he would not look at once during his talk), another $42.50 for a court reporter to record the evening's proceedings, a public liability bond of $250,000 to insure the building and its occupants. Smith said he was required to pay the police officers who were guarding the doors and that he had to furnish a riot and civil commotion policy.

"If you ever intend to break a leg, break it tonight," Smith shouted, "I got you covered."

Refers to Mayor

Referring to Mayor Bowron's statement that he hoped Smith would soon leave Los Angeles, the America Firster said, "If the preachers in this town ever let God in on what is going on here they'll have to elect a new mayor."

Smith's gesture with this remark left his hand pointing at Councilman McClanahan, who had just informed the audience that the City Council president, Robert T. Burns, had warned him not to

We've put up with these long enough; now we're gonna fight.

"If you had any public officials here with enough guts you'd have a grand jury investigation (of threats against Smith and the efforts to prevent his meeting).

"I'm not going to look at my manuscript tonight; they can keep my $1000 if they have the brass to do it. My right of free speech can not be bought for $1000.

"When the time comes that they can put Charles Lindbergh in the gutter and Walter Winchell on the throne, it's time for good Americans to rise up and fight.

Need For Cross

"America is doomed unless we put the Cross beside the flag . . .

"When I say America first, I mean not another penny of lend-lease to Russia until she helps us whip the Japs. . . .

"The Jews who support Communism in this country are the worst enemies of their own race.

"I'm not going into the graveyard for an argument, but the greatest break America has had for a good many years was when Truman was inaugurated President of the United States. . . . If Henry Wallace thinks Russia will surpass the United States (as Smith had quoted Wallace as saying) why doesn't he run for Vice-President under Joseph Stalin?"

Crowd In Square

Smith spoke from a platform on which two rows of local residents flanked him. The majority of them were clergymen, he said, and asked for a showing of hands from the audience to support his claim that another 100 ministers of the gospel were there.

Loudspeakers carried his address outside the building where a crowd had assembled in Pershing Square. A large force of police was there to keep sidewalks cleared. They reported there was no violence.

In a statement issued today, three church groups of Los Angeles disclaimed any knowledge of the "so-called California Pastors Committee" which Gerald L. K. Smith claimed was supporting his movement.

The statement was signed by Dr. E. C. Farnham, executive secretary of the Church Federation of Los Angeles; the Rt. Rev. W. Bertrand Stevens, Bishop of Los Angeles (Episcopal Church); and Rabbi Edgar F. Magnin, chairman of the Board of Rabbis of Southern California.

OPA Files Suit Against Ciro's

The OPA today cracked down on Ciro's swank night spot, for allegedly overcharging in tax collections on food and drink bills.

In a treble damage suit filed by OPA attorney Stanley Jewell it was asserted that H. D. Hover, who does business under the name "Ciro's of Hollywood," at 8433 Sunset Blvd., collected an excess [illegible] in taxes on food and

porting City Councilman Meade McClanahan, who introduced him to Los Angeles.

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Smith's gesture with this remark left his hand pointing at Councilman McClanahan, who had just informed the audience that the City Council president, Robert L. Burns, had warned him not to be too prominent if he wanted to remain in the council.

Smith claimed that 1000 California preachers were behind his movement.

The following comments indicate the range of his remarks.

"When the New Deal machine shot Huey Long they knew the man they had to kill to get reelected in 1936.

"I wouldn't trade one pentacostal preacher who knows how to convert people for all the stuffed-shirt modern preachers between New York and Los Angeles.

Hates Fascism

"There is no man in America who hates Fascism more than your speaker.

"We're not going to let Hitler, Mussolini, Stalin or Edward G. Robinson (film actor who opposed Smith's talking here) tell us we can't have free speech in this city.

mean not another penny or arms lease to Russia until she helps us whip the Japs. . . .

"The [illegible]s who support Communism [illegible] this country are the worst enemies of their own race.

"I'm not going into the graveyard for an argument, but the greatest break America has had for a good many years was when Truman was inaugurated President of the United States. . . . If Henry Wallace thinks Russia will surpass the United States (as Smith had quoted Wallace as saying) why doesn't he run for Vice-President under Joseph Stalin?"

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This is the second crackdown by the OPA on Hollywood night spots. Last January a number of nightclubs, including the Trocadero and the Sunset House, were taken to task for allegedly dealing in black market meat.

Officer Killed After Reported Missing

Reported missing after the sinking of a Jap prison ship off the Philippines last May, Lt. William Hammond Shoup, 29, of 1927 N. Hillhurst Ave., was actually lost in an engagement that took place Oct. 24, his family disclosed. Lieutenant Shoup is survived by a widow, Helen, 25, and a son, Tommy, 4.

TUESDA[illegible]E 19, 1945

Peoples World

McClanahan & Gerald Smith

It hasn't taken long for Councilman Meade McClanahan of Los Angeles to show his true colors. Elected only a few weeks ago, McClanahan is using his office to help promote the pro-Fascist activities of Gerald L. K. Smith.

McClanahan not only admits but boasts that he acted as front man for Smith in renting the Philharmonic Auditorium for a mass meeting June 25. Fortunately, the rental was cancelled.

In the April election campaign in the 13th District the voters were flooded with Jew-baiting material on behalf of McClanahan.

That gentleman, it will be recalled, expressed "disapproval" of race prejudice while at the same time and in the same breath he covertly helped to spread this poisonous Hitler doctrine.

Now the hypocrisy and essential un-Americanism of McClanahan's attitude is fully revealed; he has aligned himself with one of the most rabid race-baiters in the country.

Little wonder that the people of the 13th councilmanic district are shocked and are, McClanahan admits, "bombarding" him with criticism. Only McClanahan says they're not really people—they're only Communists.

Ex-Councilman Roy Hampton, also from the 13th District, used to answer all criticism by hollering "Reds!" But he learned to his sorrow that the so-called Reds were the majority of the voters in his district.

We think McClanahan is destined to learn the same lesson.

Citizen-News
Editorials

10 Hollywood, Tuesday, June 19, 1945

Disappointing

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF COUNCILMAN Meade McClanahan that he would introduce Gerald K. Smith at a mass meeting was disappointing to many voters of the Councilman's 13th district who supported his election.

Smith is the head of the America First Committee, a defender of the late Huey Long and a champion of some causes with which most Americans are not in sympathy.

McClanahan stated that he is "alarmed over the Communist menace, especially since reading that the reds have planned to move their strategical headquarters from New York City to Hollywood." Smith, according to McClanahan, is hated by the Communists who "will do anything to stop his crusade which now enrolls three million people."

That McClanahan is alarmed over the Communist menace is commendable. That the Communists hate Smith is doubtless correct. But these are not sufficient reasons for a public servant, representing a district of fair-minded, earnest Americans, to align himself with Gerald K. Smith.

True, the Councilman said that he had been assured that "the moment anything is said that is not first class Americanism the meeting will be adjourned." But his statement indicated that the Councilman was aware of some of the charges that have been made against Smith and that there was need for the taking of precautions.

Councilman McClanahan didn't take enough precautions.

One cannot effectively fight Communism by supporting Gerald K. Smith. Smith causes more people to align themselves with the Communists than he arouses to opposition against them.

The fight against Communism cannot be won by the stirring of class, religious, or racial hatreds. To promote hatreds while attacking Communists is to cause ignorant people to believe that the Communists are the only people who are opposed to hatreds.

The fight against Communism cannot be helped by decrying it at the same time that a defense is made of Huey Long, as tyrannical a dictator as the dictatorship of Communism.

Smith, who has been granted his Constitutional right of freedom of speech, should grant to other citizens of the United States their full Constitutional rights of equality among their fellow citizens.

No blow is struck against Communism by arguing for the right of a few to rule the many. Communism is a menace because it has denied democratic rights, freedom of speech and freedom of religion.

The United States has reason to be proud of the success it has built on the foundation of freedom of religion and speech and freedom from prejudices.

Prejudices are not stirred by people interested in the welfare of this nation.

People truly interested in this country's welfare and the maintenance of its proud position are constantly on the alert to minimize prejudices.

Communism isn't at war with Fascism or Fascism with Communism as some would have us believe. Both are upholders of regimentation and totalitarianism. Both deny freedom of religion and freedom of speech. Both are enemies of democracy.

We will fight them both, and fight prejudices if we would maintain the glory of American democracy.

Experimenting

WHENEVER PROPOSALS ARE MADE in Congress to restore world trade some of our Congressmen take the view that we are merely being charitable toward other countries. Or they argue that our own interests are being sacrificed to foreign interests.

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The Senate Finance Committee has received stacks of statistics on the benefits of the lowered tariffs involved in mutual trade agreements with other countries. Nevertheless, the Committee voted 10-9 to limit tariff cuts to 50 per cent of the 1934 tariff peak.

The State Department pointed out that most of our bargaining power with our principal foreign customers had been used up and that this proposal would not improve conditions. But the committee was unimpressed by this argument or the argument made at the San Francisco Conference that restoration of world trade through mutual exchange would help to promote world peace.

Experience shows that universal high tariffs stifled trade and that lower tariffs have tended to restore it with other countries that have made concessions to us in return.

We experimented with high tariffs without good results. Our experiments with reciprocal tariff reductions have been beneficial.

Warning

FRANK BORZAGE WARNS AGAINST a drift toward pictures glamorizing gangsters and black market racketeers. He does not want the world to think that these people are typical Americans.

Those who remember the picture of America that was spread through the crime pictures of the early 30's will hope that Borzage's plea is effective.

Pictures faithfully portraying America and every other country can do much to bring about the peaceful world for which we are fighting.

Divided

THE SUPREME COURT DECISION, ruling by a vote of 5 to 3 that Harry Bridges cannot be deported, settles a long standing question. It won't change the opinions of anyone. The public has been divided in its opinions and the split decision of the Supreme Court emphasizes the differences of opinion.

If Harry Bridges never was a Communist as he says, then we hope that he never becomes one. If he was a Communist as was charged, we hope that he has permanently reformed.

7564

EPBtcr

RECORDED
62-43818-742

July 2, 1945

Mr. Meade McClanahan
City Hall
Los Angeles 12, California

Dear Mr. McClanahan:

This will acknowledge your letter of June 28, 1945, with enclosures.

With regard to your inquiry, I must advise you that it has long been the rule of the Attorney General that this Bureau hold its files confidential and available for official use only. Therefore, I regret that under this rule, it will be impossible to answer your inquiry.

I am sure you will appreciate the soundness of this practice and understand that no inferences should be drawn from our inability to furnish the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

JUL 3 7 19 PM '45

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/82 BY SP-1 [illegible]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

204

JUL 12 1945

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This case originated at DETROIT, MICHIGAN			DETROIT File No. 62-1126
Report made at DETROIT, MICHIGAN	Date 5/29/45	Period 3/31;4/2,12,21,30;5/11,14/45	Report made by [redacted]
Title GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases AMERICA FIRST PARTY			Character of case INTERNAL SECURITY - G SEDITION

[redacted]

SMITH spoke at meetings held in Buffalo, New York, on April 8, 1945, and in Detroit, Michigan, April 19, 1945. Left Detroit for San Francisco April 21, 1945, and held meetings of his followers in Chicago on April 22, in St. Louis April 24, Denver April 30, and Salt Lake City May 3, 1945. Arrived at San Francisco May 6, 1945, for purpose of "observing" work of the United Nations Conference and will probably spend several weeks in that city. Apparently has made no plan for interfering with work of the conference. He has stated he will report on the conference for a group of congressmen and that at the conclusion of the conference, his efforts will be directed to preventing approval of the conference program by Congress.

- P -

REFERENCE: ~~(61-7055~~ and 62-43818)

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 28, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan.

Letters from the Detroit Field Division to the Chicago, St. Louis, Denver, Salt Lake City and San Francisco Field Divisions dated April 3, 1945, and April 17, 1945.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/13/82 BY SP3BDB

DECLASSIFIED BY 6688 ON 7-25-77

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF Declassified DATE 7-25-77

cc - AAG Clarke 7-7-45 EPB

COPIES DESTROYED 37 OCT 20 1964

App.&Fwd. R. D. Guerin Jr SAC

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-743

RECORDED & INDEXED

INDEXED IN PUBLICATIONS FILES

EX-74

Copies of this Report
5 - Bureau (Encl.)
2 - Chicago
2 - Denver
2 - Salt Lake City
2 - San Francisco
1 - Philadelphia (Information)
1 - Washington Field (Information)
3 - Detroit

(DE-62-1126)

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan

Subject SMITH has made a series of talks at various meetings within the past few weeks, the first of these being at Buffalo, New York, on April 8, 1945. The Buffalo speech was given at the Hotel Statler in that city before a meeting of the Eastern Monetary Conference sponsored by the Buffalo Economics League under the direction of JOSEPH STOEPPEL, a close friend of SMITH'S.

[redacted]

He had a meeting of his followers in the Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, on April 19, 1945, two days prior to his departure for San Francisco. The room in which he spoke was filled to capacity, and the crowd has been estimated between 350 and 500 people. [redacted] SMITH discussed principally the probable consequences of the death of President Roosevelt and stated he would support President Truman, whom he believed to be a good man, providing Truman would renounce any connection with International Bankers, the CIO and the Communists. [redacted] SMITH also discussed the Dumbarton "Hoax," the "Crime of Crimea," the "Bretton Woods Steal," and the San Francisco "Sell Out." SMITH stated that he was going to San Francisco to "observe" the workings of the conference and that he expected to have 27 assistants there who would help him to talk to the various delegates and learn what was going on. He said that there were 28 members of Congress, including some senators, who looked to him for information as to what is actually happening at San Francisco and that it was his duty to report to these men.

He stated that he did not have any particular plan for interfering with the actual functioning of the conference, although he said that it might become necessary to picket the hotels in which certain of the delegates were living, just to let them know there was a nationalist movement in the United States. SMITH stated, however, that his principal work would be done after the conference had concluded and that he would then devote his attention to defeating any program adopted at the conference He said that in order to do this, the strategy would be to delay a vote on these measures for as long as possible. He said he would try to find some patriotic members of Congress who would filibuster and would prevent a vote until the United States soldiers could return from overseas at which time he felt the soldiers would insist that Congress kill any measure calling for internationalism. He pointed out specifically that he wanted the soldiers rather than his nationalist group to appear as the persons who demanded that Congress vote against any measures adopted by the San Francisco Conference.

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b7D

(De 62-1126)

Informant also stated that SMITH said the country could thank the Nationalists for the defeat of Henry Wallace last year, and stated the country would now be in Communist hands if Wallace rather than Truman was president. He expressed the opinion that he did not believe Truman would go along with the internationalist group, and he urged his followers to write President Truman frequently and explain that they were against any international agreements. SMITH also stated that he would send his confidential reports on the San Francisco Conference to all persons who made donations at this meeting, whereupon a collection was taken up. Donors were also promised a free copy of a book by "Americanus," which SMITH is apparently distributing. Literature passed out at the meeting included SMITH'S monthly letter to his followers for the month of March, 1945, and various old editions of his magazine "The Cross and the Flag." The Bureau was supplied with a copy of the March letter in the referenced report.

Informant also stated that copies of a petition sponsored by Father TERMINIELLO of Huntsville, Alabama, calling for an investigation of the Pearl Harbor disaster were circulated at the meeting. A copy of the invitation for this meeting indicated that it was held under the auspices of the National Emergency Committee "representing 21 Nationalist groups," and it is being forwarded to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report.

[redacted]

b7
b

[redacted]

A letter sent by SMITH to his followers during April stated, "We will have at least 10 instructed observers at San Francisco." [redacted]

b

In his April letter to his followers entitled "Bloodshed and Treason," SMITH refers to the conference as the biggest thing of its kind

(De 62-1126)

in the history of the world and states it will represent "The supreme effort of international politicians to break down our national sovereignty." He pointed out that when the agreements reached at San Francisco are presented to the United States Senate "that will be the time you and I will have to put up the fight of our life to prevent the Senate from approving anything that will do injury to America's future." He stated he was going to the conference so he could get the "real inside dope on what takes place there," which would be a great help in fighting the approval of the "San Francisco Sell-Out" when it comes before the Senate.

[redacted]

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, who furnished this information did not know whether [redacted] would attend.

According to [redacted] SMITH also planned to meet [redacted] of Los Angeles, California, during the San Francisco Conference. [redacted] was associated with SMITH last year in a plan to declare the presidential election invalid, which plan, however, was never carried through.

[redacted]

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818 -743 p.5

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI/DOJ

[redacted] b7

[redacted]

A copy of the invitation to the Chicago meetings, which were held at 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. April 22, 1945, is being sent as an enclosure to the Bureau with this report.

[redacted]

According to [redacted] SMITH is reported to have stated at the St. Louis meeting that the Yalta Conference in which the United States supported "Russian Communist enslavement of innocent Germans" was the "Crime of Crimea" and SMITH also is reported to have said that there were millions of people in Germany who were no more responsible for Hitler than SMITH was responsible for the New Deal. Informant stated that many persons sympathetic to Germany were in attendance at the meeting and warmly received the sentiments as above expressed by SMITH. b7

The meeting held by SMITH in Denver, Colorado, April 20, 1945, at the Englewood Tabernacle, which is the church operated by Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER, was arranged for by SPRINGER. The meeting at Salt Lake City, which was held at the Hotel Utah on May 3, 1945, was arranged by [redacted] and [redacted] of Salt Lake City. According to [redacted] the meeting was a big success and about 1,000 people attended. b7 b7

[redacted] b7

(De 62-1126)

[redacted]

He told [redacted] that he was making a list of the people who had answered the questionnaire he sent out some months ago inquiring as to whether the person answering the questionnaire could come to Washington at SMITH'S request. Apparently a number of people indicated they could do so, and SMITH told informant that he was going to use these names at the time of the Congressional hearings on the San Francisco proposals. Informant thought that SMITH would try to gather as many of his followers as possible to impress the Congressional Committee of the strength of the opposition to such a proposal.

SMITH continues to maintain his Washington activities through RALPH BEARMAN and the latter's wife, MAGDALENE. The BEARMANS live at 1921 M Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. [redacted]

In a contact with Mrs. BEARMAN during March, SMITH pointed out it was very important that he be informed concerning committees which were meeting to consider legislation in which he was interested and requested her to get the names of the secretaries of all important and special committees in both houses so that if necessary eight or ten telephone calls would enable him to determine what committees were meeting at a particular time and what legislation was being considered. He also told her he was very anxious to know what was being done in the house on the Bretton Woods plan and wanted to know whether the plan was being considered by any committee. He requested her to let him know immediately since he wanted to arrange for someone like CARL MOTE to appear before the committee if there were any open hearings.

When DON LOHBECK visited Washington in March, 1945, SMITH instructed him to contact Mr. and Mrs. BEARMAN and also suggested that he speak to [redacted] at the Chicago Tribune Office. [redacted] is Washington correspondent for this newspaper and is believed to be the individual to whom SMITH had reference when he stated sometime ago that he had a contact in Washington who was in and out of the White House several times a week. LOHBECK was also

(DE 62-1126)

requested to call on Congressman Clare E. Hoffman of Michigan and Senator Burton K. Wheeler. LOHBECK was advised that LIBBY, probably referring to FREDERICK J. LIBBY who has been an advocate of a negotiated peace, had an office in Washington. LOHBECK was advised to avoid contacting anyone "who has been in trouble." Mrs. BERMAN was requested to see that LOHBECK was taken care of during his visit in Washington.

[redacted]

According to [redacted] SMITH is sending copies of his monthly magazine "The Cross and the Flag" to all members of Congress. He has had 10,000 copies of his Washington News Letter-head printed and has ordered additional large quantities of stationery for his Nationalist News Service. b7

(DE 62-1126)

VIRGINIA LOHBECK, who is in charge of his business office, advised informant that during one week in April she had run off 23,000 pieces of mimeographed literature. One particular item, the exact nature of which was unknown to informant, was mailed out in the quantity exceeding 8,500 copies at one time.

A pamphlet, "Whose Concept is it?" written by Mrs. BERTHA GLEBE of Dayton, Ohio, is being distributed by him in some quantity. Mrs. GLEBE is a member of one of the Mothers' groups which is closely aligned with SMITH. SMITH has ordered an additional 2,000 copies of the book "Forty Years of Roosevelt" by EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago and has been in contact with DON LOHBECK to arrange for publication of a pamphlet written under the pen name "Americanus," the exact title of this pamphlet not being known, but "Americanus" is believed to be the pen name of CARL VOTE of Indianapolis, a close friend of SMITH.

During the latter part of April and the first part of May, SMITH had printed and distributed more than 11,000 copies of his monthly magazine "The Cross and the Flag". He is presently conducting a campaign to increase the number of subscriptions for this magazine, and in a letter sent out very recently to the present subscribers, he has indicated that he wanted the present subscribers to send him the names of "good American citizens" whom they believe would be interested in "The truth concerning events in Washington and elsewhere." SMITH stated he wanted the new subscribers to be people named by the present subscribers and who were enthusiastically familiar with his editorial policies. The names thus submitted would be sent copies of the magazine for two months in the hope that they would then subscribe. SMITH stated in this letter that the time has come for him to expand his educational program and "We must enlighten an increased number of people." A copy of this letter is being sent to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report.

Some of SMITH'S literature is finding its way into the hands of members of the Armed Forces, since [redacted] stated that SMITH'S December, 1944, letter to his followers entitled "Dear Fellow American" and a reprint of an article by JOHN T. FLYNN entitled "Pearl Harbor Blame Laid to FDR Blunder," which reprint has been widely distributed by SMITH were found by a member of the Armed Forces in a Army Weapons Carrier at 6th and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, February 8, 1945.

[redacted]

(De 62-1126)

[redacted]

[redacted] The publication of "The Letter" began with the issue of March 17, 1945. It is noted that throughout these various issues SMITH follows generally the Nationalist isolationist, anti-Administration, anti-Semitic and anti-Communist policy which has characterized his other publications. In the initial issue of March 17, 1945, SMITH stated that Rooseveld had shocked even his own "palace guard" by admitting he favored Stalin's plan for forcing 10,000,000 Germans into human slavery. Another item in the same issue stated that at the Yalta Conference practically every terrible proposal originally made by Henry Morgenthau for the debasement and destruction of the German people was approved.

In the issue of March 24, 1945, he stated, among other things, that the rapid under-surface growth of Nationalism in America was creating a panic in the White House. He also pointed out that the law recently passed in New York State, which was supposed to remove racial bias, has proved to be a monstrosity and actually stimulating racial bias.

In the issue of March 31, 1945, he accused England of hoarding food given her by the United States in order that she might subsequently distribute it to European nations in a way that would build up political good will for England. He stated that the Yalta agreement was an abject surrender of western civilization to the Communism of Stalin and pointed out that experts believe the Japanese war will last until 1947 and eventually cost one-third of a trillion dollars.

The issue of April 7, 1945, was devoted largely to attacks upon the Bretton Woods and Dumbarton Oaks agreements, and in the issue of April 14, 1945, the San Francisco Conference was condemned because it was allegedly based upon secret deals between Stalin and Roosevelt. SMITH points out in the same issue that a large sum of money has been set aside by the "propaganda agencies" for the purpose of attacking a "Chicago Tribune," the "New York News," and the "Washington Times-Herald," all of which are said by SMITH to be Nationalist newspapers.

In the issue of April 25, 1945, SMITH states that President Truman is surrounded by his worst enemies, including Henry Wallace and Sidney Hillman, and unless he cleans out this gang," they would ruin him within thirty days.

(De 62-1126)

In the issue of May 2, 1945, he complains about the great quantity of meat being sent to Russia while Americans do not receive any meat. He also stated that President Truman wanted an investigation of the Pearl Harbor scandal but that terrific pressure would be brought to bear by ruthless and powerful forces to prevent the facts from becoming known.

In the issue of May 9, 1945, he expressed the view that President Truman is a Nationalist and that his apparent Internationalism is likely an evidence of party regularity. He states that wise observers in Washington believe the San Francisco Conference would be a failure and that a propaganda campaign led by a Jewish Congressman was being launched in Washington to brand all Nationalists and America Firsters as Fascists. He stated that a determined and vicious effort was being made to stop the publication of "The Letter." Copies of all of the above issues are being sent to the Bureau as enclosures with this report, and extra copies of the issues of March 17, 24 and 31 are being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Division. [redacted]

[redacted] SMITH continues to follow in this publication the same general editorial policy which he has been following for some time. He praises various prominent Nationalists, particularly Senator Burton K. Wheeler and former Senator Gerald P. Nye and Reverend EDWARD LODGE CURRAN of Brooklyn, New York, head of the International Catholic Truth Society. He states that Stettinius is merely a stooge and Harry Hopkins sets out the policy of his own National Emergency Committee, calls for a definition of war aims and issues a warning and a call to action to various groups in the country calling for their support of Nationalism and the America First Party against what he refers to as the "Enemies of America." One of the feature articles by Reverend ARTHUR W. TERMINIELLO is entitled "Indifference is Treason."

In the April issue, he condemns the "Baltimore Smear," by "certain Jewish Communists," of a group known as American Action, Incorporated. He condemns the alleged threat of Gentiles by a writer in "The American Hebrew," denounces WALTER WINCHELL, the alleged Russian control of the Crimean Conference and secret diplomacy. One of the leading articles is the reprint of an editorial by United States Senator Harlan Bushfield of South Dakota on Dumbarton Oaks. SMITH also devotes considerable space to the incidents surrounding their meeting in Chicago on March 15, 1945, under the caption "Chicago Christians Victorious."

The May issue contains the second part of the speech of Senator Bushfield under the caption "Super State Opposed" and reprints an

article from a "Washington Times-Herald" of March 29, 1945, calling for the formation of a new political party in the United States that would appeal to "Southern and Western America first and individualist's sentiments primarily." The balance of the magazine devoted to editorial comment written by SMITH follows his usual anti-British, anti-Russian, anti-Communist and anti-Semitic policies. Copies of the March, April and May issues of the "Cross and the Flag" are being sent to the Bureau as enclosures with this report.

In most of his literature, SMITH continues to emphasize the Chicago meeting of March 15, 1945, in the course of which there was a considerable disturbance outside the meeting hall, which, according to SMITH, was inspired by "Jewish Communists." SMITH has indicated that he believes the incidents surrounding this affair, together with the newspaper publicity, to be very favorable to him. He has reprinted the greater part of the article appearing in his April issue under the title "Chicago Christians Victorious" and has distributed this as a pamphlet among his followers. In the pamphlet he states that the full story would be told in his April, 1945, letter. The so-called full story is set out in this letter under the title "Bloodshed and Treason." Copies of this pamphlet and also of the April letter are being sent to the Bureau as enclosures with this report.

Chicago, Ill

[redacted] obtained copies of newspaper clippings from the "Chicago Daily Tribune" of March 13, 14 and 15, 1945. The first of these carried an editorial "100 Fires Warn of Bloodshed if SMITH Talks." The second carried the headline "Reject Protest Against Speech by GERALD SMITH," and the article of March 15th stated that the police would guard SMITH'S rally on that night. [redacted] A copy of this list is being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Division, and copies of the newspaper clippings mentioned above [redacted] are being sent to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report.

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[redacted] obtained a copy of the article in the Jewish newspaper, "The Sentinel," for March 15, 1945, containing an article indicating that numerous protests had been received against the rally which SMITH intended to hold in Chicago that evening. The editorial from the same paper pointed out that though SMITH had been able to carry through with his scheduled meeting "he and his Fascist movement suffered a staggering defeat" and that "the fight has not ended." A clipping from the "Chicago Daily News" of March 16, 1945, described the SMITH meeting and carried a picture of SMITH alongside the article. An article in the "Chicago Tribune" of March 19, 1945, stated that the American Legion denied having taken any part in the demonstration

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which was carried on outside the hall in which SMITH spoke. These clippings are being sent to the Bureau as enclosures with this report.

[redacted]

ALL b7C, b7S

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

SMITH has also been in contact with his former secretary, BERNARD DOWAN, who has now returned to Detroit and is working for the printing company which does most of SMITH'S printing. According to [redacted] an individual named [redacted] and whose headquarters were at [redacted] was in contact with SMITH on several occasions. Evidently the matters he conferred with SMITH about were of importance, but the informant was unable to learn the nature of their conversation. SMITH has had some arguments with GEORGE FOSTER of Chicago, who is head of a group in that city known as the "Constitutional Americans." FOSTER is apparently angry with SMITH because the latter did not divide with FOSTER the proceeds of some meetings held by SMITH in Chicago some time ago at which meetings FOSTER presided. Evidence of this was found in an article by VICTOR RIESEL in the "New York Post," April 4, 1945, entitled "How Genial Gerald Smith Lives the Life of Riley." The circumstances of this article are based upon an alleged disclosure by FOSTER that SMITH is making a large amount of money and living luxuriously as the result of his Nationalist activities

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and that FOSTER has severed all connections with SMITH. RIESEL states in his article that "rabble-rousing is big business today and profitable too." A copy of this article was furnished by [redacted] and is being sent to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report. b

An employee of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Detroit, Michigan, [redacted] was in contact with SMITH during the early part of April in connection with SMITH'S tax problems. According to [redacted] SMITH and [redacted] held a lengthy discussion in the course of which SMITH explained that he had a lot of political enemies and that he wanted to talk to some of the "old timers" in the bureau rather than to someone who had gotten the job in the last three years. [redacted] stated that he was an "old timer" and that his policy was to give everybody a break. The contact between the two was evidently made by [redacted] since he told SMITH that the revenue agents from the Department in Washington were checking on SMITH and "I don't want this against you . . . . . If they come along and tell me what to do--well, I don't want to do it." [redacted] then explained that he had contacted SMITH and given him this information since he wanted to give SMITH a break. b

[redacted] stated that SMITH'S reaction to the death of President Roosevelt had been that it was a good thing the President had died since it was a case of one man with too much authority for too long a period of time. He stated it was apparent that with Hitler out and with Roosevelt dead all those who tried to get all the power into their own hands soon pass out of the picture. He felt that the death of Roosevelt left Churchill and Stalin in bad shape since to them it was like the death of Santa Claus. He expressed that Truman had been the best man on any of the tickets last fall and would make a better president than Wallace. b

According to [redacted], SMITH had received mail recently from [redacted] of Chicago; from a [redacted] of Prospect, Ohio; from [redacted] of St. Louis; a [redacted] of Chicago; from a [redacted] of Denver, Colorado; from Senator Gerald P. Nye; Congressman Roy Woodruff of Michigan; Congressman Hagen, HARRY ROMER of St. Marys Ohio; and [redacted] b

Among the persons sending contributions to him were [redacted] b

According to [redacted] SMITH'S collections through the mails totaled $14.50 on March 20th and $33.00 on April 5th. On April 11th, the receipts were $28.50. On April 18th, he received over 300 responses from his followers in one day, although informant did not know the total b

amount of money received. He has evidently been trying to cut down his expenses since he has advised informant that during the summertime the income would be smaller and he now had a pay roll of $228.50 per week for extra help which would have to be reduced. On April 26th, his donations were $19.50 and on May 2nd and 3rd, $22 and $23 respectively. On May 12th, the donations amounted to $16.

Informant noted that the name of ROBERT POWERS, one of the owners of the Arnold Powers Printing Company of Detroit, had been added to SMITH'S mailing list indicating that possibly POWERS was a contributor. [redacted] and his company has acted as printer for a number of questionable groups, including Father CHARLES E. COUGHLIN'S magazine "Social Justice."

Inasmuch as reports have already been received from the Buffalo and St. Louis Field Divisions concerning the recent appearances of the Subject SMITH in those field divisions, no leads are being set out for those offices.

ENCLOSURES TO THE BUREAU

Reprint of article appearing in the March issue of "The Cross and the Flag" with the word "Warning" at the top in red ink.

Circular entitled "Chicago Christians Victorious."

Newspaper clippings from the "Chicago Daily Tribune" which are entitled "100 Wires Warn of Bloodshed if Smith Talks" from the March 13, 1945, issue; "Reject Protest Against Speech By Gerald Smith" from the March 14, 1945, issue; "Police to Guard Gerald Smith's Rally Tonight" from the March 15, 1945, issue; "Legion Denies Taking Part in Smith Protest" from the March 19, 1945 issue.

Newspaper clipping from the "Chicago Daily News" of March 16, 1945, entitled "Gerald Smith Speaks; Cheers Inside, Boos Out."

Newspaper clipping from the "New York Post" of April 4, 1945, entitled "Labor New and Comment - How 'Genial Gerald' Smith Lives the Life of Riley" by VICTOR RIESEL.

Portion of "The Sentinel" with headlines "Smith Rally Protested by City." This is from the issue of March 15, 1945.

[redacted] b

Four-page mimeographed letter headed "Bloodshed and Treason!"

(De 62-1126)

Copies of "The Cross and the Flag" for the months March, April and May.

One invitation card to meeting at Hotel La Salle, Chicago, Illinois, April 22, 1945, under the auspices of the Committee of Veterans - World War II.

One invitation to hear GERALD L. K. SMITH at the Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, Michigan, April 19, 1945, under the auspices of the National Emergency Committee, representing 21 Nationalist Groups.

One invitation to hear GERALD L. K. SMITH at the Kiel Auditorium, St. Louis, Missouri, April 24, 1945, under the auspices of the National Emergency Committee, representing 21 Nationalist Groups.

Three-page mimeographed letter sent by SMITH to the subscribers of "The Cross and the Flag" requesting them to submit names of people to whom he would send two issues of the magazine in the hope they would subscribe.

Copies of "The Letter" for March 17, 1945; March 24, 1945; March 31, 1945; April 7, 1945; April 14, 1945; April 25, 1945; May 2, 1945; and May 9, 1945.

- P E N D I N G -

(De 62-1126)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE CHICAGO FIELD DIVISION

At Chicago, Illinois, will, as requested in Detroit Field Division letters dated March 5 and 12, 1945, submit a report on the results of the meeting held by SubjectSMITH at the Temple Hall, Marshfield and Van Buren, Chicago, Illinois, March 15, 1945.

Will, in accordance with the request contained in Detroit Field Division letters dated April 3,and 17, 1945, submit a report on the meetings held by Subject SMITH at Hotel LaSalle, Chicago, at 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. April 2, 1945.

Will check its indices and files to determine what information is available therein concerning the background and identity of [redacted] of [redacted] who was in contact with SMITH during the month of April, and will determine the same information from the same sources concerning [redacted] and [redacted] who have cooperated with SMITH in arrangements for the meetings held by him in Chicago on March 15, 1945, and April 22, 1945.

THE DENVER FIELD DIVISION

At Denver, Colorado, will, in accordance with Detroit Field Division letters dated April 3 and 17, 1945, submit a report concerning the meeting held by the Subject SMITH at the Englewood Tabernacle of Dr. HARVEY SPRINGER on April 22, 1945.

THE SALT LAKE CITY FIELD DIVISION

At Salt Lake City, Utah, will, in accordance with Detroit Field Division letters dated April 3, 17 and 26, 1945, submit a report concerning the meeting held by the Subject SMITH at the Hotel Utah, Salt Lake City, on May 3, 1945.

THE SAN FRANCISCO FIELD DIVISION

At San Francisco, California, will follow and report the activities of the SubjectSMITH while he is in San Francisco in connection with activities of the United Nations Conference. It is being pointed out, however, that no surveillance of SMITH should be conducted and that information obtained should be gotten solely through informants.

Will report the results of any meetings sponsored by SMITH or at which SMITH speaks, it being pointed out that coverage of such meetings should be effected solely through informants. It is noted that SMITH has indicated he may hold a meeting at Oakland, California, during his stay in that state.

(De 62-1126)

Will, upon learning of any plans of the Subject SMITH for conducting meetings in various cities en route from San Francisco to his home in Detroit, Michigan, advise the Bureau, The Detroit Field Division and the field divisions in which such meetings are to be held, of the time and place of such meetings.

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At Detroit, Michigan, will maintain contact with Confidential Informants for the purpose of following further activities of the Subject.

A copy of this report is being sent to the Philadelphia Field Division in view of the incident which prompted SubjectSMITH to write a letter to Director John Edgar Hoover and to the Washington Field Division in view of SMITH'S continuing activities in Washington, D. C.

In accordance with Bureau instructions, investigative reports submitted in this particular case are not to be distributed to other governmental agencies.

- P E N D I N G -

(De 62-1126)

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

4-750 (2-7-79)

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XXXXXX
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

_____

_____

☒ For your information: Per your March 18, 1982 letter this enclosure was not xeroxed for release.

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818 - 743 Enclosure

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FBI/DOJ

RPS:LWO
62-43818 - 743

RECORDED

Mr. James M. McInerney
Acting Head, Criminal Division
John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

July 7, 1945

GERALD L. K. SMITH, was
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SEDITION

Enclosed for your information in the captioned matter is a copy of the investigative report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 29, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan. Also attached are photostatic copies of the enclosed material referred to in this report. b7c

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mlc

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
JUL 1945 P.M
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Egan
Gordon
Pennington
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

Dl Cont
Jest

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED ST[redacted]OVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: July 6, 1945.

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

[redacted], furnished this office with the following information regarding subject's future plans:

GERALD L. K. SMITH is leaving for the East within a week or ten days, visiting Salt Lake City, Denver, and Detroit, enroute to Washington. He will remain presumably about two weeks, maybe four. During that time "Ham and Eggs" organization of Los Angeles will book him at San Diego, San Bernardino, Fresno, Oakland, and Sacramento. About three small towns in areas adjacent to each of these cosmopolitan cities will be booked. There will be in all about fifteen engagements. He is returning East to confer presumably with former Senator Reynolds, who married the daughter of Mrs. CISSY McLEAN of the Hope diamond fame, and Senator BURTON WHEELER and other isolationists. It is his intention to establish his first regional headquarters in Los Angeles and publish a paper dealing with many local issues. Deals will be made with the political outs and minority groups in each community and local action in local politics will be promised.

Copies of instant letter are being furnished interested Field Divisions in which subject is alleged to be scheduled to appear in order that adequate informant coverage may be arranged prior to SMITH's arrival.

Since the above information is only tentative, SMITH's definite plans will be furnished to the Bureau, as well as to interested offices, as soon as SMITH's plans crystalize.

[redacted] b7c
100-7945

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/82 BY sp8075/mc

cc - San Francisco
Salt Lake City
Denver
Detroit
Washington Field
San Diego

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818-72
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EX-22

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56 JUL 18 1945

ROBERT R. REYNOLDS

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED S[illegible] GOVERNMENT

EPB:la

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: July 13, 1945

FROM : J. C. Strickland

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH; AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

I thought you would be interested in knowing that a [redacted] has not been confirmed to date, but the Los Angeles Office is attempting to verify it.

In the recent past there have been suggestions that Smith might attempt to move from Detroit to Los Angeles because of the dismal showing he made in the recent Presidential election. Since Smith is a minister he apparently would not have too much difficulty in taking over [redacted] If he could retain his Nationalist following, which appears to be substantial in Los Angeles, and at the same time acquire the following built up by [redacted] he would undoubtedly take on more significance as a political figure to say nothing of the financial benefits he would derive from his leadership of these two groups.

This matter is being closely followed, and you will be promptly advised of any further information we receive definitely indicating Smith is planning to move to Los Angeles.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/92 BY SP-8613 mc

62-43818-745

31 JUL 14 1945

EPB

RECORDED & INDEXED

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MNK

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Pal[illegible]l, San Francisco
1945

STATEMENT BY GERALD L.K. SMITH
RE
SAN FRANCISCO UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE AND
KINDRED SUBJECTS

Note: Smith is the National Director of the America First Party. Spokesman for 21 Nationalist groups. Is observing and reporting the Conference for 81 periodicals. He is preparing a confidential report for six members of the United States Senate and seventeen members of the Lower House of Congress.

DIRECT QUOTES:

The Communist Party never disbanded. It has been underground and is now preparing to come out in the open and fight against President Truman and his policies. I assert, upon the authority of Msgr Fulton J. Sheen of Washington, D.C., that the communists have been and will cooperate 100% with the Nazi underground in thw Western (Western Hemisphere). They have established headquarters in Mexico City. They are using as their Western Hemisphere propagandists not only native Nazi-Communists, but Communists who fled Spain. These Spanish Reds who are cooperating with Negrin, are valuable because they know the Spanish language, so necessary in South America. Negrin, Browder and their ilk are preparing to undermine the Republics of the Western Hemisphere, which, of course, includes the Church.

My observations here and elsewhere convince me that Russia never intended to sincerely cooperate. The incident involving the 16 Poles and the controversy inspired by General Tito was intended purposely to torpedo any attempt to unite the nations for peace. Russia does not want peace. She wants a European revolution as well as a Western Hemispheric revolution. The statements coming out of Paris, Milan and Berlin from Communist leaders simultaneous with the arrival of Negrin in the United States, as well as the threatening statement issued by Earl Browder, means that the time has come when every loyal American must brace himself to fight the Communist menace.

****

RACISM : I do not preach racism. Accusations to the contrary have originated with Communists in the hope that they can inspire minority groups to cooperate with them in their fight on all anti-Communist organizations. These Reds have been so sucessful that many journalists and rank-and-file citizens actually believe that I preach racism. The accusation is false. I urge the representatives of minority groups at San Francisco to survey the technique of the Reds in this respect. The Reds are the ones that will introduce racism into the political fight. I believe that any attack on any man because of his race or creed is un-American and un-Christian.

I assert that the State Department knows and is in possession of a document confirming the fact that our representatives at Yalta agreed to give Korea to Stalin in retnrn for certain cooperation.

I accuse the Russians of virtually attempting blackmail on the nations of the World because of what they consider to be their strategic position as it relates to the Orient.

I accuse the Russians of refusing to help us whip the Japs until we have agreed to junk the regime of Chiang-Kai-shek in China.

AMERICA FIRST PARTY

GERALD L.K. SMITH

FOUNDER

June-1945

Dear Patriotic Friend:

Your contribution in response to our June letter is accomplishing more than you can imagine. It is making it possible for us to lay a deep and solid foundation on the West Coast, which, until now, we have been unable to do. The following sensational paragraph appeared in Los Angeles papers the morning I wrote this letter. It speaks for itself.

> " Communist infiltration in the United States and Red revolutionary militancy throughout the Western Hemisphere will establish its citadel or propaganda and action in Hollywood."

Quoting one of the top Communist leaders of the Nation, who spoke this month in Hollywood, the Los Angeles Daily Examiner reveals that the Red traitor said the following:

> " We must infiltrate the ranks of these service men-- the veterans returning from the wars and the GIs yet to be called into action. The thousands of pretty young girls in our Communist Youth Movement must volunteer as hostesses in USO canteens, churches, social groups-- wherever these soldiers, sailors and marines seek recreation and are prone to listen to a persuasive voice."

> " And while we are on the subject of our future program, it might just as well be stated now that Communism has outgrown New York as its headquarters. Henceforth our activities will evolve in Hollywood where the prestige, influence and support of our comrades in the film industry will strengthen our ranks and carry our fight to people from every walk of life."

As I promised you, I am enclosing herewith a copy of the press release I handed out the day I attempted to meet with 300 newspapermen in the Palace Hotel in San Francisco. We were driven into the street by the police, where I addressed the newspaperemen. Each representative of the press(and the whole world was represented) received a copy of the enclosed statement. Read it carefully because I think it contains a prophetic truth which will gradually be fulfilled in the understanding of the American people.

If you are entitled to my report on the San Francisco Conference, please be advised that the Conference has not ended yet, and the report cannot be prepared and sent to the printers until the Conference in complete.

Of course, I don't need to tell you that the enemy is very vicious and is stopping at nothing. If you have seen the Cross and The Flag for this month you know that the People's Daily World(Stalin's paper) published in California has actually demanded that I be shot, anf if not shot, put away in prison for the rest of my natural life.

I carry on for you and the lovers of tru Americanism in the firm belief that the day of victory for Christian Nationalism is fast approaching.

Sincerely yours,

For God and Country, Gerald L.K. Smith

I accuse the Russians through their Communist International, which they falsely said was dissolved, of having precipitated the July election in Britian. Stalin wants to get rid of Churchill because Churchill is anti-Communist. Although I have always been critical of Britian's imperialist policies, I favor any cooperation with Churchill that will help him stem the rising tide of Stalinism in Britian.

I do not accept the political philosophy of Franco, but I do know that Franco has the cooperation of the Church, and I am convinced that the Negrin movement and the so-called Free Spanish movement are inspired by Stalin's Fifth Column organization in the United States.

I accuse the Russians and the American Communist Party, in cooperation with the Nazi underground in the Western Hemisphere, of conspiring in Mexico City recently to torpedo this Conference and then blame it on the Nationalists.

I accuse the Communists and their cabal of having infiltered the State Department to the end that they have hindered Nationalists periodicals, including some of the great daily newspapers in their attempts to get news concerning proceedings.

I assert that Russia is cooperating with the German citizenry and is preparing to arm the Germans in their plans to communize Europe. I challenge the Russians to deny the fact that former Nazi officers are conspiring with Russian officials in this strategy. This is one of the reasons for the so-called complete news blackout on the Russian side of the former German territory. It must be remembered that no German city was ever bombed by Russians. I cannot forget that recently Msgr Fulton J. Sheen, eminent authroity in the Catholic Church, said: " The true materialistic Nazis have been cooperating with the Russian Communists all through the war."

Concerning the proposed charter: I am convinced that U.S. Senator Vandenberg is too much of a statesman to ask the Senate to approve anything that would resemble closely the original Dumbarton Oaks Plan. Stalin will never surrender his right of veto. He knows that Russia is planning to do things that not one Republic in the Western Hemisphere, unless it would be Mexico, would approve.

Stettinius should resign immediately. His original appointment was only on the assumption that he would do Roosevelt's will, the late President being, in fact, his own Secretary of State. Now that we have a President who seems willing to divide authority, Stettinius should be replaced by someone who has spent a lifetime familiarizing himself with world problemns.

A World Charter on the order of Chapaultepec would be satisfactory to most Nationalists. Nationalists by and large favor cordial relationship with all nations, provided we are not asked to share sovereignty and provided we are not asked to shed blood and money without the direct consent of the Congress of the United States as it relates to every such act.

I assert that an American made OGPU has operated in San Francisco for the express purpose of following , shadowing and curbing the activities of all Nationalists and the representatives of all newspapers, large and small, whose editorial policy runs contrary to Stalin's plans.

We Nationalists grieve over the terrible hold Communism has on our Nation, but we are encouraged to believe that our Senate will never adopt a Charter which supports certain secret deals at Yalta and the Dumbarton Oaks plan.

My persecution and the attempt on the part of journalists and other propagandists to ridicule our sincere expressions of opinion indicate two things: (1) Some journalists have been duped by the Red line. (2) Others are a paid part of their expensively organized propaganda campaign.

4-750 (2-7-79)

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THE LETTER WASHINGTON, D.C.

GERALD L.K. SMITH, EDITOR

June 27, 1945

The Communist Party is re-organizing for a tough, bitter fight. It will move its strategic base of operation from New York to Hollywood. Earl Browder may be sidetracked as a hypocritical gesture. The Party will continue to work in perfect harmony with Stalin's government in Russia. All nationalists and anti-Communists will be branded as Fascists.

Moscow: On June 15 a feature article appeared in IZVESTIA (official Stalin newspaper) written by its editor. The writer condemned certain Americans by name, pronouncing them a menace to Russian-American relations. The Russian paper listed them as follows: Chas. E. Coughlin, Gerald L.K. Smith, William Randolph Hearst, Col. Robert McCormick, U.S. Senator Wiley of Wisconsin, U.S. Senator Taft of Ohio, the Priesthood of the Catholic Church, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Luce. The Russian periodical said: "These Americans represent a large and vocal minority whose political sympathies and efforts are in direct opposition to the national interests of the United States."

Certain pro-Communist Jews have organized a nationwide campaign to prevent Gerald L.K. Smith from leasing public halls. Their technique is to meet and organize a telephone campaign, bombarding the management of the speaking hall. Frequently threats of violence are employed. In Los Angeles telephone calls to the management of the Philharmonic Auditorium were so terrorizing that they made the manager actually believe that his hall would be blown up. The reaction is terrible. Managers can readily detect who is calling, and although sometimes terrorized, they become very bitter, due to the fact that the telephone calls make it impossible for them to carry on their routine business. Smith's meetings in Los Angeles have been the largest in the city has seen for many years.

Lieutenant Captain A.H.M. Ramsay, member of the British Parliament who was imprisoned for more than four years without a trial for coming to the aid of Rudolf Hess, was recently released and is again functioning as a member of Parliament.

Sugar will be so scarce during the last six months of this year that only 1/2 ounce per pound per person, per month, will be available. Chief cause of shortage has been the re-opening of the distilleries for the manufacture of whiskey.

5,000 Negro soldiers have married white women while abroad and are now trying to get them admitted to the U.S.

Corporal Ralph A. Brown of Youngstown, Ohio, is considered the war's most serious living casualty. He lost both legs and one arm.

Gertrude Stenghten, writer for the PEOPLES DAILY WORLD in Los Angeles on June 26 made the following sensation statement: " On Tuesday, May 29, an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, named Stewart, called on Miss Francis Smith, president-elect of local # 9. He said he was acting in accordance with a program being conducted by his organization which was to find the Communists in unions in preparation for a possible breaking of relations by the United States with the Soviet."

THE LETTER WASHINGTON, D.C.

The arrest of six individuals for the theft of confidential files has thrown a scare into the pro-Communist elements of Washington. The six included one Phillip Jaffe (New York pro-Communist) and Mark Lynn (formerly Ginsburg). Jaffe is one of the heavy contributors to the Communist Party and has been accused of having access to important government documents which have been used to promote the interests of the Communist Party in the Orient as well as the U.S. Insiders are convinced that Truman will not coddle Reds as they have been coddled heretofore.

Elliot Roosevelt's $200,000.00 deal is just the beginning of sensational, disgraceful and scandalous ~~[illegible]~~ discoveries. When Biddle is out and the new Attorney General comes in, many people will be surprised to discover some of the things that have been covered up. Much can be told about the Alcan Highway, oil developments in Canada and numerous ship scandals. For instance: Certain ships have been insured for as high as 100 times their actual value. This making it more profitable to the ship owner for the vessell to be sunk than to arrive safely. Some call such operations "Big Business in Blood."

Next big war scandal to hit the front pages will concern bought and paid for Army Medical discharges. The amoung alleged to have been paid runs into millions of dollars.

Ethiopia has 200 million head of surplus cattle which she can not sell.

When Clinton Anderson (the new Secretary of Agriculture) visited Los Angeles on June 16, he was interviewed by one of the editors of this letter. Said Mr. Anderson: "While chairman of a Congressional Committee last year it was my duty to hear testimony from Gerald L.K. Smith. I had been told such terrible things that I expected trouble, only to discover that I had been completely misinformed." Anderson looks and acts like a real American.

Stalin is determined to have more lend-lease material as well as $10 billion in credit. If he does not get this he will be very hard to handle, both as it relates to the San Francisco Charter and the Japanese war. The only diplomacy which pleases Stalin is money, more money, materials and more materials.

A Marine returned ~~[illegible]~~ to Los Angeles after three years in the South Pacific. He wanted some gasoline for a car with which to visit relatives. An OPA clerk offered him 10 gallons. He needed 100 gallons. Thereupon the Marine hauled off and ~~[illegible]~~ socked the OPA clerk right under the chin. Another clerk stepped up and gave the Marine all the stamps he wanted, while the No. 1 clerk recovered his consciousness.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: July 17, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G; SEDITION
(62-43818)

[redacted]

[redacted] a copy of the June issue of the "Cross and the Flag," edited by Subject SMITH. This issue contains a comment by SMITH titled, "J. EDGAR HOOVER defends free speech for America Firsters." (PAGE 581)

The above publications are being sent to the Bureau as enclosures with this letter and are furnished for information purposes.

[redacted] b7c

62-1126
Enclosures (2)

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DATE 10/13/82 BY

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818-749

JUL 19 1945

INDEXED IN PUBLICATIONS FILES

7 AUG 2 1945

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

62197

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-19053

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.	7-19-45	7-11-45	[redacted] b7c CMS

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases. AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Report of [redacted] received reflecting additional statements of SMITH. Subject probably will not return to San Francisco. b7D

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Age[redacted] dated June 14, 1945 at San Francisco, California. b7c

DETAILS: AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

On June 13, 1945 the report o[redacted] was received setting out in detail the information reported in reference report of Special Agent [redacted] In addition the report reflects that [redacted]

[redacted]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: N. J. Quigley SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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62-43818-750

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EX-[illegible]

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

San Francisco, California
File No. 100-19053

[redacted]

b7D

The report of [redacted] also set out the contents of the following publication of SMITH:

a. A CALL TO THE BRAVE, dated February 1945
b. THE CROSS AND THE FLAG, #260
c. THE LETTER, dated April 25, 1945
d. THE LETTER, dated May 9, 1945
e. THE LETTER, dated May 16, 1945

The San Francisco Chronicle dated June 7, 1945 reflected that GERALD L. K. SMITH would probably not return to San Francisco to Los Angeles inasmuch as the United Nations Conference on International Organization has terminated and SMITH did not return to San Francisco prior to the end of the conference this case is being considered referred upon completion to the office of origin.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

62199

San Francisco, California
File No. 100-19053

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

[redacted]

b7c
b7D

62200

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 44

PAGES REVIEWED: 60

PAGES RELEASED: 45

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 28 1945

TELEMETER

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Nease
Mr. Tamm, Jr.
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Miss Gandy

CONF 2 STATIONS

WASH 4 AND CGO 1 FROM LOSA 28 630 P

DIRECTOR AND SAC URGENT

YORK. GERALD L K SMITH, WAS, AMERICA FIRST PARTY, IS - G, SEDITION. INFORMANTS ADVISE SUBJECT LEFT LOS ANGELES JULY TWENTY SEVEN EN ROUTE TO DETROIT VIA CHICAGO, WHERE HE PLANS TO STOP OVER ONE DAY. INFORMANTS UNABLE TO ADVISE EXACT TIME SUBJECT DEPARTED FROM LA OR MODE OF TRAVEL, ALTHOUGH BELIEVED HE IS TRAVELING BY RAIL. RAILROAD COMPANIES UNABLE TO VERIFY RESERVATIONS. CHICAGO REQUESTED TO BE ON ALERT FOR SUBJECTS ARRIVAL. ACCORDING TO INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED BY THIS OFFICE, SUBJECT SHOULD NOT BE SURVEILLED BY BUREAU AGENTS AND COVERAGE OF ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE MAINTAINED BY INFORMANTS ONLY. DETROIT, ORIGIN, ADVISED SEPARATELY.

HOOD

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RECORDED 162-4381-751

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19 JUL 31 1945

58 AUG 3 1945

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

[redacted]:es

~~STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

RECORDED

SAC, Detroit

July 31, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

JX - 72

TECHNICAL AND MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCES
Detroit Field Division

Reference is made to your teletype of July 17, 1945, captioned "Gerald L. K. Smith, IS - G, Sedition," advising Smith had moved his headquarters and that you had discontinued the technical surveillances on his old headquarters and installed them at his new address. In the future you should request and obtain Bureau approval prior to transferring any technical surveillance from one telephone number to another, and you are to be guided accordingly.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clerk
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JUL 31 1945
A.M.

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ON 10/13/82

COM-4

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lack
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

F.B.I. TELETYPE

[redacted] c b1

FBI DETROIT [redacted] c b1 4-55 PM EWT MCM
DIRECTOR R O U T I N E
HIRE

GERALD L. K. SMITH, IS - G - SEDITION. SUBJECT MOVED HIS HEADQUARTERS TO ROOM 420 FARWELL BUILDING, DETROIT, [redacted] DISCONTINUED JULY SIXTEEN. TELEPHONES IN NEW HEADQUARTERS ARE RANDOLPH 3163 AND CLIFFORD 4313. TECHNICAL INSTALLATION TRANSFERRED [redacted] c INFORMATION WILL BE REPORTED UNDER [redacted] AND [redacted] RESPECTIVELY. b1 b7D

GUERIN

4-58 PM OK FBI WASH DC DLR
RECEIVED [redacted] c 5-51 P.M. EWT MMK b1

CLASS. BY SP-8BTJ/MC
DATE OF REVIEW 10/13/82

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62-43818-753

[redacted] c b1

cc - Mr. Lead

[redacted] b7c

[redacted] c b1

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FINE GRB

[redacted] c b1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-7744

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Chicago, Illinois	6-21-45	3-14,16;4-21, 22,24,26; 5-29; 6-4,13,14-45	[redacted] [redacted]:TBB

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SEDITION

b7c

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted]

SMITH spoke in Chicago on March 15, 1945, at large rally held at Plasterers Union Hall. Considerable publicity and pressure from various opposition groups resulted in capacity attendance and near riot. SMITH also addressed two meetings of Veterans of World War II group held at LaSalle Hotel, Chicago, on April 22, 1945. Information concerning these meetings and summary of information concerning [redacted] set out [redacted]

b7c

DECLASSIFIED BY [redacted] ON 7-25-77

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Reports of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 28, 1945, and May 29, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan;
Letters from the Detroit Field Division dated March 12, 1945, April 3, 1945, and April 17, 1945.

b7c

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES [redacted]
ADMINISTRATIVE ROUTING SLIP(S) OF [redacted]
DATE 7-25-77

DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Meeting held March 15, 1945, at Chicago, Illi[redacted]

On March 9, 1945, several confidential informants of the Chic[redacted] office made available literature and tickets from GERALD L. K. SMITH, announcing that he would speak at a rally to be held on March 15, 1945, at Temple [redacted] (Plasterers Union Hall), 338 South Marshfield Avenue, Chicago, under the [redacted]pices of the National Emergency Committee, Post Office Box 697, Detroit, 31, [redacted]igan. Samples of this literature, as well as all available information relati[redacted] the meeting, were furnished to the Bureau and the Detroit office by a letter from the

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [redacted] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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8-8-45
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Chicago office dated March 10, 1945.

In connection with this meeting, a lengthy article, which appeared in the "Chicago Tribune" on March 13, 1945, reflected that more than 100 telegrams warning of possible bloodshed if SMITH was permitted to speak had been received by the Plasterers Union, AFL, who rented the hall to MAXIMILIAN ST. GEORGE, Chicago attorney. According to the article, Secretary THOMAS DOWLING of the Union stated that St. GEORGE told the union that SMITH was going to discuss the Polish situation, but that DOWLING subsequently learned that the subject was to speak on "Nationalism". SMITH reportedly telephoned the directors of the union on March 12, 1945, claiming that his prepared speech was devoid of statements offensive to religious or racial groups and suggested to DOWLING that the union appoint a committee to sit on the platform with authority to stop the meeting at the first objectionable word. The newspaper account states that protests against the meeting were also made by the Chicago Council Against Racial and Religious Discrimination, Chicago Civil Liberties Committee, and the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League.

On March 13, 1945, [redacted], telephonically contacted this office relative to the meeting of March 15, 1945. He said that the union's office had been flooded with calls from persons either approving or disapproving the union's action because of the article which had appeared in the Tribune. b7c b7D

An article appearing in the "Chicago Tribune" on March 14, 1945, reflected that the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee in a meeting of the Board of Directors on March 13, 1945, had reached the decision and so advised SMITH that the question of the renting of the Plasterers Union Hall was purely a private matter. The article also reflected that THOMAS DOWLING, Union Secretary, had said that several persons who had called to lodge protests against SMITH had used abusive language and that he and the union were tired of "cheap intimidation".

Various other local newspapers carried similar accounts concerning SMITH's efforts to rent the hall for a speech.

[redacted] b7D

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

"The meeting was held at the Plasterers Hall at 330 South Marshfield Avenue, and according to the best estimates, at least 1200 Chicagoans were in attendance. There is little doubt the publicity, even though bad as to his character and reputation, aided SMITH. Without question, some of the people came purely to see and hear the man who had gained so much notoriety in the press.

"According to outside information, a meeting of more than 200 plasterers voted to uphold the decision of their union heads, who, previously, had told SMITH that they were in favor of free speech, and that he might go on, 'provided that they could approve his speech and then be on hand to halt it if he deviated from what he told them he would talk about.' In this connection, a member of the union who attended the sanctioning meeting said that SMITH didn't want to speak from a prepared text, and this, he said, accounted for the fact that the three heads of the union--president, vice president, and secretary--were on the stage that night.

"Much of the previous ado surrounding his meetings was lacking. Outside, a group of perhaps 20 or 25 youths, 18 years old or younger, marched about in chain fashion, holding placards and denouncing SMITH in sing-song. This, added to the fact that the brown-out made it almost impossible to see five yards ahead, added an eerie background to the picture.

"A young fellow, who later was spoken of as a recently discharged veteran, and who was introduced as FRED KISTER, 1100 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, opened the meeting. He spoke of threats and dangers to country and liberty. He tried to picture SMITH as a martyr. He referred to the 'dangerous marchers outdoors who', he said, 'had thrown over an elderly woman who wanted to enter the hall.'

"SMITH, who came in by a side door, was finally introduced after a series of pictures taken by the press. SMITH alleged in his opening remarks that he was 'as cool as I always am'. Yet, this in itself indicated that SMITH was disturbed, but he made the most of the situation. 'That', he said, 'shows you the type of enemy whom we have to confront'. He termed them gangsters. He branded them as un-American, and he made somewhat of an opening 'hit' with the crowd, which was responded to from the audience, when he asked, 'What would they say if we demonstrated at one of their meetings?'

"It should be stressed that SMITH tried constantly to make the most of this situation. He wanted to drive home that the demonstrations were not in favor of free speech. He recounted how he had been well and courteously received by the police department. He intimated that he didn't expect to see the chief of police; in other words, that he didn't think the chief would see him, but he put it over with the crowd that the chief's secretary told him immediately that if he would wait a minute, the chief would see him.

"SMITH was still following the same line when he put on one of his 'dynamic' dramatics in behalf of the plasterers union. He likened them to old American lovers of freedom and asked the audience to give them a vote of thanks. The crowd rose en masse and cheered lustily. About this time, also, the first of the four rocks smashed a window in the hall. He paid high tribute to the men on the stage. He said they were there to check his speech, that he had given them the right to halt his talk whenever they saw fit. With each of the four crashing stones through the windows, SMITH would halt, ask the people to remain calm, which they seemed to do anyway, and he would point out that they were 'murderous attacks' on freedom of speech.

"SMITH spoke of the 200 protests which came to the union officials against his renting the hall. Sixty of them, he said, were absolutely identical. He intimated throughout that he didn't want to issue any of his customary anti-Semitic remarks, but in this connection, he did so by innuendo. He said that if he read the names of the list of protestors he would be termed 'opposed to that minority group', and the crowd let out its first real howl. A voice in the audience boomed out something and SMITH came back and said, 'A good old Irish plasterer'.

"However, SMITH's talk lacked punch. No doubt some of the things had been ruled out by the union. His attacks on the President and his family were there, in a measure, but he was holding his punches to a noticeable extent. In reality, his attacks on Soviet Russia also were only half of what they had been before. He tested the idea of being pro-Catholic, and he got a fairly favorable response, and immediately set out to propound the issue. The Reds, he said, were to kill off Catholicism. He touched upon Italy being Sovietized. He mentioned a Catholic bishop, who, he said, was in the thick of the fight.

"He repeated almost word for word the story about Dumbarton Oaks, how he tried to 'crash' the line just to prove that Americans were barred. Many of the old timers up front, particularly, The Mothers group, had heard it before, and he wasn't making much headway.

"The most response which SMITH drew was in his attacks on WALTER WINCHELL, whom he referred to constantly as WALTER WIPSCHITZ. The crowd was furious. He developed this subject to the full. 'WINCHELL,' he said, 'dares not visit two cities in the United States--Detroit and Chicago.' He claimed the people would take care of him if he came here, and alleged that WINCHELL was afraid to come here. 'When my son returns from the army', he told the audience, 'his first trip will be to "beat up" WINCHELL.' The crowd yowled in delight.

"He mentioned that GEORGE VOSE, who formerly appeared with him, who, he repeated again 'was about to lose a leg as a result of military service' was maliciously attacked by WINCHELL, and that it caused 'bitter agony' to his 'God fearing family'. He denied, as WINCHELL alleged, that VOSE had ever been in the brig while in the Army. He did say that VOSE, at one time, had been falsely accused, but 'when he left the Army, he was given an honorable discharge, and across the face of that document there is written 'Conduct very good'.

"He branded WINCHELL's story about his having trod on the flag as a terrible lie. He pulled out a flag, which he described as a 'One Worlders' Flag', which he said he had stepped on 'because it is a treasonable flag'. The crowd booed, and the newspaper photographers flashed countless bulbs. He then held up an American flag which he said had been made for him by a Southern woman, and he made the audience salute that flag while the photographers again snapped a series of pictures.

"SMITH alleged that during the afternoon 'several thugs' had entered the hall brandishing weapons, and that one of them shoved the gun into the janitor's ribs, telling him not to interfere while 'these gangsters', as he put it, 'destroyed things in the hall'. The press said the next day that the janitor denied having

encountered 'the gangsters' although a stench bomb was thrown into the hall.

"SMITH drew ringing applause from the crowd when he referred to Senator WHEELER as 'a real American'. He also drew applause when he mentioned ELIZABETH DILLING, and he read a wire from Senator BOB REYNOLDS, which he said read, 'God bless you in your noble fight'. He drew boos when he said that Secretary MORGENTHAU had prolonged the war, and, as a result, that 'thousands of American boys have died.' He said that his boy in service has been wounded twice, had been a Carlson Marauder, and that 'he remains a buck private, because every time he enters an officer's school, WALTER LIPSCHITZ attacks him'.

"SMITH told his audience that America First had now embarked upon a new venture--the inauguration of a press service, and that already 26 newspapers had subscribed to it. He said that he had organized a Washington lobby with 24 organizations behind it. He tried to make capital of the story that EMILY TAFT DOUGLAS, the Illinois Congresswoman at large, had been denied radio time because Queen Wilhelmina of Holland could not appear on a program with a Commoner. He got more applause when he stated 'Queen Eleanor' was permitted to talk on the same program, and the crowd shouted 'Oh, no!' when he claimed to have 'positive' information that 'people in Washington are grooming Crown Prince JIMMY (ROOSEVELT) for the presidency in 1948.

"A man in the audience asked about General ELLIOT's dog, but SMITH replied only with a few tart words spoken with a hush. Since then it has been said that the plasterers frowned upon any attack on the President.

"SMITH was 'dripping wet' from perspiration and called for his overcoat. The noise outdoors grew more pronounced. His collection was thorough but hastily done. He claimed constantly that he wasn't going to flee the scene.

"There was one vitally different aspect to this talk as compared to a former speech, a reaction, it seems, was of some importance. Formerly SMITH referred to himself as leading a small minority group 'which isn't big now, but which will grow with the years'. He spoke of himself and his followers as a movement which was fighting in the face of danger and even death. On this night, however, SMITH spoke about fighting--about street fighting, and about 'One of these days we'll have to meet them openly'. He drew rounds of applause from the audience for this remark, and it was obvious that SMITH was issuing a challenge. He said openly that his crowd was no longer willing to 'take it sitting down'. 'However, tonight', he said, 'I ask you to go home peacefully. Do not answer any remarks or charges. They are just waiting to have you cause physical violence. I have promised the police and our hosts that there will be no violence'.

"The thing, it seems, which gave SMITH more courage than anything else, and which occasioned him to get hold about future meetings, was when he asked the question: 'Are you in favor of it?' The crowd shouted it was. He asked, 'Any opposed?' He waited and expected opposition, but it didn't come. He feared no doubt that troublesome factors were in the audience and was satisfied that the twelve men at the door checking spurious admission cards had done a good job, and that the audience was friendly

"There is little question that many in the audience were German, at least decidedly German in appearance. At least 80 percent were above middle age, and some German was heard in the crowd on the way out. SMITH's Chicago crowd apparently has changed. It seems to have taken on in numbers.

"The finale to the program was just after SMITH had left the stage. Dr. McDANIELS, a Chicago dentist, rushed up on the platform and hurriedly read what he said was to be a resolution which was addressed to Father COUGHLIN in Detroit and 'implored' him to return to the radio. The resolution which received a tremendous ovation, but which was not acted upon other than the ovation, read in effect that 'It's time that you return to the radio'.

"SMITH, in place of the former GEORGE VOSE, was 'protected' by a WALLACE GAMBER, a former M. P. of Detroit, who, SMITH said, was 'itching for a little fisticuffs with that element'. GAMBER, a tough-looking individual seemed to acknowledge the introduction."

According to various confidential informants and the press, there was no trouble whatsoever after the meeting, although the afore-mentioned paraders were still in evidence outside the hall. It was learned that there was an attempt to "crash" the meeting by numerous individuals who apparently had obtained counterfeit tickets and were going to heckle the meeting. However a group at the door headed by Dr. McDANIELS, a long-time associate of such groups as the Citizens USA Committee, and other Chicago groups, apparently were very effective in detecting the counterfeit tickets and refused to permit the bearers thereof to gain entrance.

<u>Meeting Held on April 22, 1945:</u>

By letter dated April 3, 1945, the Detroit office advised that SMITH would leave Detroit on April 21, 1945, for the purpose of attending the International Conference of the United Nations which would begin at San Francisco on April 25, 1945. The letter related that en route to San Francisco SMITH would stop at several cities for the purpose of holding meetings of his followers, and that the first meeting would be held in the Century room of the

LaSalle Hotel, Chicago, at 3:00 P. M. and 8:00 P. M. on Sunday, April 22.

With reference to these meetings, from the lack of publicity it is apparent that FRED KISTER and SMITH arranged these meetings in a secret manner, and accordingly, the local press and the various groups who had raised so much opposition at SMITH's previous appearance in Chicago, were totally unaware of the meetings until after they had been held.

Actually, two sessions were held by SMITH, both on the same date, and both in the Century Room of the LaSalle Hotel. These sessions were attended by the above mentioned informants and sources of information, and a summary of information obtained by them is set out hereinafter.

The Century Room of the Hotel LaSalle is relatively small, but at both meetings it was filled to capacity, and it was estimated that approximately 350 persons in all attended the meetings. FRED KISTER was the Master of Ceremonies and introduced as the first speaker, DEAN E. SMITH. DEAN SMITH, it might be stated, is a frequent speaker at various Chicago groups, such as the Citizens USA Committee, and is alleged to be prominently associated with the Standard Oil Company of Indiana.

DEAN E. SMITH spoke in generalities, quoting statistics of men in service of this country as compared to our Allies. He stated that he had obtained his figures from actual observations in war zones. He claimed that he had traveled throughout India, and most parts of Asia, and had found that the administration of the war was completely in the hands of the British, and that the United States as usual was being made the "goat" in this particular war. This was obvious, according to DEAN SMITH, in view of the fact that the majority of the fighting was being done by American soldiers. His entire speech was in this vein, stressing the fact that the United States must avoid all tendencies towards imperialism.

FRED KISTER then made what appeared to be an impromptu speech, in which he berated the Jews for their part in prompting this war. He claimed that Dr. FISHBEIN, who is the editor of the "Jewish Sentinel" was in the audience. However, it developed later that Dr. FISHBEIN was not there, and that this statement made by KISTER was for the purpose of inciting the crowd. KISTER made a tremendous number of anti-Semitic statements which caused GERALD L. K. SMITH to remark later, "KISTER will probably lose his job because of his remarks. He will have to get another one".

KISTER then introduced GERALD L. K. SMITH as the "leader of the Nationalistic group". The subject opened his speech with the singing of the "Star Spangled Banner", and then proceeded to point out to the audience that Archbishop SAMUEL STRITCH of Chicago was in total accord with GERALD L. K.

SMITH's various policies. He pointed out that the Archbishop was very much opposed to the Russians and to England, and in that way was completely in accord with him. However, no elaborations were made regarding the activities of Archbishop STRITCH. His next topic dealt with the returning soldier. SMITH pointed out that the Army authorities had indicated it would take three years to bring the men back from war zones, and in order to totally indoctrinate them with the Internationalistic policy, colleges were being built in Europe at the expense of the United States to teach our soldiers there. SMITH also pointed out that it was quite obvious from the developments up to the present time and from the alibis given by various Army officials that our boys would be held in the battle zones to finish the fight for England. He then pointed out that his own son was fighting in the Pacific, had been wounded several times, and that he would do all in his power to have his son return to this country as soon as the war is over and "not to continue fighting for English possessions."

His next point dealt with the intolerances of the Jews. SMITH pointed out that if the United States would be tolerant with the Jews, the same amount of toleration should be expected for Germany at the peace table. He labeled the principles of the San Francisco Peace Conference as "the Dumberton Hoax", "The Crime of Crimea", and "The San Francisco Sell-Out". He again pointed out that it was quite apparent from the newspaper publicity given to the San Francisco Conference that it was being sponsored to promote the safeguard of British possessions and to enlarge the international strength of Russia.

SMITH's next point dealt with a new Veteran's association. SMITH pointed out that his association was connected in no way with the American Legion or the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He vaguely promised that the returning veterans would be taken care of by his organization, but made no definite promise that the funds he is collecting will be used towards that end. He further made no statements as to future plans for the organization, such as specific meetings, etc.

SMITH made further reference to the Jews when he pointed out that Lever Bros., Inc., international Jewish concern, having possessions in the Pacific Islands, as well as in Europe, received a tremendous overpayment on losses suffered due to the war. He pointed out that Lever Brothers owned some palm trees in a small Pacific island, which were valued at 26¢ a tree. According to SMITH, Lever Brothers were reimbursed at the rate of $50 a tree.

As each person entered the meeting hall, envelopes were distributed with the request that a dollar be placed therein for a subscription to SMITH's publication, "The Cross and the Flag". SMITH made a passionate

plea for donations, and according to the informants, many $5 bills were placed in the basket. It was estimated that at least $500 or more was taken in by SMITH at each meeting.

On the stage with SMITH, in addition to FRED KISTER and DEAN E. SMITH, was CHARLES J. ANDERSON. ANDERSON, who was a Republican candidate for Congressman in the Chicago district in the last election, is a notorious local rabble-rouser, who has been actively associated with EARL SOUTHARD's Citizens USA Committee, and the local We The Mothers group. He was introduced by SMITH as a prominent leader in the Nationalistic movement.

As indicated hereinbefore, the audience seemed for the most part handpicked, and in accord with SMITH's statements. It appeared that SMITH completely fooled the press and the various opposition groups, as only slight reference was made in the press to these meetings and then only several days after the meetings had taken place.

The reference report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 29, 1945, at Detroit, requested information in the files of this office relative to [redacted] This information is set out in the succeeding paragraphs.

[redacted]

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b7c

As indicated above, these facts were presented to the United States Attorney at Chicago, who, as stated above, took no action thereon.

- - - -

There are transmitted to the Detroit office as enclosures to this report one copy of [redacted]

b7D

Enclosures: To the Detroit Field Division, Letter entitled, "Blood and Money" dated June, 1945; Letter entitled, "A Message From San Francisco", dated May, 1945.

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RECORDED EBB:mr 62-43816 754

EX-65

Assistant Attorney General T. L. Caudle — August 8, 1945
Criminal Division
John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G, SEDITION

For your further information in the captioned matter, there are enclosed herewith copies of the following investigative reports:

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 14, 1945, at Los Angeles, California.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 21, 1945, at Chicago, Illinois

b7d

62416

Enclosure

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
AUG 8 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AUG 17 1945

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Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Post Office Box 2118
Detroit 31, Michigan
July 31 - 1945

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62390

[redacted]

Director, FBI

DECLASSIFIED BY 16.90/LEDM
ON 1-25-77

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH was.
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is set forth below information obtained from [redacted] whose identities are known to the Bureau, for the period from July 1, 1945, through July 30, 1945. It is to be noted that the services of informants [redacted] and [redacted] were discontinued on July 16, 1945, and the services of [redacted] and [redacted] were started on July 17, 1945. This information is contained in the teletype from the Detroit Field Division to the Bureau, captioned as above, dated July 17, 1945

b7D

The only information of value obtained from the above informants was that on July 30, 1945, they advised that Subject SMITH was due to arrive in Detroit, Michigan, from Los Angeles, California, on August 1, 1945. It was further advised that he was stopping over at the Blackstone Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, but did not disclose the exact train on which he was arriving in Detroit, Michigan.

It is to be noted that during the period covered by this letter, Subject SMITH has been outside the Detroit Field Division and no activity has taken place at his office during his absence.

However, in view of the past services that these informants have furnished and in view of the fact that Subject SMITH is due back in Detroit August 1, 1945, it is suggested that the services of informants [redacted] and [redacted] be continued.

b7D

RECORDED & INDEXED 162-43818-95

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted]

b7C

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
NOTIFIED
DATE 7-25-93

FD-7V

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE No. 100-7945

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
LOS ANGELES	6/14/45	5/1,16,21-23, 28,29,31, 6/1,2/45	[redacted] KH

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[redacted]

Subject arrived LA with wife and secretary 5/26/45 and registered at Figueroa Hotel until 5/31, now at Normandie Hotel. On 5/27 at 2 p.m. Ham 'n Egg Movement, known as Pearl Guarantee Association, held a reception for SMITH at his LA headquarters and insisted subject establish his headquarters in their LA office. At 8 p.m. 5/31 SMITH spoke at a mass meeting at Embassy Auditorium to an assembly of about 2,000 people representing mostly members of Ham 'n Egg Movement and Kingdom Fellowship Church of Dr. L. A. MOVELL of LA. [redacted], describing details of this meeting. [redacted] Numerous public and civic leaders in LA telephonically protested to LA Field Office regarding SMITH's LA public appearances.

- P -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/20/76 BY SP1 [illegible]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [illegible] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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62-143818-757

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FBI/D

[redacted]

[redacted] this office with the following complete report dated June 4, 1945, on the meeting held at the Embassy Auditorium on Thursday evening, May 31, featuring GERALD L. K. SMITH: b7D

"Admittance was gained upon presentation of printed invitations reading as follows:

'This Invitation Will Admit Two Persons to Hear an Address by GERALD L. K. SMITH, America First Leader, Embassy Auditorium, 9th and Grand Streets, Los Angeles, Calif., Thursday, May 31, 1945 - 8 P. M.

Subject: LIBERTY IN THE BALANCE. The terrible Truth and unpublished Lowdown concerning San Francisco Conference. Among many others, Mr. Smith will discuss the following topics:

The Truth About Yaltz	The Schemes of the Internationalists
Dumbarton Oaks	The Threat of Communism
Bretton Woods	The Super State

Christ, Our Only Hope

Auspices, Committee of California Pastors.

H. L. MENCKEN, Baltimore Sun editor, says: "GERALD L. K. SMITH is the greatest orator of this century."

LOWELL THOMAS says: "Smith, as a dynamic and courageous orator, is unsurpasses.

ADMISSION BY CARD ONLY. FOR ADDITIONAL CARDS WRITE BOX 2508, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.'

"Approximately 2,000 people attended, the audience being composed of various groups, among them British Israelites who are followers of Dr. J. A. LOVELL, Ham 'n' Eggers who are followers of WILLIS and LAWRENCE ALLEN, many people who were seen regularly at meetings conducted by ROBERT NOBLE, ELLIS O. JONES, and T. W. HUGHES.

"Interruption by applause of many of SMITH's statements, in the middle of a sentence, indicated that many people were familiar with SMITH's propaganda output, for only in that way were they able to know what he was going to say.

"Envelopes for donations were distributed at the entrance, but the donations in general appeared to be rather meager. When SMITH began his collection speech, many people walked out and were overheard saying they wouldn't give him a dime. However, the people who made these remarks did not seem to belong to any group which at the very outset was opposed to SMITH. Many came as curiosity seekers and were disappointed.

"SMITH is not a good orator, though the term 'rabble rouser' is well deserved by him. He is not the kind of a speaker who could sway even a fairly intelligent group. He seems to know this and plays down to the uncultured and the unimaginative among the audience. Generally SMITH had nothing to say which differed from the contents of his various publications. He rambled on from subject to subject, always leading up to a climax, and when, after he had reached the climax, he received good applause, he added, 'This is what America First stands for!' Throughout his speech he was very careful not to make a straight statement which could be interpreted as anti-Semitic, but there were many anti-Semitic statements through innuendo. The statement, frequently repeated, that this is a Christian nation, was of course understood by the hate gang, not merely as what it appeared to be on the surface, but an indirect attack upon non-Christians, mainly Jews. In one instance he even went so far as to condemn what he called 'racialism,' but it was obvious, at least to the initiated, that he did not mean what he said.

"Before SMITH spoke, CLAUDE A. WATSON, SMITH's attorney, spoke briefly. WATSON formerly was a minister and a candidate for the presidency on the Prohibition ticket. In January 1944, WATSON spoke in LOVELL's church. Rev. WESLEY SWIFT of Lancaster, California, gave the invocation. WILLIS ALLEN led the audience in the singing of 'America' and in what seemed to be the battle song of the old age pensioners to the tun of 'John Brown's Body.'

"JONATHAN PERKINS read a telegram from ex-Senator ROBERT RICE REYNOLDS.

"In the early part of SMITH's own speech, he too read another telegram from REYNOLDS, congratulating him for holding the meeting and urging the audience to follow SMITH in his crusade against the un-Christian Communists.

"In the early part of the meeting, SMITH also read a letter from J. EDGAR HOOVER, which was in reply to a letter that SMITH had written to HOOVER.

"It appears that the owners of a building in Philadelphia insisted that SMITH's organization leave its rented premises at a moment's notice, and the owners claimed that this was being requested of the SMITH group because the FBI wanted it. SMITH protested to J. EDGAR HOOVER, and in his reply, which SMITH read, HOOVER stated that the FBI had nothing to do with it and there was an implied disapproval of this action. SMITH acted as if he really had something of importance there and played it up big for the benefit of the audience and dared the press to print the story.

"SMITH devoted considerable time to telling the story of the trouble he had in San Francisco trying to get hotel accommodations. He emphasized how many foreigners were there, all of whom were given hotel accommodations by the State Department, which had absolute control over all first class hotels, while he, the great Mr. SMITH, was turned down in spite of the fact that he represented so and so many hundreds of thousands of Christian Americans, several nationalist newspapers and so and so many nationalist organizations. He paid tribute to some courageous and upright people in San Francisco who stood by him and arranged for a room in a second class hotel.

"Then he tried to give a very vivid account of some tremendous pressure allegedly brought to bear upon the management of the Embassy Auditorium to cancel the lease he had. He said the people threatened violence, that they would bomb the place, that they would spit on the people who would come, etc., etc. He said the Embassy Auditorium was so harassed that they could not attend to their regular work, but that they stood by their contract. The only way to kill off GERALD L. K. SMITH, he added, would be to kill him, but if the red rats did do that, 10,000 little Smiths would rise to continue the fight for good old America First. He made himself out as quite a courageous hero and complimented the people who had courage to sit on the platform with him. If they would not believe in Christ, they would not be here on the platform.

"While he was still on the subject of his own heroics, he stated that when war broke out the New Dealers and the radicals had planned to put him, REYNOLDS, LINDBERG, WHEELER, NYE, and FISH in a concentration camp. As a matter of fact, the concentration camp was all prepared but here he was free, speaking for America First, and the others were free too.

"He claimed that Los Angeles was full of Communists and got a laugh from the audience when he added that Hollywood has a few Communists too. He quoted a statement allegedly made by Mayor BOWRON, according to which BOWRON is supposed to have said that he will see to it that the meeting is protected, but the sooner SMITH leaves the better he would like it. He dwelt upon this for quite some time, saying that he accepted the first part of the Mayor's statement, but regarding the second he answered the Mayor that he will stay in this city as long as he pleases.

"Apparently SMITH felt that he should explain that he would not move in on any of the crackpot racketeers, for he said that a prophet can always be told by the opinion the people have in his own home town. He claimed to have a tremendous following in Detroit, and 600,000 members in the State of Michigan. He boasted of having 30 people on his staff in Detroit and how eager he was to return to his home town.

"Returning to what seems to be one of his favorite subjects, the alleged persecution of himself by snoopers of private agencies as well as government agencies, he said that he had been investigated by everybody, including the Treasury Department, which went way back to his income tax reports in the early '30's, but that he is clean and has nothing to fear. He made frequent references to the red rats he was fighting, implying that all these investigations and other troubles he had are due to them.

"He made an outright statement that he and ex-Senator ROBERT RICE REYNOLDS are working together in the cause of Nationalism and against Communism.

"To illustrate how bad the Bolshevics are, he told the tale, according to which the Russians were holding hundreds of thousands of American prisoners of war until STALIN gets what he wants regarding Poland. He said that the Communists have an organization all set up through which they hope to gain control of the returning veterans, but he, SMITH, would see to it that their plans would fail; otherwise we would have a bloody red revolution within two years.

"He stated that he recently visited in the home of HAMILTON FISH, and it took EARL BROWDER, TOM DEWEY and President ROOSEVELT to defeat him. He said that if it had not been for the conniving on the part of the Administration, which rearranged the Congressional districts, FISH would have been reelected. In connection with this story, he said that a bill was prepared by the Administration and given to Senator JOHNSON of Colorado to introduce. It was the War Manpower Commission bill which, if it had passed, would enable the Government to move labor from one city to another to fill important war jobs. He said that at the last minute Senator JOHNSON realized that this would enable the New Dealers to shift populations in such a manner that they would control all future elections so Senator JOHNSON fought his own bill and prevented its becoming law.

"In connection with his reference to HAMILTON FISH, he also referred to CHARLES LINDBERGH again, saying that the smear of LINDBERGH, the greatest hero of our time, if proof of how low we have sunk.

"He attacked WALTER WINCHELL, whose real name is supposed to be LIPSCHITZ. He called him the usual kind of names, said he is ashamed of his real name, and every time he goes on the air on Sunday evening he creates more anti-Semitism than anyone else. He denied that his own group is anti-Semitic. He related stories he often told in his publications, that WINCHELL had accused him of spitting or trampling on the American flag in Buffalo, New York, and that he, SMITH, instituted a libel suit against WINCHELL and the radio station network, but the attorneys are dragging the case out. He added that the people in this country are beginning to wake up to the fact that the newspapers and the radios are lying.

"Speaking of San Francisco, he said that he had brought with him a staff of twelve people, approximately, to act as observers, and that he was preparing a report on the San Francisco conference for seventeen Congressmen and six Senators. He added that he had enough information which will enable these stalwart Senators and Congressmen to prevent ratification of the San Francisco charter.

"He condemned what he called the Churchill-lovers and the Stalin-lovers, but realizing that he had many British Israelites in his audience and that part of the statement might offend them, he said that the real British people are not in control in England, but rather the international bankers, etc., just as here in America.

"Then he started ranting against the people who are raiding our treasury and want to give away everything that Uncle Sam has. He said that every veteran should be given $1,000 when he is discharged from the service.... 'What is wrong with taking care of America first?' To put his point over, he related the story told by Senator BUTLER some time ago (which was later proved entirely wrong), according to which our Government has squandered six billion dollars in South America. SMITH would have preferred to see this money go to the returning veterans.

"He made it quite plain that he believes foreigners are really running the country and have their hands in the treasury till. He said that they even went so far as to try and get Uncle Sam to finance their peacetime budget.

"In order to further show what suckers we are, he named a figure running into the millions, which we are alleged to be paying for rent of land in India, and that we are paying the Australians for every fruit-bearing tree that is being damaged by our boys while fighting to save their land.

"He also made reference to our paying monthly sums to the Japanese in prison camps and put in juxtaposition to this a story according to which a veteran he had just met, who had lost half of his leg, was getting only $11 a month.

"Then he built up his audience for a high spot in his speech. He called it the Crime of Crimes. He spoke of President ROOSEVELT's trip to Yalta and added that 'when anyone tries to become all-powerful the Lord steps in and stops him.' He said that he was trying to speak of the dead President with reverence, but this particular statement, which implied that God had punished ROOSEVELT, did not seem to go over very well in parts of the audience. He said that President ROOSEVELT was a sick man when he left, but

he died when he simply couldn't face the American people to tell them how he had sold out at Yalta, and that is what killed him. He also implied that President ROOSEVELT's mental capacity was such that he was easily outsmarted at Yalta. He said that all the servants at Yalta were really doctors dressed up as servants, and it was their job to observe ROOSEVELT,and STALIN got the report from them that ROOSEVELT was a dying man so STALIN took full advantage of that knowledge.

"He constantly harped upon the British Commonwealth having six votes in the World Security organization and Soviet Russia has sixteen, while the United States has only one. He demanded that we stop sending lend-lease to Soviet Russia unless she comes in to help us to defeat Japan. He claims that a secret document was discovered during the San Francisco Conference, according to which STALIN told ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL that he would join the fight against the Japanese only if he would get Korea and Manchuria and if he could bolshevize poor Christian China.

"He quoted the Denver Post--which has the worst reputation as a yellow journal in the United States--as authority for a story according to which STALIN did not believe that ROOSEVELT had really died, and he instructed someone in Washington to demand to see the body, but he was never permitted to do so. It was SMITH's theory that STALIN thought that ROOSEVELT was really alive but pretended to be dead in order to get out of the commitments he made in behalf of the United States at Yalta.

"He told his audience, in another part of his speech, that they should go home and go down on their knees and thank the Lord that when ROOSEVELT died, not WALLACE but TRUMAN became the new President, and after he had told the 'show me the body' story, he went into a paean of praise for President TRUMAN and Grandma TRUMAN. He only hoped that TRUMAN would take out all the New Dealers, foreigners, and red rats which had invaded Washington and which constituted the Washington bureaucracy.

"He seemed to be trying desperately hard to say something of importance in connection with the San Francisco conference, but all he could think of was to give his audience the assurance that Senator WHEELER would fight ratification of the treaty. In connection with this, he asked how many of the people in the audience would like to hear Senator WHEELER at some big rally, perhaps at the Hollywood Bowl. Many hands were raised.

"Still trying to say something about San Francisco, he referred to Dumbarton Oaks as Dumbarton Hoax and told the story of how he and Mrs. SMITH went to Bretton Woods and demanded to be granted admission, how he was stopped by a Military Police sentry who explained to him that he had orders to shoot anyone who would try to get in. He also related that even

if a U. S. senator had tried to get in, the M.P. would have had to shoot him. The angle, of course, was that some foreigners were on the inside knowing what was going on, while good Christian, nationalist Americans like GERALD L. K. were kept in the dark. He claimed that he had taken newspapermen with him in order to demonstrate to them how wrong it all was. In connection with this, he spoke in a very undignified manner of Secretary of State STETTINIUS.

"Another on his list of men in the Government to be vilified was HARRY HOPKINS. He told in great detail how the third Mrs. HOPKINS got BARNEY BARUCH to throw a big party in the Carlton Hotel in Washington in honor of Mr. and Mrs. HOPKINS. He described the party. Each plate cost $110 and fifty-six people were present. The most expensive champagne--vintage 26--was served, and all the ladies were given perfume which cost $40 an ounce. He played up the story for all it was worth, but he must have forgotten to say something about imported caviar.

"Another person connected with the Government whom SMITH does not like is CLAUDE WICKARD. It appears that CLAUDE WICKARD's father is running a farm in Indiana, and he related how newspapermen had discovered that while the Secretary of Agriculture called on the nation to tighten its belt, old man WICKARD was swimming in a world of plenty. He enumerated so and so many hundreds of pounds of meat, so and so many pounds of butter, etc. He said it would require ration stamps given to one person for thirteen years to buy all the food that old man WICKARD had, and his son should have been sent to Atlanta as a black marketer. While talking of rationing, he told the story that some oleomargarine was shipped to Soviet Russia on lend-lease basis, but the Russians refused to take it so they got butter. So he cried: 'Butter for America first,' which brought a tremendous hand.

"He made the usual remarks about the Atlantic Charter and the four freedoms, saying that they were just drafted for the benefit of newspapermen, radio commentators and propagandists, but they were absolutely meaningless. He was very bitter in denouncing President ROOSEVELT for explaining to the world with a shrug of the shoulders that there was no Atlantic Charter.

"He made some remarks about TRUMAN's sending HOPKINS to Moscow, but the writer does not recall details as given by SMITH. However, in another instance he suggested that if HENRY WALLACE likes Soviet Russia so much, why doesn't he and all the other STALIN lovers go there.

"He worked himself into quite a sweat about the alleged plan to create a super state and said that there will be no super state about the United States and no flag of the super state above the Stars and Stripes and no Constitution above the Constitution of the United States as long as there is blood pulsating in GERALD's veins.

"When SMITH began talking about the truth of Pearl Harbor, implying that the bombing attack was engineered in Washington, it appeared that he was coming to a climax, but it turned out to be only the build-up for the climax. The climax itself was the story of TYLER KENT. He told it in a very dramatic fashion, but there was nothing new in it, at least to persons who read his literature regularly. He described KENT's family, his father being a Korean diplomat, his mother a distinguished lady from Virginia; how TYLER KENT served as a code clerk in the American Embassy in Moscow but was anti-Communist and the Communists had him transferred out of Moscow, and he then went to London. In London he decoded 3500 code messages which passed between ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL, and CHURCHILL stated in one of these messages to ROOSEVELT: 'Join with me and we will rule the world.' SMITH reported that CHURCHILL and ROOSEVELT conspired to get America into war, and when KENT realized this he thought only of how he could get this story to America. Finding himself unable to leave, he turned the information over to a member of Parliament, RAMSEY. (SMITH did not mention that RAMSEY was a member of MOSELEY's British Fascist Black Shirt Party.) He related how RAMSEY tried to tell the story in the house of Parliament and how he was arrested. He also told how TYLER KENT was fired from his job, thus losing his diplomatic immunity, was arrested, and is now languishing in jail on the Isle of Wight.

"Then he told how TYLER KENT's mother was convinced that her son was innocent; how she took $5000 from her savings and sent a capable newspaperman to England to interview TYLER KENT, but when the newspaperman returned he was afraid to testify, but that he, SMITH, has this newspaperman's original manuscript on the whole KENT case, initialed by Mrs. KENT, and that is the reason why he, SMITH, was refused permission to talk in San Francisco as the State Department knew that SMITH would break the case wide open if he had a platform. SMITH also mentioned that a commentator on a national network told the TYLER KENT story. He did not name the commentator, but he was obviously referring to UPTON CLOSE. He shouted that if KENT is guilty he should be tried on American soil by American judge and jurors. Of course he did not tell the audience that TYLER KENT turned his information over to German espionage agencies.

"From this he led over to his drive for contributions, offering to people who make donations a copy of his TYLER KENT manuscript and subscriptions to his paper, 'The Cross and the Flag.'

"In order to get as many people as possible to make donations, he said that he was holding another meeting next Monday night (June 4) and that all those who donated would receive an invitation; however, he would not make known the place where the meeting is to be held so that the management of the hall would not be harassed like the management of the Embassy Auditorium. He said that admission cards would be put in the mail so that they would not reach recipients before Monday.

"After the contribution envelopes were collected, he said he had intended to speak longer but apparently he sensed that the audience had had enough and he brought the meeting to an end after inviting people to come to the front and shake hands with him and after reciting the Lord's Prayer. The meeting broke up around 10:30 p.m.

[redacted]

"On the stage also were Mrs. SMITH, who was introduced, Mrs. PERKINS, and Rev. SWIFT's wife. Also an unidentified woman who belonged to the America First Committee, and SMITH's secretary (male).

[redacted]

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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62-43818-757 pgs 16 + 17

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FBI/DOJ

[redacted]

[redacted] attended the meeting of GERALD L. K. SMITH at 8 p.m. on May 31 at the Embassy Auditorium, Los Angeles, and furnished the following information:

"On the evening of May 31, 1945, the subject was the principal speaker at a meeting held in the main assembly hall of the Embassy Auditorium. It is noted that apparently considerable pressure was brought to bear on the auditorium management on and before the date of the meeting in an effort to get the meeting canceled. It is known that the FBI office received several complaints in this regard, several of which were known to come from Communist Party elements. CP headquarters office was definitely disturbed by the fact of SMITH's being allowed to speak in Los Angeles. It is reliably known that the AYD forwarded a telegram to the Department of Justice requesting an investigation of the SMITH meeting in Los Angeles. Also, other liberal groups in this vicinity had some part in attempting to prevent the meeting from taking place.

"This hall has a capacity of 1800 seats. By 8 p.m. the entire seating capacity was filled and the overflow sat or stood in the aisles both in the main floor and in the balconies. The crowd was estimated as from 2000 to 2200 people. Throughout the entire meeting there was no heckling and the crowd was obviously overwhelmingly enthusiastic for the main speaker. CP figures, so far as could be observed, were conspicuous by their absence.

"After the meeting got under way, there were some eight or ten people, both men and women, on the platform, including GERALD L. K. SMITH and his wife; the Reverend JONATHAN E. PERKINS, head of an organization called Committee of California Pastors, under whose auspices SMITH was speaking; Mr. CLAUDE WATKINS, attorney and recent candidate for Governor of California on the Prohibition ticket; and one of the ALLEN brothers, either WILLIS or LAWRENCE, of the Group Payroll Guarantee Association (commonly known as 'Ham 'n Eggs'). They all got a big hand from the crowd as they filed out onto the platform. A few patriotic songs were sung by the audience, after which preliminary remarks were given by the Reverend J. E. PERKINS, who introduced Mr. CLAUDE WATKINS. WATKINS made a brief talk, stating he did not know what GERALD L. K. SMITH was going to say this evening and that he, WATKINS, might not agree with everything he did say,

but that WATKINS would defend to the utmost SMITH's right to speak and say it. He thereafter introduced Mr. G. L. K. SMITH, who gave the principal talk.

"Throughout his address SMITH blasted Communism and what he termed the double dealing of Soviet Russia. He also talked on what he called the Crime of Pearl Harbor and the Tyler Kent trial in Great Britain, saying that he wanted to know the real story behind both these events. Throughout his talk SMITH based his address on the principle of America First as a Christian and peace-loving nation. He told how he had recently come from San Francisco, where he had gone to cover the United Nations Conference for some eighty publications, as he claimed, but that pressure was brought to bear and he was prevented from holding any meetings there.

"During his talk SMITH referred to the fact that pressure had been attempted to have his meeting canceled in Los Angeles through threats, as he said, to blow up the hall and run him out of town. However, he said, this was an old story to him, and he blamed it on the Communist element whom he claims to be fighting. He said that one complaint had even been received by the auditorium that the FBI did not want him to hold the meeting. SMITH said, however, that this charge also had been made against him before and he told the crowd about a recent giant meeting he had held in Philadelphia where the same complaint had reached him. He said that he had thereafter addressed a letter to Mr. J. EDGAR HOOVER of the FBI in Washington, and had received a letter in reply which he desired to read to the crowd in Los Angeles. He thereupon read aloud a letter from Mr. HOOVER, stating in effect that the FBI had made no effort whatever to investigate or prevent his speaking in Philadelphia, and that no representative of the FBI had ever or would ever interfere in the slightest degree with the civil rights of Mr. SMITH or of anyone else. The letter as read received a tremendous reception from the crowd, during which SMITH handed it over the edge of the platform to a representative of the press, urging the press to print it in full if they dared."

No disturbance occurred up to the time [redacted] left the hall at approximately 10:30 p.m.

[redacted] covered the meeting of GERALD L. K. SMITH on Thursday night, May 31, at the Embassy Auditorium, 843 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, at which subject spoke. [redacted] stated that SMITH's main topic appeared to be opposition to New Deal bureaucracy and communism. SMITH did not offer any program which would take the place of either of these systems. He merely spoke on a loose series of adverse incidents which he blamed on either one of the aforesaid systems, which he opposes. According to SMITH, the latter came to the West Coast in order to organize the people against the red menace. It was observed that no disturbances or heckling were evident at this meeting. Only about a half dozen members of the armed forces in uniform were seen in attendance, and no one wearing the cap or other identification of a Legionnaire was observed.

b

[redacted] advised that through personal observation a meeting was held at the home of LEON T. CORY and his wife, STELLA, 907 Mountain View Terrace, Alhambra, California, on June 1, 1945. It is well known in Alhambra that Mr. CORY, who is a custodian of the Alhambra public schools, is a member of the Ku Klux Klan and is always talking in behalf of the KKK. At this meeting the following automobiles bearing 1945 California license plates were noted; however, there was no evidence of GERALD L. K. SMITH's presence at this meeting.

29 U 469	1934 Cadillac sedan owned by [redacted]
5 T 6550	1940 Chrysler owned by [redacted]
3 N 4875	1937 Oldsmobile touring sedan, [redacted] legal owner same, Los Angeles
50 N 941	Nothing in file
88 N 864	1941 Dodge club coupe owned by [redacted]
2 S 5705	1940 Plymouth coupe owned by [redacted]
7 J 8610	1925 Dodge coupe owned by [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

b7
b6

A review of instant file reflects that numerous public and civic leaders of Los Angeles telephonically protested to this office regarding SMITH's Los Angeles public appearances.

- PENDING -

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA:

b7D

Will interview [redacted] for details concerning subject's activities, meetings, and plans while in this area.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

[redacted] -

[redacted] - Special Agent [redacted]
Los Angeles Field Division

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b7D

[redacted]

[redacted] - Special Agent [redacted], Los Angeles Field Division

These informants requested anonymity.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

DETROIT FILE NO. 62-1126

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY	
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	7/23/45	5/31;6/1,5,6, 19,28,30; 7/16-[redacted]5	[redacted]	BMB

b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - C SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [redacted]

SMITH's Detroit Office recently moved to Room 420, Farwell Building. SMITH is presently on the West Coast and is not expected to return until sometime in August, 1945. Substance of various publications edited by Subject SMITH while on the West Coast set forth. - P

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY NOTE(S) OF 10-6-77 DATE 7-25-77

REFERENCE: (62-7055 and 62-43818)

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 14, 1945, at San Francisco, California.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 29, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan.

62-117

b7c

DECLASSIFIED BY 6 [illegible] ON 7-25-77

DETAILS: [redacted]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: R. A. Guy SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-758

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 1/26/82 BY [illegible]

[redacted] b

[redacted] b7c b7

SMITH first arrived in San Francisco on April 6, 1945, and from there he went to Los Angeles, California, where he arrived on May 26, 1945. It is to be noted that SMITH's activities while in San Francisco have been reported in the referenced report of Special Agent [redacted] However, [redacted] furnished certain material which is being incorporated in instant report which is deemed pertinent to SMITH's activities while on the West Coast. b7c b7

Shortly after SMITH's arrival in San Francisco he prepared a release dated May 9, 1945, captioned "Gerald L. K. Smith Summarizes the Attitude of Nationalists Concerning San Francisco Parley." This publication is being set forth verbatim inasmuch as it is a composite picture of SMITH's plans and the plans of the Nationalist group he represents concerning the San Francisco Conference.

"Gerald L. K. Smith, National Director of the America First organization, announced the formation of San Francisco headquarters during the remainder of the Conference. Following are direct quotes:

"'A. Working with me in San Francisco are 10 instructed observers who are aiding me in the preparation of a report on the San Francisco Conference.

"'B. I am spokesman for 21 Nationalist Organizations, including farmers, workers, veterans, mothers, etc.

"'C. We are reporting our impressions to 21 periodicals.

"'D. I am meeting daily with America First leaders from all over the West Coast area. Rallies are being planned for Seattle,

Portland, San Francisco, Oakland, Los Angeles, and Long Beach.

"'E. I am preparing a confidential report for 6 members of the Senate and 17 members of the Lower House -- upon their request.'

"DIRECT QUOTES CONCERNING CONFERENCE

"'1. Nationalists oppose approval of any plan or program which might jeopardize our national sovereignty.

"'2. The Imperialistic policy of Britain makes us averse to any policy which will share our sovereignty with the British Empire.

"'3. We do not believe in the basic integrity of the Russian Government. At least we do not believe that we can afford to share our sovereignty with a nation whose policy violates our basic traditions.

"'4. We oppose the Dumbarton Oaks Plan and its companion measures for three main reasons:

Its World Police program
The plan to subsidize foreign nations financially
It tends toward a Super State.

"'5. We believe the Conference has already failed. It has not inspired the respect of the great rank and file of our population. It makes for future wars, rather than for future peace.

"'6. We believe that the ultimate conclusions reached here in San Francisco will not be approved by the United States Senate.

"'7. I prophesy that the two men who will eventually be responsible for its defeat will be United States Senator Burton K. Wheeler, and United States Senator Arthur Vandenberg. Mr. Vandenberg is basically a Nationalist, recent statements notwithstanding. His conscience will not permit him to support a pact founded on injustice.

"'8. This is not a peace conference, and the spirit of peace does not prevail here. It represents power politics at its worst.

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"'9. We are setting up a lobby in Washington. It is our belief that more than 100 organizations in America within the range of our influence will actively oppose the adoption of the San Francisco Plan by the United States Senate.'"

This release is being forwarded as an enclosure to this report.

[redacted] As reflected in the referenced report of Special Agent it is apparent that SMITH conducted numerous meetings while in San Francisco. These meetings have all been reported in that report. b7c

On May 23, 1945, SMITH issued a mimeographed release captioned "AN APPRAISAL" which, in substance, ridiculed the San Francisco Conference and contained several derogatory remarks about Secretary of State STETTINIUS, referring to him as playing the part of a McCarthy with Bergen gone. He also pointed out that the Russians, "through their Fifth Column, the American Communist Party, are torpedoing the whole affair."

A copy of this release is being forwarded to the Bureau as an enclosure to this report.

[redacted]

[redacted] b7

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[redacted]

[redacted] a four-page mimeographed publication addressed "Dear Fellow American" and dated June, 1945, at Los Angeles, California, captioned "BLOOD AND MONEY." This publication, in substance, concerns the San Francisco Conference and deals primarily with the Nationalists' effect on the conference and the Communists' infiltration and part in the conference.

SMITH, in this publication, stated that among those who are on the inside and actually know what is going on at the conference, it is admitted that the Nationalists threw a monkey wrench into the scheme that had been hatched by the international conspirators. He further stated that Russia had been exposed and that the Rothchild-controlled Bank of England and its imperialistically minded politicians had been thwarted in their scheme to take over our national destiny.

In connection with the Communists, he stated, "Our big fight in the near future is with Communism. The Red rats are coming out of their holes and will do all in their power to take over our Nation. Stalin's Russia has refused to permit our newspapermen and our soldiers to enter Berlin without their consent. What goes on in the countries which Russia has occupied is a big secret, even though we put up the money and paid the bills with Lend Lease.

"The Red Communists in America have united with the Nazi underground and have established their headquarters in Mexico City. They are organized in every community, hamlet, precinct, school and factory. The moment we have anything that looks like a break with Russia, these Red traitors will begin to blow up our ships, dynamite our factories, shoot our patriots, and stab our Nation in the back. The real issue of the future will be: Christian civilization versus atheistic Communism."

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Further, he stated that the charter which would be approved at the San Francisco Conference will be much less than what was planned by the enemies of America. He further stated that when it comes to the Senate we must all be on hand to fight in order that no document would be approved that would share our money and our blood with any other nation on earth.

A copy of this publication is being forwarded to the Bureau as an enclosure to this report.

[redacted] a copy of a petition which is being circulated by SMITH and is addressed "To Congress" and marked for the attention of Congressman JOHN E. RANKIN. This petition in substance extends congratulations to Congressman RANKIN for his plan to investigate the Communist plot which is now centering in Hollywood and the West Coast area. At the bottom of the petition there is a statement that upon completion it should be mailed to J. E. PERKINS, Secretary, Post Office Box 2508, Los Angeles, California. A copy of this petition is being forwarded to the Bureau as an enclosure to this report.

[redacted] copies of "The Letter," a weekly publication, for the period from May 16, 1945 through June 27, 1945. It is noted that throughout these various issues SMITH follows generally the Nationalist, Isolationist, and anti-Communist policy which is characterized in his other publications.

In the issue of May 16, 1945, SMITH prophesied that the San Francisco Conference might blow up inasmuch as MOLOTOV, head of the Russian delegation, is "arrogant, unreasonable, and vain." In contrast, however, he stated that President TRUMAN will not be as soft and easy with Russia as was his predecessor. However, he stated that it will not be easy in view of what has gone before to get "tough" with STALIN. He further stated that trouble-making radicals, Communists, and certain Jewish agitators have already alarmed negro leaders. He stated that this group insists on legislation in every state compelling employers to hire individuals regardless of race, color, or creed. In this connection he stated that "Realistic and intelligent Negro leaders see in this plan to force a mixture of the races the precipitation of a reaction likely to retard the rapid improvement which would come naturally to the welfare of the Negro."

In the issue of May 23, 1945, SMITH made the statement that the Russian Government is not civilized, referring to the sixteen leaders of the "Polish Christian government" on their visit to Moscow.

In the May 30, 1945, issue, SMITH made the statement that people should not be surprised if Japan surrenders shortly. He stated that this should not be counted on, but that there is much talk in San Francisco on the possibility of an early end of the Japanese conflict. He stated that it would be better if Japan surrendered before Russia joined the war against Japan because if Russia came in she would demand domination in the Orient including China as her reward.

In the June 6, 1945, issue, SMITH made the statement that TRUMAN had offended the Communists. He warned that the Communist propaganda would grow increasingly anti-TRUMAN. He referred to TRUMAN as a practical politician who will probably make some bad appointments, but stated that TRUMAN is definitely leaning toward BURTON K. WHEELER, JAMES A. FARLEY, and JOHN NANCE GARNER.

In the June 13, 1945 issue, SMITH made the statement that the FBI had renewed its campaign to investigate the activities of all Communists. "Since the Communist party line announced by Earl Browder is turning against the Truman Administration, the Reds are expected to begin sabotaging American industry and American activities in general."

In the June 20, 1945 issue, he stated that the COMMUNIST PARTY was planning to conduct a reorganized revolutionary campaign in America. He stated that the Communists expect America to have trouble with Russia and are prepared to sabotage industry and organize a bloody revolution.

In this issue he also prophesied that the conference of the "so-called" Big Three will be postponed as long as possible because of the highly controversial issues that have developed. He stated that TRUMAN is not expected to approve some of the deals which ROOSEVELT made at Yalta.

Copies of all of the above issues are being sent to the Bureau as enclosures with this report, and extra copies of the issues of April 7, 14, 25; May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; June 6, 13, and 20, 1945, are being retained in the files of the Detroit Field Division.

In addition to the above copies of "The Letter," the May issue of "The Cross and the Flag" is being retained in the Detroit Field Division, [redacted] has advised that there has been no activity in Detroit, Michigan, concerning Subject SMITH.

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DE 62-1126

ENCLOSURES: TO THE BUREAU --

Mimeographed publication dated May 9, 1945, at San Francisco, captioned "GERALD L. K. SMITH SUMMARIZES THE ATTITUDE OF NATIONALISTS CONCERNING SAN FRANCISCO PARLEY."

Copy of publication captioned "AN APPRAISAL" dated May 23, 1945, at San Francisco, California.

A 4-page publication dated May, 1945, captioned "A Message from San Francisco."

A 4-page publication dated June, 1945, at Los Angeles, California, captioned "Blood and Money."

One copy of a petition addressed "To Congress" marked for the attention of Congressman JOHN E. RANKIN.

Copies of "The Letter" for May 16, 23, 30; June 6, 13, 20, and 27, 1945.

- PENDING -

DE 62-1126

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE SAN FRANCISCO FIELD DIVISION

*At SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, upon receipt of the complete report of [redacted] will report any additional information which is not contained in this report. b7D

*Will also follow, through informants, any activities of SMITH upon his return to San Francisco.

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

*At LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, will follow SMITH's activities at Los Angeles and will advise the San Francisco Field Division when he returns to San Francisco.

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At DETROIT, MICHIGAN, will maintain contact with Confidential Informants for the purpose of following further activities of the Subject.

In accordance with Bureau instructions, investigative reports submitted in this particular case are not to be distributed to other governmental agencies.

- PENDING -

DE 62-1126

IDENTITY OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

b7D

4-750 (2-7-79)

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DPB.

RECORDED

EX-51

Attorney General T. L. Gaudle — August 6, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - C; SEDITION

Reference is made to the previous investigative reports and materials made available to the Criminal Division concerning the above-captioned matter.

Enclosed for your further information is a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated July 23, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan, as well as photostatic copies of the enclosures mentioned on page eight of this report. b7c

Enclosure

62389

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/5/80 BY

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
AUG 6 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Leach
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hoover
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Nease
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

UNITED STATES GOV

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DATE: August 11, 1945

SAC, LOS ANGELES

[redacted] which alleged
GERALD L. K. SMITH, AMERICA
FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SEDITION

A letter was received from the San Francisco Field Division July 2[illegible] 1945 stating that on July 23, 1945, [redacted] furnished information to the San Francisco Field Division t[redacted] was a member of the organization of GERALD L. K. SMITH.

[redacted]

[redacted] claimed that the organization would take over the Government after the postwar unemployment gave them a chance to stir things up with the masses. They were to agitate anti-Negro and anti-Semitic riots and then supply the whites with weapons to put down the strife. [redacted] asserted that there was a factory in Mexico which was going to turn out the weapons for the organization. 62387

At the present tim[redacted] said he edited an anti-Nisei newspaper which was sent from Los Angeles up into the San Joaquin Valley to inflame the populace against the Japanese. [redacted] predicted he would accomplish great things after he had more experience. However, at the present moment in his career all he was doing was talking.

The above is being furnished to the Bureau for information purposes.

[redacted] b2c
100-7945
c.c. Detroit

SE 17
RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43818
118
EX-14

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/23/82 BY SP-1405 JMC

AUG 31 1945

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 45

PAGES REVIEWED: 88

PAGES RELEASED: 46

NOTES: _____

ANO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

60072

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE No. 100-7945

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
LOS ANGELES	7-25-45	6-12,13,14,15, 18,20,23,25,26, 30;7-2,4-45	[redacted] mjp

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF [redacted]

[redacted] SMITH's speech at Philharmonic Auditorium on June 25 caused furore and protest before, during, and after. [redacted] copy June [redacted]

[redacted]

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated February 15, 1945, at Los Angeles.
Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 5, 1945, at Los Angeles.
Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 14, 1945, at Los Angeles.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [illegible] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818+761

RECORDED & INDEXED 146

AUG 6 1945

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

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[redacted]

b7D

[redacted] advised that GERALD L. K. SMITH held a meeting at the Philharmonic Auditorium on Monday, June 25, 1945, beginning at 8:00 P. M.

Prior to the opening of this meeting, from 7o'clock on, at the Fifth Street entrance to the auditorium there were groups gathered on the sidewalk watching and discussing a picket line consisting of approximately forty-five persons, who were carrying placards which read:

"Labor - Unite against Fascism".
"America First is United States Fascism."
"Nip American Fascists in the Bud".
"Fight Racial Discrimination".
"Workers' Party Leads Anti-Fascist Fight".
"McCLANAHAN Sponsored Labor-Baiter GERALS L. K. SMITH".
"GERALD L. K. SMITH Stands for JIM CROW and Poll Tax".
"The War is Not Over - This is Sabotage".
"GERALD L. K. SMITH is Enemy of Labor".

"Join the Picket Line - Protest against GERALD L. K. SMITH".
"Our War is Against Fascism at Home".
"Out-of-bounds for Decent Americans".
"SMITH Meetings Today - Concentration Camps Tomorrow".

Also, persons were distributing leaflets to passersby, one issued by the Workers Party, address Labor Action, P. O. Box 1246, San Pedro, California, entitled "Workers of Los Angeles! - Stop the Fascists!"; another leaflet, issued by the Los Angeles Committee to Postpone Action on Peacetime Conscription, headed "Now is the Time to Act!"; and a card issued by the Public Affairs Forum designating every Tuesday evening at 7:30 P. M. as their meeting time at Studio Hall, Embassy Auditorium, 839 S. Grand Avenue, Los Angeles. Leaflets and card are attached to this report.

Admission was by ticket only. The meeting had apparently plenty of police protection, which SMITH later states cost him $7.50 per head on his conditional lease.

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] This card was to SMITH's meeting held on June 25, 1945.

This card will admit two persons to hear an address by

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PHILHARMONIC AUDITORIUM, Fifth and Olive Streets, Los Angeles, California.
Monday, June 25, 1945 - - 8:00 P. M.
Auspices: California Pastors' Committee to Fight Nazi-Communism. 50 Pastors of all Denominations will occupy platform.

HONORABLE MEADE McCLANAHAN
The Fearless statesman and member of the Los Angeles City Council, will introduce Mr. SMITH.

SUBJECT OF ADDRESS

Our Nation's Destiny: Christian Americanism or Atheistic Communism - Which?
Among the many topics with which Mr. SMITH will deal will be the following:

The New Communist Strategy
The Plot of the Super State
American Sovereignty
The International Bank
The Bretton Woods Plot

STALIN's Plan for America
Europe and Communism
New Red Headquarters - Hollywood
The San Francisco Charter
(Stalin's Document)

WARNING: The Red enemies of this meeting will circulate all sorts of false reports. They will even report that the meeting has been cancelled. Regardless of anything you read or hear to this effect, this meeting will positively be held. Bring this card and come to the entrance of the Philharmonic Auditorium on the night of June 25, prepared to attend the most dynamic and sensational rally in the history of Los Angeles.

Admission free BUT positively by card only.

Note: This card may be used as a post card. Additional cards may be obtained free by addressing requests to Post Office Box 2508, Los Angeles, California.

Pickets of the Worker's Party picketed the Philharmonic. They were quite peaceful. Their signs called SMITH a Fascist, an enemy of labor, a race baiter, a poll-taxer, etc. Handbills were distributed by members of the Worker's Party, copies of which are attached to this report in the Master File and GERALD L. K. SMITH file.

The Los Angeles Daily News June 26 carried the following story:

"GERALD L. K. SMITH SPEAKS SECOND TIME HERE:

"GERALD L. K. SMITH, 'America First' leader, made his second public appearance in Los Angeles last night. He spoke at the Philharmonic Auditorium.

"He lumped virtually all of his 'enemies' under the heading of 'communists' and so designated a picket line which appeared outside the meeting hall, carrying signs charging SMITH with being a 'fascist'.

"The meeting was chaired by newly elected Coumcilman MEADE McCLANAHAN of the 13th district."

The Los Angeles Examiner carried the following story:

"AMERICA FIRST LEADER SPEAKS:

"addressing more than 3500 persons at Philharmonic Auditorium and an overflow sidewalk audience of several hundred through loud speakers connected

with the stage, GERALD L. K. SMITH last night announced the active rebirth of America First, Inc., throughout the nation.

"Requesting each member of his audience who was willing to contribute a minimum of $2 per person to his campaign to rise, SMITH was greeted with a near 100 percent response."

The Los Angeles Times carried the following Story:

"AMERICA FIRST HEAD SPEAKS HERE:

"A Philharmonic Audience, which gained admittance by card only, last night heard GERALD L. K. SMITH, America First head, speak on a variety of topics, ranging from free speech to Russia.

"Several hundred members of the Workers party picketed the auditorium. Police dispersed crowds at the close of the meeting."

The Examiner story is incorrect insofar as it claims that there were 3500 people at the Philharmonic. The Philharmonic holds only 2700 people. At the most there were on the sidewalk on both sides of the street, not more than 200 or 300 people. There were no loud speakers on the outside.

The hall itself was packed. There were between twenty and thirty uniformed policemen and I learned from one of the policemen that there were quite a few plain clothes men. There were also a number of deputy policemen who wore civilian clothes and deputy police badges. Shore Patrol and Military Police were also there, inside as well as outside.

The audience was composed mainly of old people, and among the oldsters there were more women than men. They definitely belonged to the lower strata of society and the most vociferous among them were the "hallelujah" boys and the "amen" women. This writer discovered quite a few people in his area who spoke with strong German accents. The following people in the audience were recognized:

KENNETH ALEXANDER of the Silver Shirts, MARTIN MAEDER of the Bund, FRED DYSTER of the Silver Shirts, "DOC" SAHLI of the American Guards, LEON DE BRYAN of San Diego, publisher of the Broom, Mrs. BEAN, who has the book store on Larchmont, many former followers of ROBERT NOBLE, T. W. HUGHES and EDITH SHOL. ELIZA COLE of the Peace Now group was also in the audience, so was Mrs. RUGGLES, Mrs. KRAMER, Mrs. COX, JAMES MacBRIDE. RAY SCHNEIDER, head of the Ku Klux Klan, and Miss LEGANT, SMITH's secretary, were in charge of the ushers. WOODARD, CORY, MacSHANE, GIMMEL, SAHLI and both of the CAPPs (father

and son) were ushering. Written instructions to the ushers were given out by SCHNEIDER and Miss LEGANT, the text of which follows:

INSTRUCTIONS TO THOSE WEARING USHER BADGES

SMITH RALLY

Monday, June 25, 1945, 8 P. M.
The number of your reserved seat is ( )
Read the following very carefully:

1. You should hold in your hand one shopping bag. When you get located in your reserved seat, but the bag under the seat, ready to be used when necessary.

2. You will find 10 extra envelopes in your shopping bag. This is for the purpose of supplying envelopes to any one who might not receive them as they enter.

3. Listen very carefully to everything Mr. SMITH says from the platform. He will instruct you thoroughly as to what to do.

4. Wear your official badge at all times.

5. When you have taken up the envelopes, return the bag to the literature table, which will be in charge of Miss LEGANT.

6. If you have a question to ask, check with Miss LEGANT.

7. Do not visit with anybody.
This is a very serious and critical meeting. Be sober and attend to your business all the time.

8. Be alert for any emergency or special instructions from the stage by Mr. SMITH.

IMPORTANT

Individuals carrying cards marked (special) are to be seated either on the platform or in the seats near the platform. Such cards have been given to clergymen.

[redacted]

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Besides the bums on the stage were SMITH and his wife, PERKINS, WILLIS and LAWRENCE ALLEN, BOB SHULER, CHARLES CARTWRIGHT, MEADE McCLANAHAN, G. ALLISON PHELPS and J. A. LOVELL.

WILLIS ALLEN opened the meeting with the singing of "America" and the Ham 'n' Eggs song, which was rendered with a lot of gusto by the audience. Then introduced "our fearless Councilman" MEADE McCLANAHAN, who spoke partly from a manuscript and partly without it.

McCLANAHAN first explained that the management insisted upon all speeches being delivered from a manuscript and than an advance copy of the speeches had to be turned in to the management. However, he found it difficult to speak from a manuscript, therefore, he would digress once in awhile. Also explained that the management insisted that a court stenographer take down

every word spoken on the stage and that the expense for the stenographer would have to be carried by the California Pastors Committee.

McCLANAHAN spoke at length about the tremendous pressure which was brought to bear on himself, SMITH and the management of the Philharmonic. He said he was convinced that the groups behind this pressure campaign, which he described as inhuman torture, were not working in the best interests of the government. He pointed out that he did not necessarily agree with him regarding the menace of Communism.

He described the telephone calls that he received at his home and at his office and the letters and telegrams he received, as well as the management. However, he added, he was pleased to be able to tell his audience that for every one condemnatory message there were five which congratulated him or the management of the Philharmonic. He said the Philharmonic had received so many letters that they hadn't been able to open them all and tried to be funny by adding that the office staff assorted them and by touching them they could tell whether they were hot or cold. He got quite a laugh out of that from his audience.

He said that he has decided to fight for SMITH's freedon of speech because at various times of his life he had taken an oath to uphold the Constitution and he cited that passage from the Bill of Rights which deals with freedom of speech. Talking of taking the oath he mentioned that he had done so again quite recently, and twice, when he was sworn in to fill the vacancy and the full term as Councilman for the 13th district.

In describing the telephone calls he received he dwelt at length upon the foreign origin of the callers, saying that many of the phone calls he could not understand because the callers could not talk good American and they probably haven't been here long enough to learn it. He said perhaps after they go to night school they may learn how to speak American and perhaps also learn something about the Bill of Rights and freedom of speech. Right now, however, these minorities are demanding freedom of speech for themselves but would not permit the great majority to have it if it does not suit them. He expressed the hope that "if some boys and girls of the foreign press are here tonight", they would lay off of him because he is really growing tired of their pressure. The pressure was so terrific that he was thinking of throwing out his telephone, but because they are hard to get he decided not to do it. That brought another laugh.

He said that the audience would learn tonight how much it costs to hold up freedom of speech and expressed his thanks to the management for permitting these Christian Americans to hold their meeting there and asked the audience to give the management a hand, which the audience did.

He related that some Councilman told him that he was making a mistake by tying up with SMITH, and then he talked of the president of the City Council, Mr. BURNS, who told him the best way of staying in the City Council is by not seeking publicity.

The way it was put, it appeared that when he talked about a Councilman, that too, must have been BURNS. However, he was not taking BURNS' advice and it seemed that he was pleased to be able to talk to so large an audience.

Between the speech above reported, he introduced BOB SHULER, who rendered the invocation, which contained nothing worth reporting outside of the fact that SHULER too took out an insurance policy and said "may God wipe from our memory any word that might be uttered that would displease him. In other words both McCLANAHAN and the Rev. SHULER wanted to make sure that the public and God understands that they are not backing up SMITH's statements.

McCLANAHAN wound up his speech by introducing GERALD L. K. SMITH.

SMITH, as in previous speeches, kept rambling from subject to subject and it was difficult to follow him point for point but following are the main highlights of his discourse. He began by pulling the same showmanship stuff as he did at the Embassy, asking all those who can hear to raise their hands, which they did, and all those who can not hear him to raise their hands and quite a few did, and SMITH followed through! "If you can't hear me how did you know what I said?" It brought the expected result. SMITH began by stating that he considered it an honor to address this Christian American audience and that he had many shocking things to tell them. He immediately set out to answer WALTER WINCHELL and the Council for Civic Unity. He said that WALTER WINCHELL claimed on the radio that he, SMITH, had made the claim that 1000 Los Angeles ministers were in back of him. SMITH said he did not claim 1000 Los Angeles ministers but 1000 California ministers and that they were well represented here tonight.

He said WINCHELL boosted the Council for Civic Unity and that he would have more to say about it later in his speech. He said it was impossible to have 1000 ministers from all over California at one place at one time but they were well represented. He asked the so-called ministers on the stage to stand up and asked the audience to give them a hand. A great majority of them got up only reluctantly and G. ALLISON PHELPS got up with only half of his seating capacity. Then SMITH claimed that he had 200 ministers in the wings and that they could not come on the stage for lack of space. (Of course this was untrue and it made the policemen and other people back stage laugh.)

Next he stated that a certain clergyman had received $1,000 on Sunday to preach a sermon against SMITH, that he is a corruptionist, a betrayer

of Christ, and a Judas Ischariot. Later during the course of his speech, while the audience was applauding, McCLANAHAN leaned over and whispered to SMITH, then SMITH said that brother McCLANAHAN had just told him that the minister that he had referred to earlier as having sold out, is not an American citizen. The audience wanted him to name the minister, apparently hoping that it might be a Jewish name, and if SMITH had given the name it would have been an anti-climax and may have been cause for a libel suit so SMITH said that the name of the minister wasn't worth mentioning.

There were the usual hateful remarks about WINCHELL, the gentlemen's room journalist, who is today all powerful on the radio while a great patriot like LINDBERGH has been pulled into the gutter and smeared but smearing artists like WINCHELL.

He said a lot of people wonder how SMITH gets such huge audiences in spite of the fact that his meetings receive no publicity in the press and only publicity on the Warner Bros. Communist station and in the Communist papers. He took a few cracks at the Los Angeles metropolitan press which is being run by the advertisers through the use of pressure.

Next he read to the audience the text of a postal card sent out by the Committee of Correspondents asking the recipient to protest SMITH's speaking at the Philharmonic. He emphasized the statement contained in that postal card that SMITH was a red-baiter delux. Next he read a second postal card sent out by the same Committee, the text of which follows:

ALARUM! ALARUM!

GERALD L. K. SMITH, would-be American Fuehrer, darling of the "Nationalist Party", Anti-Semite, Anti-Negro, Anti-Labor, red-baiter de luxe, invades Los Angeles.

PROTEST TODAY, by telegram or letter to C. H. BRAINARD, Mgr. of Philharmonic Aud. (427 W. 5th St., Los Angeles 13) against renting this center of L. A. Culture to anti-kultur GERALD L. K. SMITH for his Monday, June 25th, meeting.

ACT NOW!

Los Angeles
Box 9734

Committee of Correspondence
Los Feliz Sts. Los Angeles 27

Coming back to the question of how he gets such a large attendance without publicity, he said that he did not have to come to Los Angeles to organize, that the Christian-Americans and anti-Communists were organized long before he came here.

Then he paid tribute to MEADE McCLANAHAN, a man with guts and intestinal fortitude, and asked his audience to indicate by saying "aye" whether they would come to McCLANAHAN's aid if his enemies start a recall initiative.

He said the issue tonight was whether Christian-Americans shall preserve for the future freedom of speech. He said he is being called a Fascist, but there is no greater enemy of Fascism in America than he and that he was the one that went to Washington and demanded that a law against Nazism, Fascism and Communism be put on the statute books. He says no Russian in Beverly Hills, nor Hitler, nor Stalin, can tell him whether or not he can speak. Next he read a letter from EDWARD G. ROBINSON, the original of which seemed to have been addressed to the management of the Philharmonic and a copy of which seemed to have been sent by ROBINSON to McCLANAHAN. The letter simply protested against the use of the Philharmonic by SMITH and pointed out that SMITH himself, publicly, admitted he was a Fascist. Here SMITH interrupted the reading of the letter asking whether there was a lawyer in the audience who might take a law suit against ROBINSON for libel on a contingency basis. When he was through reading the letter he gave it to McCLANAHAN, telling him to save it for some day it will be an important letter in the history books, showing how people try to suppress freedom of speech. Still referring to ROBINSON, he asked the audience what is his real name and some people shouted "his name was GOLDENBERG".

Coming back to the praise of McCLANAHAN, he said that with the help of these Christian Americans McCLANAHAN could be elected to the office of Congress, Mayor, or even Governor.

Then SMITH proceeded to give what he called details of the attempted suppression of this meeting. He said PERKINS, SWIFT, and McCLANAHAN, the first two as chairman and secretary respectively of the Pastor's Committee, which had been formed 11 months ago, had contacted the Philharmonic Auditorium to rent the hall. SMITH claimed that the management was told that he was to be the speaker. PERKINS and SWIFT put down $260 for the rent and there was some additional expenses of around $100. SMITH thought that this would be all the expense for this meeting but the audience would soon hear how much it cost to have freedom of speech here in Los Angeles. He said that as soon as printed invitations fell into the hands of the enemy they launched a campaign of intimidation, typical of STALIN. "We know how the rats work".

Then, for no good reason at all, he started talking about his only son in the Service and the decorations he had received, etc. Then he took time out to congratulate BOB SHULER on the nice opening prayer and on his courage to appear on the platform. Turning to Councilman McCLANAHAN he suggested that the pressure brought to bear upon the Philharmonic and McCLANAHAN

should be investigated by the Grand Jury. Then he came to one of the high points of his speech. He was going to show the audience what tactics the enemy was using to keep him from exercising his constitutional rights. He held in his hand a letter addressed to PERKINS and McCLANAHAN by the Philharmonic Auditorium which, he claimed, was received by him on Wednesday. This letter stated that the Philharmonic would reconsider its cancellation of the Auditorium if the following conditions were met by 3 o'clock on Thursday (June 21st). He added that this letter was received 28 hours before the 3 o'clock deadline and he was going to celebrate his 23rd wedding anniversary with his wife but he couldn't because he had to devote all of his time to meet the conditions set forth in the letter. The conditions were that SMITH put up $1,000 cash to cover any possible damage to the furniture in the Auditorium. That he put up an additional $1,000 cash to guarantee that the speakers would not digress from the manuscript which, judging from other remarks during the course of the evening, had to be submitted in advance. Further, the Philharmonic demanded that he pay the cost of a court stenographer who would take down every word uttered. Also he had to furnish a $250,000 public liability insurance policy, a riot and civil commotion policy, and pay for the hiring of police officers to be on duty during the course of the evening, the price to be $7.50 per policeman and as many to be hired as the management deemed necessary.

As he read this letter he frequently interrupted, calling these demands outrageous and protesting against the high-handed manner of the Philharmonic management. He said that he had to go to Lloyds of London to get the $250,000 policy and that it was quite difficult to raise the necessary cash but there was nothing else for him to do but to go through with a bad bargain. He said how could he speak of the principles of GEORGE WASHINGTON and ABRAHAM LINCOLN if he would give into the intimidations of the Philharmonic Auditorium and read a prepared speech. He would not read the speech but would speak along the moral lines of what he had set forth in the advance copy, even if it means that on the following day the $1,000 cash bond would be forfeited.

From here on, no matter what his subject, he frequently came back to the $1,000 cash bond, which was a build up for the collection speech later on. He also said that any one who would donate $1 or more would receive a photostatic copy of this outrageous letter which some day too would be part of the history books telling of the attempted suppression of free speech.

On Monday afternoon, according to SMITH, the management wanted to know where is the text of the speech to be made by SHULER and SMITH replied that SHULER would not speak, that he would pray. Nonetheless, according to SMITH, the management insisted upon having an advance copy of SHULER's prayer for they apparently feared that SHULER might let God in on the things SMITH

was going to say but was prevented from saying through the restrictions set forth in the letter quoted above. He said that Rev. WESLEY SWIFT took the text of SHULER's prayer to the management of the Philharmonic Auditorium on the 4th floor of the building.

Then he digressed and talked of his intentions to stay in Los Angeles as long as he cares to because a certain gentlemen was anxious for him to leave. He did not mention his name but of course meant the Mayor.

Then he repeated a story he first told at the Embassy Auditorium how the people in the Philharmonic tried to get him out of the hall and gave as their excuse that the FBI wanted him out. How he had written to J. EDGAR HOOVER about it and that HOOVER denied this in a letter. He read the letter again as he did at the Embassy.

Next he came to the Council for Civic Unity. He reminded the audience that this is the organization which was boosted by WALTER LIPTSCHITZ, and he added that by calling him LIPSCHITZ he was very charitable. He asked does Dr. FARNHAM, President of the Council of Civic Unity, know what company he is keeping. He then held the latest Tenney Committee report in one hand and the letter from the Council in the other. He said that he had found that 12 people who are on the letterhead of RAYMOND BOOTH's Council for Civic Unity were mentioned in the index of the Tenney Committee report which was published at the taxpayer's expense and which exposed the Communist activities. He was careful not to state that these people were Communists. The people mentioned as appearing on the stationery of the Council for Civic Unity and in the Tenney Committee report index were: Rev. CLAYTON RUSSELL, Mrs. CHARLOTTE BASS, GEORGE BRADLEY, Dr. ERNEST CALDECOTT, PHILIP M. CONNELLY, Hon. AUGUSTUS HAWKINS, SAMUEL ORNITZ, Rev. CLAYTON RUSSELL, DORE SCHARY, JAMES THIMMES, HERBERT SORRELL.

He stopped at the name of Dr. ERNEST CALDECOTT to point out that he is an arch communist.

He then turned around and asked who is this DR. FARNHAM, and he was told that he is the Executive-Secretary of the Los Angeles Church Foderation. Then he turned back to the audience and announced this, and said that the Church Federation is Communist, and so is the Federal Council of Churches, which is being run by modernist preachers. He said that he himself, and he is quite sure the audience too, prefers the pulpit pounding clergymen of the Pentacostal sects of the type represented on the platform.

Switching from his subject again, he asked how many people would come to a mass meeting which he would address either in the Hollywood Bowl, or in some baseball park, or in the stadium. There were the usual "ayes" from the audience.

Then he came to his appeal for money. The writer of this report really had to laugh when he said that he expects to get $10 each from the preachers on the platform. Most of them looked like they didn't have next week's rent. He asked people to indicate on the back of the envelope how much money they would contribute if on the following day he finds that the management has stolen his $1,000 because he has not stuck to the text of the speech which he had submitted. There were the usual remarks about his publications which would be sent to the donors, etc.

From here on he kept his appeal for money going while, at the same time, touching upon many subjects. He attacked the press, which is being high-pressured by advertisers and signled out particularly the Daily News which would probably report on the following day that SMITH had made a collection, while nothing is being said when SIDNEY HILLMAN can take $5 and $6 from the weekly pay envelopes of thousands of workers by simply putting his initials on it.

At this point came the revelation reported previously that the minister was not an American citizen. (The minister, incidentally, was in the audience and it is understood at the time of this writing that he is planning to answer SMITH in a public meeting at the Church of the Open Door).

Coming back to HILLMAN, he also added that the Communists get plenty of money through lend lease.

He stated that the slogan of the American Nationalists is "Christ First in America" and if there had been Christ First in Germany there would never have been a Hitler and if there had been a Christ First in Russia there would never have been a Stalin and 20 million Christians would not still be suffering in the concentration camps of Russia. He said he is not concerned with the suffering of the people in Central Europe but he is plenty concerned with the suffering of the 20 million Christians who are still in Russian concentration camps. Then he switched to the Jews and said that if there were any Jews present or representatives of Jews or Jewish organizations they should go to the Jewish leaders and tell them not to harass him, SMITH, and instead of making enemies they should go out to make friends. He told them that the Jews are safe in America only because it is a Christian nation and he advised them to take the leadership out of the hands of the hysterical goofs who sit up 24 hours a day to think up schemes to prevent Christian Americans like himself from having their say.

Then he drifted to the topic of internationalism and ranted against having a Congress more powerful than the U. S. Congress. a Constitution more powerful than the U. S. Constitution, and a flag greater than the Stars and

Stripes. (Incidentally, the stars and stripes waved all the way through SMITH's speech but since the flag-waving was repetitious it is not indicated in this report.) While talking about the government he said that for the last 12 years it had been in the wrong hands but finally got its greatest break when TRUMAN became President.

Then he asked G. ALLISON PHELPS to take a bow after he had told the audience how this man was persecuted, hounded and molested for attacking refugees while being a radio commentator. He said the enemies had robbed him of his home, his job and livelihood and that now he has to make his home in a garage. (It will be remembered that when G. ALLISON PHELPS was on the air he harped particularly on LION FEUCHTWANGER and his book "Moscow, 1937", quoting particularly the passage at the end of the book where it compared the foul air in the democracies with the clean air in Moscow). SMITH picked up the Feuchtwanger book, attacked him as a Communist and quoted the same passage. Undoubtedly this was called to SMITH's attention by PHELPS for the introduction of PHELPS and the quotation from FEUCHTWANGER's book, one immediately after the other, could not have been accidental. In talking about FEUCHTWANGER, SMITH made some cracks about Beverly Hills and suggested that the refugees be sent back to where they came from.

Then he added that not all the people in Hollywood are bad and to prove this statement he quoted from the March 7th edition of the Congressional Record a statement which is anti-Communist and was drawn up by the officers of the Motion Picture Alliance. He read the names of the officers, among them GINGER ROGERS, RUPERT HUGHES, WALT DISNEY, KING VIDOR, CLARENCE BROWN, NORMAN TAUROG, HOWARD EMMETT ROGERS, and several others. Next he asked his audience to bring pressure to bear on the management so that he would get his $1,000 back, then he returned to one of his favorite subjects, HENRY WALLACE, suggesting that the people get down on their knees to thank the Lord that HENRY WALLACE is not the President.

He said WALLACE is the angel and pet of the Communists and he quoted from a speech made by WALLACE on the occasion of the celebration of the 26th anniversary of the Russian Revolution. The quotation he gave stated that if Russia continues at the present rate of progress for 20 more years it would surpass the United States. While a statement of this sort does not in the least prove that the man who makes the statement is Communistic but simply sets forth some facts, SMITH made the most of it, accepting this as proof that WALLACE is Communistic and the audience loved it. SMITH suggested that WALLACE go to Soviet Russia and run for Vice-President with Stalin. He said the reds have a plan to destroy our government, our industry, our churches and schools, and we can't fight something with nothing. We have a plan and we are going to run the red rats out of this country.

Next came a plea for the veterans. He cited figures as to how many veterans will return and how many defense workers and veterans will be unemployed and suggested that the veterans be given a $1,000 discharge bonus. He again related the story of the alleged waste of six billion dollars in South America and how many veterans could have been paid $1,000 each with that money.

Then he referred to a recent statement by ELEANOR ROOSEVELT criticizing the Communists, asking why didn't she make a statement like that 12 years ago for during the past 12 years our system of government was not American.

He said that he noticed some Negroes in the audience and that he considers himself a friend of theirs for he and HUEY LONG fought the poll tax in Louisiana while Bilbo of Mississippi fought for the retention of the poll tax.

Next he quoted from the Tenney Report Langston Hughes' poen "Good-bye Christ". He rendered it with a great deal of pathos. Then he gave a definition of Nationalism in a typical style as we know it from his current literature. No Congress above our Congress, no flag above our flag, etc. No sharing of our sovereignty with any one in any sort of super state. Then he came to what he described as the San Francisco cocanut. He gloated for 3/4 of the meat of the cocanut had disappeared due to President TRUMAN's work. He said ROOSEVELT wanted to be president of the world and to accomplish this he started giving away everything and when ROOSEVELT came back from Yalta where he had given away everything, he could not face his own deeds and he broke under it. If there is to be a super state, SMITH said, the pagans will be in control.

Then followed more talk about $1,000 discharge pay for the veterans. By then the ushers had finished collecting the envelopes which contained the donations. Rev. WESLEY SWIFT gave a short prayer and McCLANAHAN announced that the meeting was closed.

Ushers distributed an admission card reading as follows:

"SPECIAL MEETING"

"to be addressed by

GERALD L. K. SMITH

1204 So. Hill Street, Los Angeles
THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 1945 --- 8:00 P. M.

In this meeting Mr. Smith will get down to brass tacks and discuss the unvarnished truth concerning the killers

and character assassins who are attempting to curb Christian Nationalism in America.

To be admitted to this meeting, this card must be presented or the individual must be identified by one who carries this card.

CLOSED MEETING

This meeting is closed to the general public. Interlopers, curiosity seekers and snoopers, working in behalf of the enemy, will not be welcome."

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[redacted] that a closed meeting was held by GERALD L. K. SMITH on Thursday, June 28, at 1204 S. Hill Street, Los Angeles, California.

This meeting was to begin at 8 P. M., and it was noted as early as 7:15 P. M. that there was a line of pickets in front of this address. The pickets' placards were identical with those used Monday night, June 25, at the Philharmonic Auditorium, and the same people were noted to be carrying them on both occasions. The picket line consisted of approximately 25 at the start and numbered 45 at 10 P. M. These pickets were supposed to represent a labor party, although under just whose auspices they were acting is unknown to us at this time. There was considerable shouting and booing and reviling of GERALD SMITH. Just prior to the opening of the meeting it was noted that there were approximately 75 to 80 persons standing in groups on the corner and directly in front of the above address.

GERALD L. K. SMITH spoke on the third floor of this building, and had an audience of approximately eight hundred here while directly below on the second floor there was a loud speaker by which he addressed approximately three hundred more. The meeting was opened at 8:10 P. M. with the audience singing two verses of "America". SMITH's opening statement was that "Outside is an example of what we are up against." He went on to say that the people in front of the building were not the real enemies--that they were just screwballs. He said there was a deliberate attempt by high finances to upset this meeting, and said they had gone to the extent of printing 150 counterfeit tickets in order to have representatives at this meeting. He stated that most of these counterfeit tickets had been caught but he knew that several of the "rats" were in the audience and he wanted them to know that they were to cause absolutely no disturbance or he would see that they were bodily thrown out. He stated he was tired of being disturbed and annoyed by these "hook-nosed Russians". SMITH stated that the management of the Philharmonic Auditorium had been so coerced and threatened that they actually believed there would be mob riots, acid throwing, ripping of furniture, etc. He again stated the conditions that had been

set down by the Philharmonic Auditorium management, saying that he wanted everyone to know that these conditions had all been met and further that the money put up under these conditions had been returned in full. He said the management, when returning the thousand dollars that had been placed to insure his reading directly from his script--although he did not stick entirely to his script--had said that the reason they had him put up this thousand dollars was because they had heard that he did a lot of swearing in his talks. SMITH, laughing at this, said, "I wonder if that is why they insisted five times before the Philharmonic meeting on a script of Rev. BOB SHULER's prayer--were they afraid he was going to swear in his prayer?"

SMITH said that all the pressure brought against him was not from the Communists but that the greater part was from the richest Jews in Los Angeles and Hollywood. He said he was going to reveal the name of the person responsible for the annoyance to him at his meeting-- that this person was Rabbi MAGNIN. He said he wanted to issue a word to Rabbi MAGNIN at this time that he was making a terrible mistake, that he intended to continue his meetings, and that in the very near future he was going to have a large meeting in an outdoor bowl and Rabbi MAGNIN had better not do anything to stop it. He stated that if he was annoyed any further he would issue a half million circulars exposing and telling the whole story.

He said on checking the records of the O.P.A. it was found that 92% of the violations of O.P.A. regulations were by Jews. He said his statements do not mean he hates all Jews, but that he believes that Jews should be Americans first and Jews second. He stated that on his arrival in Los Angeles he found out that the May Company Department Store went to the Los Angeles Time and told them not to publicize SMITH.

SMITH had on the platform G. ALLISON PHELPS, writer and commentator. He introduced Mr. PHELPS, and repeated again the story of his having been attacked and his career ruined. SMITH further stated that his organization was going to use PHELPS' pen and his tongue, and that PHELPS was going to be a great aid to their organization. He promised to send a story of G. ALLISON PHELPS to the members attending this meeting.

Mr. SMITH praised Brother JONATHAN PERKINS, who was also on the platform, for his splendid cooperation in helping with the routine work of holding all meetings. He said Brother PERKINS met him in San Francisco and has worked by his side ever since.

Mr. SMITH said that there would appear in the next morning's Examiner, June 29, an article by FRANK M. MURPHY, Supreme Court Justice, and that in this article MURPHY would criticize SMITH in regard to anti-Semitism. Mr. SMITH said he would tell an interesting story about MURPHY,--which was that he had

been a good friend of his prior to this and that MURPHY is known personally by him not to be speaking at the present time to Supreme Court Justice FELIX FRANKFURTER; but while FRANK MURPHY won't speak to FRANKFURTER yet he comes out and criticizes him (SMITH) and takes a "holier than thou" attitude. (Justice FRANK M. MURPHY's article was noted in the Examiner for June 29, 1945, and is attached to this report.)

SMITH said the Communists and Jews are trying to get the negroes all "het up" so that when the fight comes they will have some one to throw out in front. This statement was in reference to the picket line in front of the building, there being two negroes in the line; and in discussing the placard "GERALD L. K. SMITH is Enemy of Labor" SMITH stated he had a letter from WILLIAM GREEN of the A.F. of L. congratulating him on his friendship towards Labor. SMITH further stated he also had thirteen honary memberships in various unions.

Mr. SMITH again praised Councilman MEADE McCLANAHAN for his fortitude in sticking by SMITH to see that he was allowed free speech.

Throughout this meeting there was considerable disturbance by loud shouting and booing coming from the street. SMITH stated at ten o'clock that this meeting had been disturbed from 7:30 P. M. until 10:00 P. M., with no police protection. He said it had taken them all this time to get the protection they needed for the safety of the members from the potential killers downstairs. SMITH asked every one to write the Los Angeles Police Department and protest the disturbance taking place. He said to tell in the letters only the truth--that there were 1600 people in attendance, that they were harassed, annoyed, disturbed and threatened with physical harm, and that from 7:30 to 10:30 there was no semblance of order. He said to write the Mayor, the City Council, the Police Department, or any of the officials.

The meeting closed at approximately 10:30 P. M., following the collection. No men in uniform were noted at this meeting. On leaving the building it was noted that there were an estimated 100 or more uniformed policemen keeping the people moving on the street.

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[redacted]

[redacted] that countless numbers of telegrams, cards, and letters of protest were received during the four days before

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subject's (SMITH) meeting at the Philharmonic Auditorium on June 26, 1945. Moreover, the Manager of the Philharmonic Auditorium was annoyed with phone calls, both anonymous and otherwise, requesting and even demanding that SMITH's scheduled meeting be cancelled forthwith.

[redacted] a copy of the speech of GERALD L. K. SMITH which was of necessity furnished to the offices of the Philharmonic Auditorium prior to the scheduled appearance there on June 25, 1945. [redacted] the subject deviated from his prepared speech occasionally but not sufficiently to warrant forfeit of his $1,000 bond. A copy of instant speech is being furnished to the Bureau and the Detroit Field Division and a copy is also being retained in the file of the Los Angeles Field Division for further reference.

[redacted]

[redacted] GERALD L. K. SMITH came into prominence during the HUEY LONG Regime in Louisiana. He was with Governor LONG at the time of the assassination, and conducted the LONG funereal. Immediately after he became active in Isolationists' Activities, and seized leadership of the America First Group when General WOOD resigned the office of national chairman. GERALD L. K. SMITH is a former Campbellite Minister and possesses a limited education, crude personality and a world of knowledge of rabble-rousing mob-psychology. Mr. SMITH's discovery of Anti-Semitism opened the door to large revenue for him, consequently he advocates it and practices Anti-Semitism whenever he considers it practicable.

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The June 29th issue of the Los Angeles Examiner carried an article stating that Supreme Court Justice FRANK M. MURPHY will speak at the Hollywood Bowl July 4. Justice MURPHY hates anti-Semitism. At a peace conference in the Ambassador Hotel the Justice warned "the unwary will stub their toes on their racial and religious conciets. But for every GERALD L. K. SMITH there are 1,000 Americans that stand for just the opposite."

ENCLOSURE TO THE BUREAU

A copy of a speech submitted by GERALD L. K. SMITH to the officers of the Philharmonic Auditorium, Los Angeles, prior to his scheduled appearance

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L. A. 100-7945

at the Auditorium on June 25, 1945.

ENCLOSURE TO THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

A copy of a speech submitted by GERALD L. K. SMITH to the officers of the Philharmonic Auditorium, Los Angeles, prior to his scheduled appearance at the Auditorium on June 25, 1945.

- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

At Lancaster, California:

Will conduct discreet investigation through informants and other sources of information regarding the background, history, and activities of [redacted] b7C subject's America First Party.

At Los Angeles, California:

Will, through [redacted] obtain complete b7D coverage of subject's activities, meetings, and future plans.

One copy of instant report is being sent to the San Francisco Field Division and one copy to the San Diego Field Division for information purposes inasmuch as it is believed that subject may include those Field Divisions in a speaking tour in the near future.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

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COPY OF A MANUSCRIPT (SPEECH) SUBMITTED BY GERALD L. K. SMITH TO THE OFFICERS OF THE PHILHARMONIC AUDITORIUM, LOS ANGELES, PRIOR TO HIS SCHEDULED APPEARANCE FOR JUNE 25th, 1945.

The time has come when every citizen of America who believes in our Constitution, our way of life, and the Christian principles on which our Nation was founded, must be willing to stand up and be counted.

Christian Nationalism is easy to define. It represents that political philosophy which would maintain our America as a Christian nation. It will be recalled by all students of the history of jurisprudence that some years ago the Supreme Court of the United States declared officially that America is a Christian nation.

Ten years ago I dedicated myself to the task of building a dynamic crusade designed to counteract the menacing growth of foreign "isms" in the United States. I was one of the first to form a committee which led the campaign resulting in the organization of the Congressional Committee for the Investigation of Un-American Activities (commonly known as the Dies Committee). The movement which I lead now, as a spokesman for 21 Nationalist groups, numbers something over 3 million followers. Our headquarters is in Detroit, Michigan, where a large staff of my compatriots assist in the publication of our periodicals, the handling of our heavy mail, and in maintaining contacts with our committees, workers and followers in every State in the Union.

It is my profound conviction that the Communist Party has united forces with the Nazi underground of the Western Hemisphere. Recently in an address to a select audience in Detroit the Reverend Father Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen of Washington, D. C. revealed that he had laid his hand on a copy of the secret minutes

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of the Communist Party, which has recently set up its Western Hemispheric headquarters in Mexico City. Said the eminent Priest: "The Nazi underground and the Communist Party are definitely working together in the Western Hemisphere, according to these secret minutes."

These evil conspirators against our way of life have developed a terrible and awful technique for smearing the character, the patriotism and the integrity of those of us who lead these fights. Typical examples of vicious smear have been the way that they have dealt with men like Martin Dies, Burton K. Wheeler, Charles A. Lindbergh, Hamilton Fish, and others. It will be recalled that Congressman Fish was the first Congressman to lead in a bold investigation of Communist activities. In fact, I am informed that public officials who have sought by expose to stamp out Communism in California have been smeared and abused by the Red and pro-Red press of your State.

The favorite technique among the Red propagandists is to accuse men like myself of racism. They go to the Jews and say that we are anti-Semitic. They go to the Negroes and say that we are anti-Negro. Unfortunately, representatives of these minorities sometimes believe these lies and allow themselves to be used as the tools of these agitators. The fact is, however, that upon my arrival in Los Angeles I released a statement to the press concerning my convictions, and among the statements I made was the following sentence: "Racism is not a part of this program. Anyone who hates another man because of his race, creed or color is un-Christian and un-American."

I hesitate to make any personal remarks, but because my personality has been discussed so much in connection with this meeting, it seems important for me to make one or two observations having to do with my own personal life.

In the first place, I am willing to assert that every vicious statement against my character and patriotism can be traced eventually to the Red press. Like many Americans, I was opposed to war before Pearl Harbor. I agreed with your venerable and eminent fellow citizen, United States Senator Hiram Johnson that if we had had strong defenses and real statesmanship back in 1933, 1934 and 1935, this war might have been avoided. When war comes, however, there is only one way to end it, and that is to win it. The people associated with me, as well as my own personal family, have done all in their power to make the Stars and Stripes victorious in this conflict. My own son, Gerald Smith, Jr., has been a casualty twice in this war -- once by starvation and once by wounds. Incidentally, these casualties came after he had volunteered for suicide engagements in the Burma jungles. He wears the Purple Heart, the Silver Star, and other recognitions for his heroism as a Private soldier in the ground forces.

It will be said that my address tonight has been adjusted to meet and satisfy the criticism that has been levelled against me. May I say that my address tonight is on the same order and contains exactly the same subject matter as if I were speaking in any other city or under any other circumstances. Do you think if I had in mind anything except the most self-respecting conduct, would I call first on the ministers of Christ to be my advisors? One of the first persons with whom I conferred when I came to this city was an eminent priest, who not only encouraged me by complimenting me on leading this crusade in defense of Christian Americanism, but gave me much valuable information concerning the Catholic Church's attitude toward this program of atheistic politics -- Communism.

I have prayed and conferred and counseled with numerous ministers of all

denominations. One sterling example is the Reverend F. C. Woodworth. Reverend Woodworth presides over and helps to supervise the Christian labors of 535 pastors of his denomination. He holds the highest office to which these churches can elevate him, and this, the Southern California District, is the strongest district of his denomination. I desire to read a letter which I received from him, dated June 14, 1945. The letter reads as follows:

Rev. Gerald L. K. Smith
Hotel Normandie
6th and Normandie Sts.
Los Angeles 5, California

Dear Brother Smith:

I wish to take this opportunity to write you and express my sincere appreciation for the very fine work that you are doing. I appreciate in the first place, your splendid Christian spirit and, in the second place, your thorough knowledge of world conditions and the fearlessness with which you attack the Communistic tide in America.

We are not all capable of doing what you can do but we want you to know we are behind you 100 per cent, and you will have our support in the work in which you are engaged. I have talked to a number of our ministers who attended your services at the Embassy Auditorium and without exception, they spoke highly of you and the way in which you handled the situation.

I need not tell you because I know you are aware that the West Coast is a "hot bed" for Communism, and with the tide of wickedness that is here, together with Communism, there is no wonder the Devil would oppose Christianity presented in its purity. I do feel it is our duty to stick together and hold together and if we can serve in the behind scenes, we shall try to be a foundation and a cornerstone in the building or the erection of Christ and America first.

Yours with best wishes,

/s/ F. C. Woodworth

Superintendent
Assemblies of God, Inc.

FCW/lb

Between 600 and 700 Christian pastors requested invitations for this meeting. When the Pastors' Committee, sponsoring this rally, arranged for Councilman McClanahan to introduce me, I warned Mr. McClanahan that my enemies would bring every known type of pressure to bear upon him, and that in case he or any other prominent citizen in this city so desired, it would not offend me for them to investigate my conduct as a patriotic American, not through the smear sheets and libelous news stories that have been printed, but through such eminent citizens as United States Senator Vandenberg of Michigan, United States Senator Gerald P. Nye of North Dakota, and Mr. Ernest Liebold, for 34 years the personal private secretary of Mr. Henry Ford. I gave Mr. McClanahan the names of outstanding Protestant clergymen, including the Reverend Dr. Samuel Forrer, Pastor of Michigan's largest Presbyterian Church, the Reverend Father Murphy, co-Pastor of Michigan's largest Catholic Church, and many others.

Incidentally, some months ago I spoke in the City of Chicago. I addressed a great mass meeting in the Labor Temple of a local unit in the American Federation of Labor. Terrific pressure was brought to bear on this fine Labor Union and its officers by my enemies, pro-Reds, and certain misinformed groups. This pressure so agitated the Union that at great expense, running into something like $2,000 or $3,000, they made a complete survey of my life and my activities, and if there are any American Federation of Labor leaders here tonight and you want to know the results of that survey, I give you this name: Mr. Byron Dalton, Business Agent, 330 S. Marshfield, Chicago, Illinois -- in care of the Labor Temple. Not only did the leaders of this Labor Union find that the treatment I had received at the hands of my enemies was unfair and libelous, but they confirmed the fact that this, the

the most rapidly growing patriotic organization in America, was building for its leadership on nothing but the most self-respecting elements in our national life.

If Christ had been first in Germany there would have been no Hitler; if Christ had been first in Russia, there would have been no Communism; if Christ had been first in the world, there would have been no war. The time has come for us to develop the art of Christian statesmanship. We have made of the practice of medicine an honorable profession. We have challenged our sons to become doctors, lawyers, teachers, preachers, engineers, artists, but we have allowed politics to be classified as a mangy and disreputable occupation. Thus, too often we find that we have turned over the conduct of our communities, our states, and our Nation to rascals, scalawags, derelicts, ignoramuses, and common crooks.

I challenge the Christian people in this great audience tonight to adopt Christian statesmanship as a high and noble profession, to the end that we may rear sons and daughters dedicated to the task of manning the Ship of State.

Nearly 200 years ago a small group of God-guided men dedicated themselves to the noble and holy task of preserving that which they and their compatriots had found first on American soil. They dedicated themselves to the preservation of liberty and freedom. Freedom of speech. Freedom to worship. Freedom to assemble. Freedom to buy and sell and improve their lot by the application of their integrity and intelligence to thenatural resources of the land. This freedom was so precious to these early fathers

that they determined that it should be preserved for their sons and daughters and for the generations yet unborn. They and their loved ones had come to this new land from the four corners of the earth. They had sailed the seven seas. They had risked death, pestilence, and slaughter by the savages, in order to find this spot on the earth where they might kneel down and worship God in freedom.

The document they chose to define their plan for freedom's preservation was the Constitution of the United States. Gladstone, the great logician and student, said, referring to the Constitution: "It is the greatest document ever to be struck off by the hand of man." Certain men of great Christian character whom I know insist that the Constitution of the United States is the handiwork of God Almighty.

In this document these founding fathers provided for the preservation of the liberty of every citizen, regardless of his station, his creed, or his color. They gave us a new conception of government based on a system of checks and balances, with the legislative, the judicial, and the executive branches check-mating the authority of each other, always in favor of the liberty of the individual. This Constitution provided and still provides that if a law be passed unanimously by both Houses of Congress and signed by the President, it shall not be permitted to operate if one citizen can demonstrate to the Supreme Court that his freedom has been violated according to the Constitution. The first 10 Amendments to this Constitution constitute what we know as the Bill of Rights. Evidently there are some people in the City of Los Angeles and elsewhere who are unfamiliar with the Bill of Rights. In order that your memory may be refreshed, I call the First Amendment to the Constitution to your attention. It reads as

follows:

> "Freedom of Religion, Speech, and the Press; Right of Assembly and Petition -- Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the Freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

Attracted by the atmosphere of liberty which this Constitution breathed upon this new land, men and women and their families flocked to America to escape the tyranny of the old world where they had been crushed in peonage, regimented by the militarists, exploited by the users, and crucified on the cross of religious persecution.

Strengthened by this new found liberty, they proceeded to build a Garden of Eden. They cleared the forests, they drained the swamps, they invaded the prairies, they drove the ribboned steel of the great railways through the mountains and across the deserts and redeemed for their people, even this, the Golden West, the dynamic Pacific Coast.

God was good in response to their prayers and their Christian faith. He filled this land with lowing herds of cattle, sheep and swine, grazing in ten thousand valleys and ten thousand emerald hills. He pointed out to these God-guided pioneers the mountains which bosomed gold, silver, lead, coal and other precious metals. He whitened the fields of the Sunny South with cotton and filled the prairies of the great Middlewest with gold and grain.

The men who built America invaded every community and founded every State under the shadow of not only the flag but the Cross -- not only the Constitution but the Book of God, the Holy Bible.

Regardless of the claims that may be made by the economists and the

philosphers, the theorists and the dreamers, no system has ever been invented by the mind of man that has produced one-tenth of the wealth per capita which was produced by this, the American way, commonly known as Free Enterprise. Not freedom to exploit; not freedom to enslave; not freedom to monopolize, but freedom to build, to pioneer, to produce, unhampered by the tyranny of a Kaiser, of a Czar, of a tyrant.

Today America is flooded with propagandists and agitators who would change our way of life. They would substitute the Red flag for the Stars and Stripes. They would abolish the Church and they would determine our daily activities by bureaucratic rulings over our personal lives. It has been well spoken, "Eternal vigilence is the price of liberty."

The issues of the hour center in three great problems:

1. The Threat of Bureaucratic Tyranny.
2. The Menace of Communism.
3. The Super State.

When war was declared every patriotic American knew that it was necessary for us to grant to our Government extraordinary authorities in order that they might handle the supplies and the services necessary to win this war in the most efficient manner.

Certain bureaucrats, however, lived in the hope that they might be able to use these wartime powers to lay the foundation for a program of peace-time regimentation. The bureaucrats with this ambition were the same ones who attempted to establish a bureaucratic dictatorship in Washington long before America went to war. They founded their conduct and they built their

program for regimentation on the philosophy of a Marxist clique, known to the Nation as the 'New Deal Braintrust.' They destroyed one-third of our food; they shot down our cattle; they threw our pigs in the river; they plowed our cotton under.

When the great objective thinkers of another century dip their pens in the ink of historic and write the record of this lunatic decade, the one great question in their hearts will be, "Why didn't God laugh out loud at a nation so foolish as to destroy its resources in one period and ration them in another?"

We have a new President. He comes fresh from the soil and humble surroundings of a farmers' town in Missouri. I like President Truman. He acts like an American. He is surrounding himself with men from all over the great Middlewest and Far West, as well as from the East. Apparently President Truman believes that there are people who understand the spirit and will of America who do not necessarily live in New York City and its environs.

It would be unbecoming a self-respecting citizen to reach into the grave for a political controversy, but just as I might prefer the philosophy of Abraham Lincoln to the philosophy of Stephen Douglas, I am bound to say that I believe the biggest step that has been taken in twelve years away from the threat of bureaucratic tyranny was taken when Harry Truman became President of the United States.

This does not mean that the problem is solved. Harry Hopkins is still around. Harold Ickes, one of the super bureaucrats who loves to crack the whip, is still in Washington. Marxist-minded political jobholders still

hope that the wartime authorities given our Government shall be continued into the peacetime period. These internation braintrusters, many of whom are more interested in foreign countries than they are their own country, have visions of rationing meat, sugar, butter and the rest long after the war is over, while they play politics with the food and resources siphoned away from our people by such methods.

That brings up the subject of America First. What is wrong with the words "America First"? If you ask me what the philosophy of American First is, I say it is the philosophy of George Washington. It embraces the foreign policy of George Washington, who said: "Friendship with all nations; trade with all nations; entangling alliances with none."

Concerning this, the founder of our country, it was said: "He was first in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his countrymen."

The Los Angeles press reveals that we are sending 40 million pounds of butter to Russia. A report taken from the Congressional Record reveals that we are packing 10 million pigs for Russia. No Christian with a Christian's impulse could deny the peoples of the world the necessities of life, but I am an old-fashioned American who believes that "He who careth not for his own is worse than an infidel." Furthermore, I assert without fear of contradiction from any fundamental American that we should not give, lend or lease one more penny or one more ounce to Russia until and unless she wholeheartedly, completely and enthusiastically helps us whip the Japs.

We must pray for Harry Truman. The rascals, conspirators and plotters of the world have moved in on Washington. They will do everything in this world to control him, and if they can't control him, they will try to kill

him.

The greatest compliment I can pay Harry Truman is -- he has inspired the animosity and the opposition of Earl Browder and his mangy Communist Party. His invitation to Herbert Hoover, Thomas Dewey, and other men of various political persuasions indicates that he recognizes the fact that there are some patriotic citizens in the United States who are not registered Democrats.

It does me good to see the new President thin out some of these European-minded screwballs who have been attempting to interfere with our way of life and replace them with men from Texas, Arizona, Iowa, California, etc.

The Communist Party was hatched in the same serpent's nest with Nazism and Fascism. In fact, these three forms of pagan tyranny represent the trinity of satanic politics. They were hatched from the snake nest of atheistic Marxism. They are predicated on the abolition of the church, the philosophy of the anti-Christ, and the reduction of the individual to regimented slavery and bureaucratic tyranny.

Yes, complete regimentation brings full employment and social security, but it must be remembered that prior to the Civil War Negro slavery in the South supplied social security and permanent employment. Everybody had a job. Everybody had a house. Everybody had plenty to eat. Slaves were fed rough, coarse food in abundance in order that they might be able to laboralong with the mules.

After this war we want employment at the maximum. We want full employment, but I say to this Christian audience tonight beware! beware! -- don't allow the politicians to seduce you into full employment by asking you to

trade off your personal liberty. The Negro slave had full employment, but full employment is not all.

Of course, personally I have the conviction that if we could free our Nation from the bondage of the money changers and the International Bankers and re-establish the money system employed by Abraham Lincoln, which is the Constitutional plan, we could solve our problems of distribution, we could exploit our technical knowledge to the limit, and instead of coming into a period of unemployment, hunger and chaos after this war, we could come into an era of complete abundance.

The patron saint of Communism is not only Karl Marx, but the arch conspirator Machiavelli. The Communist Party has no conscience as it relates to Americanism. When Stalin was pro-Hitler, they were pro-Hitler. When, by the consent of Stalin, Hitler invaded France and the Low Countries and menaced England, the American Communist Party was isolationist -- not because it was for America First, but because it was for Stalin first. When Stalin was in the same political bed with Hitler, the war was an Imperialistic war, according to the Reds, but when Hitler fell out with Stalin and invaded Russia, then the Communists cried out, "This is the people's war," and they began to beat the drums for war. They left the America First Committee and joined the Fight for Freedom Committee, and for months embarrassed the pro-war elements of America, just as they had recently embarrassed the America Firsters.

Stalin's newspaper in California is the PEOPLE'S DAILY WORLD. In the East it is the DAILY WORKER. All over America, it is the NEW MASSES. These Journals, these editors, these Reds determine their policy, not according

Tells S. F. Secret

"Ruth McKinney, Minton's wife and a writer for NEW MASSES, told the audience how closely Molotov and the entire Soviet delegation to the Conference had worked with American Communists in San Francisco.

"'Why, the entire American press was told that Molotov was living in a suite at the St. Francis Hotel,' she added, 'but all the while he had taken over a house on Nob Hill owned by my husband's cousin, so he (Molotov) could conduct his affairs without press interference.

"'Molotov appeared in the luxurious red and gold appointed suite at the St. Francis when it was necessary to be seen there.'

"Miss McKinney then explained that the Communist Party arrived at its plan for indoctrinating American service men when hundreds of crippled veterans--guests of the San Francisco Conference at Opera House sessions--'plainly demonstrated they were opposed to Russia and were blinded by the propaganda of anti-Soviet groups in this country.'

"'Those boys must be won over. If it is too late to win the veterans in our hospitals, then we must enlist those who have not yet gone overseas and those who are yet to return here,' she concluded.

"'And while we are on the subject of our future program, it might just as well be stated now that Communism has outgrown New York as its headquarters. Henceforth, our activities will evolve in Hollywood, where the prestige, influence and support of our comrades in the film industry will strengthen our ranks and carry our fight to people from every walk of life.'

"Gropper revealed to the audience how he, Miss McKinney, and her husband, Bruce Minton, had attended all important press conferences and two weeks of San Francisco Conference sessions at the Opera House as accredited members of the working press through 'credentials secured by some of our influential friends.'

"Before the meeting closed the audience contributed $657 to the NEW MASSES' program, in addition to paying a dollar per person admission."

I ask this audience of Christian Americans, what are you going to do about this? Will we stand idly by? Will we permit these whose loyalty to the Red flag exceeds their loyalty to the Stars and Stripes to conspire against our way of life and subject us to a foreign power without resistance?

to the will of the Command in Chief of our Army and Navy or our State Department; they adopt, proclaim and fulfill policies according to Stalin's will. My slogan is: AMERICA FIRST. Their slogan is: STALIN FIRST.

For many years the center of intrigue for the Communist Party has been New York City, but during the later years, even with their headquarters in New York City, the Reds have turned to your fair city, and especially to a subdivision of your fair city for their largest contributions. This helps us to understand a story which appeared in one of your local papers, the LOS ANGELES EXAMINER on Sunday, June 10. It reads as follows:

"Communist infiltration in the United States and Red revolutionary militancy throughout the Western Hemisphere will establish its citadel of propaganda and action in Hollywood.

"The campaign already is under way with an immediate program supporting continued Lend Lease to Russia, now that her war in Europe is over, strengthening ties with the White House and indoctrinating service men and returning veterans and the Marxist viewpoint.

"Carefully blueprinted in New York City by Earl Browder and other American-Soviets, the program was revealed recently before 200 Hollywood and Los Angeles Communist sympathizers, many of whom occupy high places in the motion picture industry here.

Stake in China

"Those who attended were told by Joseph Foster, Hollywood film critic for a Red weekly, that 'at the right time' Russia would enter the war against Japan, 'but not out of altruism.'

"'The Soviet Union has a big stake in the Pacific--more so in China,' he explained, 'and the Soviet Union will be in there to dictate the peace.'

"It had earlier been explained to the audience that part of this plan was to induce President Truman to aid in the rupture of United States relations with 'the China of Chiang Kai-shek.'

"'A continued strong, reactionary government under the leadership of Chiang Kai-shek is opposed to our policy of ultimately Sovietizing all of Asia," the speaker added.

"'We are strong in North China now. We must exert our power throughout that nation,' Foster declared.

Other Speakers

"Spokesman for the party leaders in the East was Bruce Minton, associate editor of NEW MASSES, a Communist weekly that is nationally distributed and who, with his wife, Ruth McKinney, a writer for the same magazine, is one of the Marxist doctrine's most fiery advocates.

"Berating Secretary of State Stettinius, United States Senator Vandenberg and other members of the American delegation to the San Francisco Security Conference as 'betrayers of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's great dream of a permanent alliance with Soviet Russia,' Minton told his audience:

"'Our salvation rests upon a close tie with Truman and the support of all members of our armed forces. We must infiltrate the ranks of these service men--the veterans returning from the wars and the GIs yet to be called into action,' Minton told his listeners. 'The thousands of pretty young girls in our Communist Youth Movement must volunteer as hostesses in U. S. O. canteen, churches, social groups--wherever these soldiers, sailors and marines seek recreation and are prone to a persuasive voice.'

"'When President Truman assumed the high office vacated by F.D.R. almost two months ago, members of our group all over the world looked upon this act of Fate with grim foreboding, for we saw the Yalta Conference and all it promised for Russia totally crumble,' he added.

"'But events in the past few weeks have taken a turn for the better. The way looks promising and our outlook again is hopeful. Truman's actions in delegating former Ambassador to Russia, Joseph E. Davies, to represent us at the Court of St. James, and his selection of Harry Hopkins as a special emissary to the Soviet Union, promise great things. These men, throughout F.D.R.'s 12 years in the White House, unquestioningly supported the New Deal in spite of everything and everyone.

"'Through our actions, Truman can be won over. We can once again hope for closer and firmer ties with the White House.'

"William Gropper, NEW MASSES cartoonist, in whose honor the meeting in the Sorene Cartoonists' Auditorium in Hollywood was held, later told the 200 well-groomed members of the audience--known to party members as 'parlor pinks,'--that his magazine had sponsored a 'round robin letter,' signed by thousands of Communist sympathizers and members all over the Nation, petitioning Truman to continue Lend Lease to Russia indefinitely, despite the fact that the Soviets have 'temporarily put down their arms.'

"'Nothing must be done by any of us to arouse the people of this country to protest against a continuance of Lend Lease to the Soviet Union,' he continued.

I came to Los Angeles from San Francisco where for three weeks I personally observed the United Nations Conference. Members of my staff were there before I arrived and are still there observing the activities of the official representatives of 46 nations, perhaps it is now 48. I observed that Conference as the spokesman for 21 Nationalist organizations and in behalf of six members of the United States Senate and seventeen members of the Lower House of Congress. I am making reports on my findings to between 80 and 100 periodicals.

Any good citizen favors meeting his neighbors around the Conference table to find ways and means for amicable solutions for national and international problems.

Those of us who believe in a Christian nation and are known as Christian Nationalists are alert to the San Francisco Conference because we oppose a Super State; we oppose sharing our sovereignty with any other nation on earth. We must under no circumstances delegate any of our governmental authority to anybody outside of the United States. The trick of the international politician in designing the Dumbarton Oaks Plan was to create a situation where a super governmental body could draw on our blood and our money without the direct consent of our Congress. This must never be. As long as there is blood in my veins and pulse in my wrist, I shall fight any attempt made by any politicians, anywhere, to share our sovereignty with savage Russia or the empires of the East and West. The destiny of our nation must move back into the hands of our people, rather than into the hands of the international financiers, who would exploit our blood and money at will for their own interests.

A Super State with a flag above our Flag, a constitution above our Constitution

and a congress above our Congress would make us a subject part of a World Organization, a majority of whose citizens are un-Christian, non-Christian and anti-Christian.

America is at the crossroads where she must decide between a destiny determined by her own people who love the word of God and a destiny determined by alien peoples who are un-Christian and anti-Christian. We must decide between atheistic Communism and Christian Americanism. The decision will be made by you and millions like you. I have the deep conviction, and to this Cause have I dedicated my life, that we will follow the Cross and the Flag, and in doing so, we shall preserve and safeguard America.

GERALD L. K. SMITH /s/

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EX-66

Assistant Attorney General Theron L. Caudle
Criminal Division

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bu

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with al
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

Enclosed for your furth
a copy of the investigative repo
[redacted] dated July 25, 1945, at

Mr. Tolson
Mr. L. A. Tam
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mr. Gandy

Enclosure

MAIL ROOM
AUG 22 1945

bc

62-43818-761

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/21/57

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PART 18 OF 18

FILE NUMBER : 62-43818

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 46

PAGES REVIEWED: 81

PAGES RELEASED: 51

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: Director, FBI

DATE: September 11, 1943

FROM: SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION
(62-43818)

[redacted] b7D

The Cleveland Field Division is requested to cover this meeting by appropriate informant. It is deemed advisable to have this meeting covered by an informant rather than by Bureau personnel.

[redacted] b7D

62-1126
cc: Cleveland

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DATE 10/13/82 BY SP-8BTJ

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☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-771

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FBI/DOJ

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: September 7, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION
(Bureau file 62-43818)

[redacted] b7d

[redacted]

This information is furnished to the Bureau for informational purposes only. However, the Buffalo Field Division and the Cleveland Field Division are requested to endeavor to cover these meetings by appropriate Informants.

[redacted] b7c

62-1126
cc: Buffalo
cc: Cleveland

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/82 BY

RECORDED & INDEXED
15

62-43818-772
I

SEP 13 1945

EX-10

FIVE

60 SEP 24 1945

4-750 (2-7-79)

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[ ] For your information: _____

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FBI/DOJ

EPB:aop

Assistant Attorney General T. L. Caudle
Criminal Division

September 12, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, was
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/13/82 BY

Reference is made to the investigative reports and materials made available to the Criminal Division in the above captioned matter.

Will you kindly examine these reports and materials and advise me whether you desire the Bureau to continue to follow Smith's activities for the purpose of developing a Federal violation.

RECORDED 62-43818-774

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 17 1945
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CONNECTIONS SECTION
FILED 15
13 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL INVESTIGATION

FX-25

52 SEP 21 1945

EPB

4-750 (2-7-79)

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☐ For your information: _____

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☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-775

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FBI/DOJ

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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- [ ] Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.
- ____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.
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FBI/D

4-750 (2-7-79)

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☐ For your information: _____

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62-43818-778

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FBI/DOJ

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation DATE: September 20, 1945

FROM : Theron L. Caudle, Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division TLC:NTE:1

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was 146-28-43
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

Reference is made to your memorandum dated September 12, 1945, in the above case.

The Criminal Division does not request any further investigation for the purpose of developing a sedition violation on the part of this subject. However, it is requested that you continue to furnish the Criminal Division with any information which comes to your attention concerning Smith's activities.

RECORDED

162-43818
I

EX-27

15 SEP 24 1945

See Detroit
10-11-45
epk Crosby

EPB:RMB

62-43818 -779

SAC, Detroit

October 11, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

EX 58

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;
SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

Reference is made to the investigative reports and materials submitted by your office and the other offices receiving copies of this letter in the above-captioned matter.

You are at this time advised that the Criminal Division of the Department, which has received all the reports and materials submitted in this case, recently corresponded with the Bureau, advising that no further investigation was being requested for the purpose of developing a sedition violation of the subject. However, it was requested that the Bureau continue to furnish the Criminal Division with any information it might receive concerning Smith's activities.

In view of the Criminal Division's expression of opinion, it is not desired that an active investigation be continued on the subject. However, you should continue to furnish the Bureau with any information you may receive relative to his activities.

cc-San Francisco
Los Angeles

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/15/82 BY SP-PBT/mcr

OCT 17 11 27 AM '45
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
BUILDING

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

1 1945

NOV 2 1945

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 19 1945

TELETYPE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/82 BY SP8B/Jal

Mr Tolson
Mr E A Tamm
Mr Clegg
Mr Coffey
Mr Glavin
Mr Lardner
Mr Nichols
Mr Rosen
Mr Tracy
Mr Carson
Mr Egan
Mr Gurnea
Mr Hendon
Mr Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

9-07PM

18

WASH FROM LOSA W2

DIRECTOR ROUTINE

LIKE. AMERICA FIRST PARTY, INTERNAL SECURITY - G. SEDITION. REF
BUREAU TELETYPE DATED SEPT. EIGHTEEN, FORTY FIVE AND REPORT OF SA
[redacted] DATED AUG. THIRTY, FORTY FIVE, LA. NO INFORMATION
SET [redacted] OFF BY PARENTHESIS ON PAGES TEN TO FIFTEEN ON REF REPORT
HOWEVER, THIS INFORMATION WAS FURNISHED BY [redacted] AS IS
REFLECTED IN LAST SENTENCE ON PAGE NINE [redacted]. INFORMATION [redacted]
PARAGRAPH PAGE THIRTY ONE WAS OBTAINED THROUGH A CHECK OF THE LA
FIELD OFFICE INDICES.

b9c

b2D

RECORDED & INDEXED 162-43818-780

30 SEP 21 1945

HOOD [redacted]

PLS ACK ALL MSG.

STOP

FIVE P

EPB:RMB
62-43818

ROUTINE
SEPTEMBER 18, 1945

62-43818-780

SAC, LOS ANGELES

RECORDED

AMERICA FIRST PARTY; INTERNAL SECURITY - C; SEDITION. REFERENCE REPORT SA [redacted] DATED AUGUST THIRTY, NINETEEN FORTY-FIVE, LOS ANGELES. ADVISE WHETHER INFORMATION SET OFF BY PARENTHESIS ON PAGES TEN TO FIFTEEN WAS FURNISHED BY INFORMANT OR BY REPORTING AGENT. ALSO ADVISE WHETHER INFORMANT OR REPORTING AGENT FURNISHED INFORMATION IN LAST PARAGRAPH PAGE THIRTY-ONE.

b7c

HOOVER

CC-Detroit

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
SEP 18 1945
TELEMETER

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Nease
Jancy
Brought

12-20 p cc

51 OCT 4 1945

EPB

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: September 26, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

[redacted]

b7c

The Chicago, St. Paul, St. Louis, Kansas City, Denver and Salt Lake City Offices are requested to endeavor to cover their respective meetings by informant coverage only.

The Los Angeles Field Division will endeavor to obtain coverage of SMITH's activities while on the West Coast and keep the Bureau advised of any pertinent activities and developments on the part of SMITH.

[redacted]

b7

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
[redacted] HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/82 BY SP [illegible]

RECORDED & INDEXED

EX-[illegible]

162-43812-781

F H I

62-1126

cc - Chicago
- St. Paul
- St. Louis
- Kansas City
- Denver
- Salt Lake City
- Los Angeles

(ALL COPIES AMSD)

36 SEP 28 1945

b7c

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
September 5, 1945

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/08/82 BY SP-8BTJ/MC

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is set forth below information obtained from [redacted] and [redacted] whose identities are known to the Bureau, from the period August 1, 1945 to August 31, 1945. b7D

[redacted] that SMITH was not going to move to California, but was merely setting up a "Regional Office" in Los Angeles. b7c, b7D

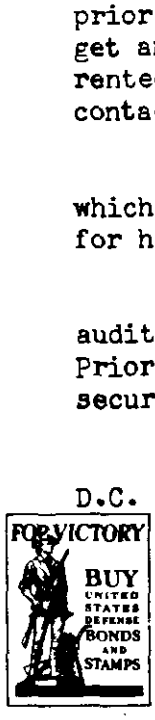
After SMITH'S return to Detroit from the west coast, he contacted [redacted] at Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts, and reiterated his experiences while on the coast. He also asked [redacted] advice as to the refusal of the management of the Detroit-Leland Hotel to allow him to speak. SMITH stated that he had a reservation, but it had been cancelled prior to the time the meeting was to be held. [redacted] told him that he could get an injunction against the hotel and compel them to use the room he had rented. It was subsequently ascertained that the management of the hotel contacted SMITH and permitted him to use the hall that he had rented. b7c

SMITH received a letter from Senator BILBO enclosing a letter which BILBO had written to WALTER WINCHELL, which letter criticized WINCHELL for his broadcast and described him as a "notorious, scandalizing kike."

Officials of the Internal Revenue Department are presently auditing SMITH'S books for the purpose of setting up Social Security records. Prior to this time SMITH had made no arrangements for deduction of social security from his employees pay.

EX-10 INDEXED 62-4[illegible]-78

SMITH has been in contact with RALPH BAERMAN of Washington, D.C. and FRED SPRINGER of Cleveland, Ohio, both of whom came to Detroit for the purpose of attending SMITH'S meeting held in the Jade Room of the Detroit-Leland Hotel, at which a reported five hundred people attended.



9-13-45 E.P. Brown suggests that this inf. continue pending legal advice concerning further action. [illegible]

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205 OCT 18 1964

SMITH was the only speaker at this meeting and gave a review of his activities while in Los Angeles and San Francisco.

At the present time SMITH is planning to hold a meeting in Celina, Ohio, and is endeavoring to obtain the fair grounds for his meeting. Temporary arrangements have been made to have the meeting on September 23, 1945.

The above information is all that was received from the above named informants for the above specified period.

For the purpose of evaluating the information that has been obtained from these informants, a review has been made of information received since January 1, 1945.

Reference is particularly made to letters from the Detroit Field Division to the Bureau dated January 9 and 26, 1945, February 10, 1945, March 2 and 17, 1945, April 7 and 23, 1945, May 8, 1945, June 4 and 30, 1945, and July 31, 1945, which letters comprise the justification of the services of these informants for the period from January 1, 1945, through July 31, 1945.

A review of these letters reflects that most of the information received from these informants is composed of contacts made by Subject SMITH with other known nationalist leaders in the United States. The information also concerns the future plans of SMITH which would include the time and place of his public meetings as well as his private meetings with individuals. The information so received forms rather a complete generalized picture of what is going on in SMITH'S office and of his local and out-state activities. However, it is noted that SMITH is reluctant to talk too freely and often fails to disclose the names of individuals and the time and place of his various meetings.

On April 21, 1945, SMITH left the Detroit Field Division for an extended trip on the west coast and did not return until August 1, 1945. During SMITH'S absence, very little information was received from these informants. It is evident that any information of value received from these informants is through Subject SMITH himself who makes all his own plans and important contacts.

Letter to the Director
September 5, 1945

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

[redacted]

b7D

In view of the information set forth above, the Bureau is requested to advise whether the services of [redacted], and [redacted] should be continued.

b7D

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. Guerin
Special Agent in Charge

ODS:CLH
62-1126

A:TLB

RECORDED 62-43818-782

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

SAC, Detroit

September 21, 1945

EX-10

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
American First Party
INTERNAL SECURITY
SEDITION

Reference is made to your letter dated September 5, 1945, in the above captioned matter in which you requested the Bureau to advise whether the services of [redacted] should be continued. For your information, the Bureau has requested the Department to advise the Bureau as to whether further investigation is desired concerning Gerald L. K. Smith. Pending the Department's reply to the Bureau's inquiry these confidential informants should be continued.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/13/82 BY SP-8BTJ/ma

DECLASSIFIED BY 4913 BPW
ON 1-9-78

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

SEP 2 1945
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

NOV 2 1945

FBI

OCT 2 11 32 AM '82

RECEIVED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE No. 100-7945

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
LOS ANGELES	8/30/45	7/11,12,13,14, 16,18,19,20,23, 26,27,28; 8/4, 18/45	[redacted] 8532

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G; SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[redacted] on SMITH's meetings in Los Angeles at Ham and Eggs Hall, 1204 South Hill Street, 7/6 and 7/16/45, Embassy Auditorium on 7/17/45, and Shrine Auditorium 7/20/45. SMITH's activities caused violent reaction among numerous groups, many of which are identified as Communist front organizations. SMITH departed from Los Angeles 7/27/45 enroute to Detroit, Michigan, and all meetings in Western cities were canceled.

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] Los Angeles, California, July 25, 1945.

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/14/82 BY

DETAILS: AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

A letter from the Detroit Field Division to the Bureau dated June 28, 1945, a copy of which was received by this office, reflected that on June 27, 1945, [redacted] The Los Angeles Field Division was requested to endeavor to verify the above information and advise the Bureau and the Detroit Field Division.

[redacted]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-43818-1783

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—37852-1

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295 OCT 22 1968

[redacted] 7

b7D

[redacted] furnished this office with the following information:

A meeting was held at the "Ham and Eggs Hall", 1204 South Hill Street, Los Angeles, on Friday evening, July 6, 1945, at which Mr. GERALD L. K. SMITH was the speaker.

The meeting was opened by the singing of two verses of "America", the pledge of allegiance to the American flag, and a prayer by a Reverend Mr. GILLESPIE. SMITH talked in his usual rambling fashion, jumping from one subject to another and tying them together only by referring to the various things as being machinations of the "enemy". He started off by saying that there is to be a meeting held next week, for which cards will be sent to those who have previously left their names with the organization. There was the usual air of secrecy about the location of this meeting, but he indicated that it is to be held in the open air, and hinted that it might be the Hollywood Bowl.

SMITH predicted that there will be one million unemployed on the Pacific Coast after the war, and stated that this would be due to the desire of the international bankers, who are anxious to have California, particularly, become a center of unemployment, so that the Communists can have a fertile field in which to work. He stated that eight million workers fully employed could supply all the needs of the United States at peace. He based this on the fact that at the time of the capitulation of Germany four million people in the German factories were taking care of all civilian needs.

SMITH referred to the newspaper reports of the expected investigation by the Rankin Committee of a Communist plot centering in Hollywood. He approved very highly of the investigation, and had had prepared petitions which he had passed around through the audience for the purpose of obtaining names, to send in to Congressman RANKIN through the America First Committee.

SMITH told of an incident, which he claimed to have been verified, occurring in France since the defeat of Germany, wherein French Communist officers had clothed 15,000 Sengalese soldiers in American uniforms and then taken captive 5,000 German girls and had permitted the colored soldiers to have their will with these girls for several days in the subways of Paris.

62-43818-783

He also mentioned a Mr. McGINLEY, who he claims is not an American citizen and who had been invited to speak at the Church of the Open Door. McGINLEY is supposed to have said that he would rather see America under JOE STALIN than he would under GERALD SMITH. McGINLEY had left town prior to the date of this meeting, but SMITH claimed that Reverend LOUIS TALBOT, of the Church of the Open Door, had apologized for McGINLEY's words.

SMITH referred to the ceremonies at Hollywood Bowl on July 4, which were referred to as the "Interdependence Day Program". He stated that he had attended this meeting, and that fully ninety-eight per cent of those in attendance were Jews. In passing, SMITH said that he is one of those who believe that an American child should be allowed to shoot off firecrackers on the Fourth of July and that he did not approve of this thing of having fireworks only for public display. This remark did not receive much response from the audience, and SMITH therefore hastily went on to something else.

He stated that in the matter of organization there are some twelve to fifteen groups already organized in furtherance of the America First program, although the name America First or the name GERLAD L. K. SMITH has not appeared in the organization plan. He stated that any group that would care to organize in furtherance of the program of America First would receive their support although the America First name would not need to appear in it.

SMITH stated that among other items, there have been sent to Russia some ten thousand bombers which have never been used against any of our enemies, and the inference was that Russia is holding them in reserve to use against us. He also stated that the products which we had sent to Russia under lend-lease should be now returned as Russia is not in any way assisting us in our present war effort.

Reference was also made to a printed letter from G. ALLISON PHELPS, and copies of this letter were handed out to members of the audience as they left the auditorium.

After taking of the collection, and the recitation of the Lord's Prayer by the audience, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 P.M.

There were approximately five hundred persons present, only one of whom was noted to be a Negro, and none were seen in military or naval uniforms.

[redacted] bulletin which was distributed in Los Angeles by GERALD L. K. SMITH:

b7D

"The pot is really boiling. The enemies of Christian Americanism are becoming desperate. They are resorting to character assassination, underground methods, and cold-blooded threats.

"The enemy knows that if we hold this big dynamic sensational Shrine Auditorium Rally that it will be too late to checkmate this crusade.

"The word is spreading like a prairie fire. Thousands of people want to attend this rally, but do not know where to get the cards. I am sending you an extra quantity, which can be distributed as follows: (1) Church; (2) Work; (3) Labor meetings; (4) Clubs.

"Warning! Do not give these cards out on the street. Do not distribute them loosely among strangers. Make sure they are handed out to self-respecting Christian Americans who believe in decent things.

"The enclosed cards will have no value in your home or in your pocket. Make sure they are wisely distributed.

"Sensational developments are taking place. Some announcements will be made at the great Shrine Rally which will create news for every newspaper in America.

"Use your telephone. Talk the meeting. Spread the word. The newspapers have conspired to be silent because many of their masters are opposed to this crusade. Because of this, it is important that we exercise without restraint the grapevine method of broadcasting the truth by word of mouth.

G. L. K. S.

"Reminder: Don't forget the special Closed Meeting for those who are anxious to help extend this crusade, which is being held Monday night, July 16 at 1204 S. Hill St., Los Angeles - 8 p.m."

b7c
b7D

[redacted] of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office telephonically advised this office on July 16, 1945 that he had received a letter addressed to the Sheriff's Office, Police Department, and District Attorney's Office by LAWRENCE W. ALLEN, attorney for SMITH. This letter pointed out that SMITH is to conduct three meetings in Los Angeles as follows:

1204 South Hill Street, July 16, 1945
Embassy Auditorium, 803 South Grand Avenue, July 17, 1945
Shrine Auditorium, July 20, 1945

He stated the letter pointed out that for the past several meetings there has been considerable trouble with various groups trying to interrupt the meetings and that it was anticipated that there will be trouble at these three meetings. He advised the letter quotes a write-up from a local Jewish paper which calls on Hollywood and all sympathizers with minority groups to send twelve thousand pickets to the Shrine Auditorium July 20, 1945, to stop SMITH. [redacted] stated that at 2:00 P.M. on July 16, 1945 a group of colored prople representing the NAACP called on District Attorney FRED HOWSER and objected to SMITH's appearances. b7c

[redacted] furnished this office with the following information: b7D

One investigator from this office attended a special meeting at the "Ham and Eggs" Headquarters, 1204 South Hill Street, Los Angeles, July 16, 1945. This meeting was called by GERALD SMITH, and was opened by him at 8:00 P.M.

As in all of SMITH's preceding meetings, he went over the Jewish and Communist hate propaganda brought against him and his followers since his last meeting. SMITH took up most of the meeting time reading a photostatic copy of an article from the "Jewish Voice" newspaper, the office of which is located at 406 South Main Street, Los Angeles. The article was written by one SAMUEL B. GACH and is entitled "City Councilman Lifts Hind Leg for 'Polecat' SMITH". The brief of this article was the calling of GERALD SMITH and Councilman MEADE McCLANAHAN Fascists and spiritual polecats and attempting to gather a large number of people to picket the Shrine Auditorium on Friday night, July 20, 1945, in an attempt to keep SMITH from holding his meeting, claiming a number of HOLLYWOOD personalities would be present for the picket line to demonstrate on the outside while the No. 1 Nazi-American GERALD L. K. SMITH was holding his seditionist discourse on the inside--action on the outside of the Shrine Auditorium to smother what goes on inside on Friday night, July 20, 1945.

SMITH made several comments on these remarks, principally that it was getting to be a fine Christian America when we stand for a bunch of money changing Communist rats' using such tactics to suppress Christian people from keeping America a Christian nation.

The speaker brought forth the fact that the Jewish people donate huge sums of money to sustain a Gestapo office, known as the Anti-Defamation League

of B'nai B'rith, its purpose being that if any person is heard to say anything against a Jew it is reported to their office and his name indexed in a file, and if this same person is reported again action is then taken to report him to the Police Department or Sheriff's Office for one reason or another. If this does not keep this person still, the organization then works through this person's employer to secure termination of his services in whatever job he is holding. This information created quite a demonstration among the audience.

SMITH then went into detail explaining his offer by letter to Mr. EARL C. CRAIG, Chairman of the Public Affairs Forum, to meet any comers for a debate to determine his Americanism, which debate is to be held at the Embassy Auditorium, Ninth and Grand, on Tuesday night, July 17, 1945. This meeting will be covered by our office.

The speaker then talked about the big rally he was holding on Friday night, July 20, 1945, at the Shrine Auditorium, stating that as before every effort was being made to stop this meeting, the Communist "rats" even going so far as to make plans to hold a Communist meeting at the Olympic Auditorium on the same night and bring down from the North the Communist-lover Attorney General ROBERT KENNY to act as the principal speaker, also getting WINCHELL to broadcast an announcement of the meeting on his program on Sunday, July 15, 1945. SMITH said that as one can see, every door is open to these Communist "rats" but most every door for the Christians is forced shut due to pressure. However, SMITH said not to get the idea that everyone agrees with these rats, as he (SMITH) has ears in homes, factories, offices, and police departments all over the country and knows what these rats are planning even before the plans are completed. He said we should fill the Shrine on Friday night--walk right through these rats and their lines and show them there are still Christian people in this country who dare them to try and change the right way of life. He stated there will be a great number of police on duty, so no one will attempt to use any force on anyone.

SMITH in closing his meeting brought out the expense incurred in holding the Shrine meeting would be $1300.00 for rent, help, etc., and also that it had cost him about $1,000.00 for his personal expenses during his month's stay in Los Angeles, consisting of hotel bill and meals, typists, etc., and he requested every person present to give as freely as possible to help defray the above expenses.

As a last minute note, SMITH praised Senator TENNEY for his fine work in flushing out the Communists and stated that some additional information uncovered by Senator TENNEY and in the records at Sacramento is the fact that

our own Attorney General ROBERT KENNY did make the statement that he would see thatall anti-Communist groups in California were made to hunt their holes, which shows which side of the fence he is on.

The speaker also requested every person to carry two chairs downstairs with him to the ground floor, so trucks could pick them up next day. The meeting closed at 9:55 P.M. with approximately 500 persons present. The usual types of people were in attendance as had been observed in previous meetings. No Service personnel were observed. The meeting was very orderly, with no disturbances. There were four Los Angeles policemen on duty at the entrance to the hall. Apparently SMITH is not planning on using this hall any further for the present. His future plans will be discussed at his meeting on Friday night at the Shrine Auditorium.

The following article appeared in the "Daily World" on July 16, 1945:

"Sharp opposition to GERALD L. K. SMITH's Fascist activities is developing among Los Angeles citizens.

"When SMITH holds his next meeting, scheduled for the Shrine Auditorium, Friday July 20, anti-Smith forces will be having a counter-rally at the next larger Olympic Auditorium.

"The commercial press of Los Angeles has blocked off the silver shirt fuehrer with an almost complete wall of silence. Small radical groups which picketed his meetings have merely elicited cries of 'kike' and 'Christ killer' from SMITH, who like a typical Nazi, dotes on any kind of publicity, good or bad.

"Serious elements in the community, however, believe that rising American fascism must be combated by other means than a wall of silence and a protest picket line. They believe that if SMITH is allowed to speak as a 'Christian nationalist,' they have the obligation to be heard as democratic Americans.

"Groups drawn from labor, religious and liberal organizations are backing the Friday anti-Smith rally which will be presided over by Assemblyman AL DEKKER. The meeting at the Olympic Auditorium has already been indorsed by the Hollywood Independent Citizen's Committee, the CIO Council Executive Board, the Beverly-Westwood Democratic Committee, the National Citizens Political Action Committee, the American Youth Congress, the Southland Jewish organization and the committees of correspondents.

"Other groups are expected to come in at a special meeting of the Committee against Fascist Organization in Los Angeles, and which will be held Tuesday night at the Royal Palms Hotel.

"Many genuinely anti-Fascist groups have been debating the free speech issue as applied to the American Fascists. All are agreed, however, on a hard-hitting mass answer to the man whose Jew-baiting and Democracy-baiting stems from undefeated Hitlerism.

"URGENT!

"Tuesday, 8 p.m., July 17, Royal Palms Hotel, 360 South Westlake Avenue.

"It is urgent that all organizations send at least three representatives and all interested individuals to attend this meeting in order to coordinate Los Angeles' fight against GERALD L. K. SMITH. Plans will be completed for an Olympic Auditorium mass rally against Fascist organization in Los Angeles to be held Friday night, July 20.

"Emergency committee headquarters, room 1021, 458 South Spring street. Telephone: MI 9521."

The following article appeared in the Los Angeles "Daily News" on July 19, 1945:

"Democratic responsibility of wartime Los Angeles was underscored yesterday in a call by California Atty. Gen. ROBERT W. KENNY for a huge community mobilization in the Olympic Auditorium tomorrow night.

"KENNY said he would chair the meeting on behalf of several hundred civic, religious, labor and other groups which are cooperating in the rally with the Council for Civic Unity.

"Said the attorney general: 'You can almost see the pattern of community strife developing. California, with its enormous wartime industrial growth, has become one of the great danger spots in the country.'

"Citing that industrial dislocation caused by the war inevitably attracts to the community 'the political patent medicine men', KENNY

said the Olympic meeting will be an initial step in developing a broad, positive program for continuing democracy.

"He announced that support of the program has been voiced by both democratic and republican leaders, by united organized labor, by Hollywood and business leaders, religious and patriotic organizations.

"As a symbol of the 'dangerous doctrines' which create racial and class disunity and weaken the community, KENNY cited the local campaign of GERALD L. K. SMITH, ex-associate of HUEY LONG and Silver Shirt leader WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY, now in federal prison.

"SMITH is holding forth, with the support of Councilman MEADE McCLANAHAN, in a meeting at the Shrine auditorium on the night of the democratic rally in the Olympic.

"Mayor FLETCHER BOWRON has endorsed the democratic meeting, which opens at 8 p.m., and will send a speaker; a number of councilmen, supervisors, assemblymen and judges will attend also.

"KENNY's point that Los Angeles is a postwar danger spot was echoed yesterday by publisher MARSHALL FIELD III, member of the board of directors of the American Council on Race Relations.

"FIELD told a conference of 50 religious and minorities leaders that the Southland, like Chicago, must organize a 'coordinating group for effective action' of the entire community on behalf of democracy and unity and against racial and religious incitements."

On July 19, 1945, [redacted] telephonically contacted the Los Angeles Field Office and advised that he and a group of veterans from World War I were determined to stop GERALD L. K. SMITH from lecturing at the Shrine Auditorium. He stated they had talked to some "big shot", name unknown, at the Shrine Auditorium, who claimed to have checked GERALD L. K. SMITH's name with the F.B.I. and had been assured that he "had a clean bill of health". [redacted] declined to furnish any information about himself but said he had a large group of veterans with him and that he wondered why the F.B.I. had given an O.K. on SMITH. [redacted] was advised that no information was furnished from the files of the F.B.I. concerning SMITH and no approval or disapproval has been given.

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CONFIDENTIAL [redacted]

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This meeting was held in the auditorium of the Royal Palms Hotel and opened about 8:30 p.m. with about 200 people present (it seats around 300). Mr. ALBERT DEKKER, well-known actor and new California State Assemblyman, was on the platform as Chairman with Mr. GEORGE STILLER in charge of publicity.

Mr. DEKKER said this meeting tonight was to organize a Committee to fill the Olympic Auditorium to overflowing in protest against GERALD L. K. SMITH and he would like at least 12,000 people to be there. He then introduced Mr. G. RAYMOND BOOTH of the Council for Civic Unity.

Mr. G. RAYMOND BOOTH of the Council for Civic Unity of Los Angeles, who is described as white, American, about 55, 5' 10", 180 lbs, wears glasses, slightly bald headed, talked briefly. He asked the audience to help them in securing people to attend the Olympic mass meeting in their fight on Fascism.

The Chairman then read from a little paper, "IN FACT", (small four page national weekly which has followed the Communist Party propaganda line); this was supposed to be a reprint of a War Department instruction sheet on combating discrimination.

At 9:45 p.m. Mr. GEORGE STILLER of George Stiller & Associates, Room 1021, 458 South Spring Street, which raises funds for various Jewish groups in Los Angeles, made his talk. He resides at 167 North Mansfield Avenue and is described as typically Jewish, about 40, 5' 3", stocky build, around 160 pounds, smooth shaven, rather dark complexion. He explained what they have been doing and plan to do to combat SMITH and Fascism. He said that for weeks we have been worrying about what SMITH was going to do next and what we will do. He said he had decided to rent the Olympic Auditorium and he had paid the rent out of his own pocket and also paid the rent for this hall tonight. He said he is the head of the group in charge of filling the Olympic. He pointed out he is not a speaker but a publicity man. He said they had contacted the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee, the CIO Executive Board, and that last Sunday he had held a meeting in his home with CAREY McWILLIAMS as chairman. He said that tomorrow morning (Wednesday, July 18) there will be a newspaper press conference at the Ambassador Hotel with Attorney General BOB KENNY as Chairman; that they had sent out 100 telegrams to different newspapers, etc., asking them to have representatives present and that they would discuss plans to fill the Olympic Friday night. He said at the Olympic they would have on the platform seven city councilmen, also MICHAEL FANNING, the new Los Angeles Postmaster, and a Dr. (sounded like CAREON); may be Dr. CAMILO SERVINE of the Mexican Affairs Committee.

Mr. STILLER outlined among the things they needed was first communication and organization; he said they were organizing telephone

committees to call different people in the areas with the aim of distributing 50,000 copies of a circular they are getting out against GERALD L. K. SMITH and Fascism. He also said the A.Y.D. (American Youth for Democracy, successor organization to the Young Communist League) is to distribute at Hollywood Bowl, Thursday night, July 19, 10,000 of these circulars.

Then Mr. DEKKER asked for suggestions from the audience as to the best way of filling the Olympic and as to how best to eliminate GERALD SMITH and all the Fascists of SMITH's type there are or will be after him. He said he would recognize speakers from the audience for this purpose. Among those who responded were:

A Mr. GELHOUSING (?) who said he was with the Beverly-Westwood Democratic Committee. He said they had covered their area by telephone with good results and had collected considerable money to help defray expenses. He is a man about 55, tall, and wears glasses.

Then EMIL FREED (well-known Los Angeles Communist) who said he was from Local 311 of the International Machinists Union, A.F.L., described as Jewish, stocky build, about 37 years old, made a suggestion which the observer did not clearly understand.

Then LEE RABBITT who said he was of the American Veterans Committee, (a new organization which receives favorable publicity in the Communist press from time to time), said his Committee is in the fight against Fascism and they would do whatever they could to help out.

A Gentile woman who said she is a minority leader of the League of Women Voters, said her group met recently and voted to support this Committee in their plan to fill the Olympic. She said she had contacted the YWCA group but they have not yet decided whether to support this movement or not, but were to give her an answer on Wednesday. She expressed the belief the YWCA would support this Committee. Before she talked she said the head of the League of Women Voters, a Mrs. McMANNIS, was supposed to be here and talk. She called out her name but got no response, and then went ahead and made her short talk. This woman is white, American, about 50, 5' 4", 130 lbs, wears glasses, neat appearance, a good talker.

Then a man, name unknown, who said he was from the Free Italy Society (small local group of Italians or Italian-Americans which receives much favorable publicity in the Communist press), made his talk. He is described as

around 35, 5' 5", 140 lbs, Italian or Jewish appearance, and talked with an accent. He said they should go after SMITH and smash him now and not adopt a passive plan or just ignore him or laugh him off as a crackpot, because, he said, the Italians had made that same mistake with MUSSOLINI when he first appeared on the scene and they had lived to see him ruin Italy. He warned not to treat GERALD SMITH the same way.

A Jewish man, who said he works for the Douglas Company, described as swarthy, about 35, long nose, sharp featured, narrow face, about 5' 6", 130 lbs., the aggressive type, said he favored getting the Olympic meeting over as quickly as possible on Friday night before SMITH's meeting at the Shrine is over and then for them all to rush to the Shrine and completely ring it with pickets and protests. At least half the audience appeared to be against this plan of action and there were shouts of "no, no!" The lady from the League of Women Voters was very much against his plan.

THOMAS RANFORD, who said he is with the Los Angeles Central Labor Council, A.F.L., made a brief talk. He said he is against any action such as a mass picket line of the Shrine. He said they must conduct themselves in an orderly manner, and that they must recognize the right of free speech and free assemblage and the right to organize for their enemies as well as for themselves. About half the audience seemed to agree with his suggestions.

MYRA TANNER WEISS (local leader of the Socialist Workers Party, Trotskyite. She was a candidate for Mayor at the April primaries) spoke. She said she was in a Trotskyite group and that she was speaking for same. She said they have had many disagreements with this group but we are willing to forget all our disagreements for the time being and organize in a united front to combat GERALD SMITH and Fascism. She said her organization will abide by the decision of this committee in whatever plan they decide upon, but she thought the idea of going en mass to the Shrine Auditorium was the proper one. (NOTE: The Social Workers Party had a meeting at Embassy Auditorium Friday night July 6, 1945 regarding the best way of combatting SMITH's influence at which Mrs. WEISS talked at length and at that time she criticized the Workers Party, another small Trotskyite group in Los Angeles, for having picketed SMITH's meeting and saying that was really advertising him instead of hurting him).

WILLIAM (BILL) BIDNER of the CIO (appointed new Southern California War Relief Director for the CIO last year), is described as Jewish, about 35, 5' 10", 145 pounds. He said that while he wanted to get rid of SMITH, he wanted it done by using all legal means. He said there must be many legal angles the Committee would know of to run SMITH out.

AL DODGE, who said he represented the 54th A. D. Democratic Club, said his group had passed a resolution to run SMITH out of town.

EDWARD J. DAVENPORT, new councilman for the 12th District, arose and he was invited to the platform where he spoke. He said he wanted this program to be orderly and legal, and that he wished to be counted among the group to get rid of SMITH and fight Fascism but that he believed in the laws of the land and that everything must be orderly and legal and we must recognize SMITH's right to free speech and assembly and his right to organize. As an example of that he said he had served on the Committee to put SAM BALTER back on the air after he had been taken off, so, he said, he couldn't now do an about face and deprive another man of his rights. He said he wanted the protest to be legal and orderly. Get the job done, get the crowd out and show SMITH up by putting on bigger and better demonstrations. He said, "Make no mistake about this man SMITH. He has what it takes and he is formidable, so we must not under estimate him because he is just what his people want. You cannot ignore him. We must get all groups and organizations in the city and let them know what is going on and help eliminate SMITH." Mr. DAVENPORT then mentioned the Chamber of Commerce and said it really was a business union to foster trade and help Los Angeles. He said the Merchants and Manufacturers Association was a powerful group and is really a business union to further its aims and protect its members. He said this Committee should organize in the same way to fight SMITH and Fascism.

The next speaker from the floor was Reverend ERNEST CALDECOTT of the First Unitarian Church. He said he was for this program to fill the Olympic Auditorium and have SMITH leave town, but he wanted to do everything by legal and fair means. He said SMITH was entitled to freedom of speech and the right to assemble and organize, and the only way to defeat him was by getting larger crowds and a better organization and show that the majority are against SMITH.

The next speaker from the floor was Attorney LEO GALLAGHER (Nationally famous Communist defense attorney), who said in substance about the same as the preceding speaker ERNEST CALDECOTT, that he believed in freedom of speech, etc.

At 9:50 P.M. Mr. GEORGE STILLER resumed the speaker's stand and made some announcements, such as that BOB KENNY would be Chairman of the Press Conference at the Ambassador tomorrow morning. He said KENNY had planned to go to San Francisco then, but was staying over just to be at this press conference. He said that he would not take up time tonight to discuss money, but for them to have their money and friends ready for a big collection at the Olympic on Friday night. He said so far the obligations were $3,500.00; that the only cash put out so far was the rent for these two auditoriums and some printing.

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At 10:00 P.M. Mr. HY KRAFT (a screen writer [redacted]), who is described as Jewish, about 43 years old, 5' 7", 150 pounds, long nose, prominent ears, arose and announced from the platform the program for Friday night. He said among the speakers would be ALBERT DEKKER and that the main speaker would be a prominent motion picture actor who would talk along the lines of comparing HITLER and GERALD SMITH. He said this meeting will be in a prize ring and he is sure SMITH will be knocked out. He said he could not announce this actor's name as he did not know it as yet.

The next speaker from the floor was KENNETH VEIT (?) who is from a CIO organization. He said they would have four sound trucks going around the city to advertise the Olympic mass meeting; that they had already put out 10,000 of the leaflets and expect to distribute another 50,000.

The next speaker was ex-Congressman THOMAS FORD who said we must fight this Fascist GERALD SMITH, but it must be in an orderly manner by getting the majority of the people against him and form a large organization and crowd SMITH out.

b7c

EMILY NORTON ([redacted]), who is described as Jewish, about 35 years old, expressed her willingness to help the Committee to eliminate SMITH from Los Angeles.

Next was a person whose name sounded like ABRAHAM CHESLER (?). He said he represented the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. (NOTE: This is a group of men who fought against FRANCO in Spain during the Spanish Civil War, 1936-1939, and was recruited in the United States by the Communists). He is described as about 37 years old, Jewish, 5' 9", dark hair. He said the Abraham Lincoln Brigade of Spanish War Veterans had fought against FRANCO in Spain and that they had in their possession a Nazi flag which had been presented to them in recognition of their being the first organization to fight Fascism. He said this gift came from a flyer who had participated in fifty missions over Germany. He said he was sure his organization would back him in using this flag at the Olympic mass meeting to help further the program in any way the Committee thought best. There were suggestions from ALBERT DEKKER and others that it might be best to spread this captured Nazi flag out at the meeting and have donations thrown on same to help fight Fascism.

Then ALBERT DEKKER read the names of the Committee as follows:

ROBERT KENNY
GEORGE STILLER
W. J. BASSETT of AFL
FRANCIS SCULLY
MARC CONNELLY
J. RAYMOND BOOTH

ANNA POLLACK
ELEANOR ROWITZ ([redacted] b7c
LEONARD J. GRIFFITH
CAREY McWILLIAMS
LEO GALLAN (whose name was added to the list on motion from the floor and was approved by the audience)

The last speaker was a Negro, who was either from Paris or his name sounded like Paris. He is described as real black skin, about 40 years old, 5' 9", 140 pounds, neatly dressed, and spoke with a French accent. He spoke from the floor and wanted to know what was the intention of this Committee after SMITH was ousted. Mr. DEKKER said that one of the things was that it would be a permanent F.E.P.C. (Fair Employment Practice Committee). This man then expressed his thanks for that and said he had intended to propose it be a permanent committee to fight discrimination and Fascism. This man appeared to be well educated and intelligent and seemed to be known to other people in the audience and his statements were listened to with respect.

The meeting ended at around 10:45 P.M.

[redacted] advised that GERALD L. K. SMITH is planning to leave Los Angeles approximately three days after his meeting at the Shrine Auditorium on July 20, 1945. He stated that SMITH plans to make a tour of the East for a period of six weeks for the purpose of raising money from anti-Smith interests, namely, Ford and other groups. [redacted] that while SMITH is on this tour the "Ham and Eggs" are booking him in twenty California cities and are planning a state-wide campaign on his return, which according to his present plans, will be about the middle of September. b7D

[redacted] advised that the CIO Ship Builders Union voted to picket the SMITH meeting on July 20, 1945. However, PAT FINLEY and BILL SMITH of the Executive Committee advised they would fight the appropriation of any money for the picketing. [redacted] therefore, if the Union fails to appropriate any money through the Executive Committee the picketing will be impossible.

[redacted] related that EARL C. CRAIG, Chairman of the Public Affairs Forum, which meets each Tuesday at 7:30 P.M. at the Embassy Auditorium, has arranged a debate concerning SMITH. The debate was to be held Tuesday night, July 17, 1945 at the Embassy Auditorium and was to have been between JONATHAN PERKINS and LEO GALLAGHER but by trickery or else secret pre-arrangement, SMITH is being substituted for PERKINS and all anti-Smith groups are being notified.

LA 100-7945

[redacted] furnished this office with the following information:

A meeting was held at the Embassy Auditorium, Ninth and Grand, Tuesday night, July 17, 1945. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by EARL C. CRAIG, who stated he was Chairman of the Public Affairs Forum, that the meeting was being held under their auspices, and that Mr. GERALD L. K. SMITH was a guest of this organization and the principal speaker of the evening. The meeting was opened with pledge of allegiance to the American flag and the singing of the first and the last verses of "America" by the audience. Mrs. VIVIAN DORE then sang two songs, after which Mr. CRAIG introduced SMITH.

SMITH began his speech by stating that this meeting was to be in the nature of a debate and that he had invited members of the City Council, the Board of Supervisors, the Mayor, Attorney LEO GALLAGHER, CHARLIE CHAPLIN, Rabbi MAGNIN, EDWARD G. ROBINSON, AL WAXMAN, MAX SILVER, and several others to speak as opponents but they had all failed to appear. However, at the last moment he was able to secure JAMES C. McLEAN, Chairman of the Towne Forum, located at 541 Towne Avenue, Los Angeles, and JOHN G. HONEYCOMB, who is chairman of an organization here in Los Angeles to restore the Republic of Spain.

Mr. SMITH then stated that they first wanted to take up a collection in order to secure the money for rent and other expenses incurred for the evening's meeting.

He said that the opposition, which he classed as the Russians from Hollywood, Communist and Jewish organizations, were going to hold a large meeting at the Olympic Auditorium on Friday night, July 20, which was to be quite an elaborate affair. It was said that State's Attorney General ROBERT KENNY was to preside at the meeting, that movie stars have been invited, and that the press was to be given a dinner preceding the meeting and everything was being done to make it a big success and draw the crowd from SMITH's meeting which is to be held at the Shrine Auditorium the same night.

Mr. McLEAN was introduced and compared SMITH to HITLER, stating that he was anti-Semitic and was trying to create race hatred, not only against the Jews but also among all classes of people. He also said that SMITH was a faker.

Mr. HONEYCOMB was given a few minutes to talk, and he tried to bring out SMITH's background, stating he was a member of the Pelley Silver Shirts, that both SMITH and his wife had membership cards in that organization, and that he was connected with HUEY LONG and tried to take LONG's place after his death

but was unable to do so, and later was a follower of Father COUGHLIN, also of Dr. TOWNSEND. He said that at the outbreak of the war SMITH joined an isolationist movement and attacked both lend-lease and President ROOSEVELT, also that he ran for United States Senator from Michigan, his platform being tires for everybody and free speech for COUGHLIN. HONEYCOMB stated that SMITH was unfrocked by the church and entered politics with HUEY LONG.

Mr. SMITH then took the floor again and attempted to deny the statements that the two speakers had made about him. He was able to clear himself to the satisfaction of the audience on each charge that they had made, although he did not give much of an explanation, for the majority of the audience was for him and it was not necessary for him to explain very much. The crowd was rather orderly although both his opponents made numerous derogatory statements about SMITH. Five police officers were present. They spent most of their time in the lobby of the auditorium. No one in uniform of the armed services was observed in the audience. The audience was composed mostly of elderly people, and from bits of conversation heard evidently most of them belong to the "Ham and Eggs" organization.

The meeting closed about 10:45 P.M.

The following article appeared in the "Daily World" on July 19, 1945:

"The people's ranks closed solidly today for a decisive all-out offensive to uproot Fascist organizations from Los Angeles.

"The offensive to be launched Friday night with a giant mass rally at the Olympic Auditorium, will deliver a body blow to GERALD L. K. SMITH, America Fascist leader, who had hoped to set up a permanent base in this war busy city.

"'Stop SMITH' strategy, worked out in complete detail at an emergency conference held at the Royal Palace Hotel Tuesday night, is based on the forces of organized labor joined by civic, religious, veterans, fraternal and women's groups and other community organizations.

"Present at the meeting were representatives of organizations with members numbering into the hundreds of thousands.

"Further plans will be set today at a special publicity luncheon called by Attorney General ROBERT KENNY, chairman of the rally.

"This will be followed later today by the meeting of the arrangements committee made up of KENNY, W. J. BASSETT, secretary of the AFL Central Labor Council; FRANK PELLET, chairman of the Railway Brotherhood's legislative council; PHILIP CONNELLY, secretary of the CIO Industrial Council; E. RAYMOND BOOTH, executive secretary of the Council for Civic Unity; THOMAS J. GRIFFITH, president of the NAACP; ELEANOR ABOWITZ of the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee; ANNA POLLACK, chairman of the women's division of the Jewish Community Council; CAREY McWILLIAMS of the National Citizens PAC; and LEO GALLAN, executive secretary of the Los Angeles Jewish Community Council.

"Other organizations co-sponsoring the Olympic rally include the American Veterans Committee, League of Women Voters, Hollywood Free World Association, Free Italy Society, Committee for Fair Play, Emergency Committee for KFI, Independent Voters of South Pasadena, Beverly-Westwood Democratic Club and scores of other democratic and non-partisan groups and AFL and CIO locals.

"Civic leaders and other individuals pledged to attend the rally and support its purposes, include: Councilmen J. WYNN AUSTIN, ED J. DAVENPORT, GEORGE P. CRONK, L. E. TIMBERLAKE, HAROLD HARDY, and PARLEY PARKER CHRISTENSON. Others unable to attend but endorsing the aims of the rally and pledged to send messages will be Mayor FLETCHER BOWRON, Supervisors JOHN ANSON FORD and ROGER JESSUP; JOHN BARCOMB, chairman of the Republican County Central Committee, and scores of other dignitaries."

[redacted]

There were approximately 3500 people at the Shrine Auditorium. The Reverend Claypool Wilson gave the invocation. WILLIS ALLEN conducted the meeting. There were about 35 or 40 people on the platform, including Dr. LOVELL, who was introduced to the audience.

ALLEN introduced MEADE McCLANAHAN as the first speaker. McCLANAHAN appeared very much upset. He said that the reason the auditorium was not filled to capacity and a crowd outside trying to get in was that the people who were running the meeting at the Olympic Auditorium had sabotaged the street cars, packing them with people riding back and forth, throwing the trolleys off, and in other ways causing delays in transportation. He said he would say nothing further in that regard, but would leave it to SMITH, who could speak more forcibly.

McCLANAHAN reviewed his association with SMITH, saying that when he heard that the Mayor had told SMITH to leave town as soon as possible, he decided that SMITH would be a good man to look up. He mentioned the Councilmen who were speaking at the Olympic, and said that they were being paid for being there, while he wasn't getting a cent for speaking at the Shrine. He referred specifically to Councilman CHRISTIANSEN, who he said was 76 and had been to Russia four times, and he could understand his going to the Olympic. As for Councilman TIMBERLAKE - well, he was new and probably didn't know any better. He didn't know what other Councilmen were speaking there. He said that one of the Councilmen close to the Mayor told him that he could have had quite a sum if he had accepted the invitation to speak; however, he had turned it down.

McCLANAHAN then said that on the whole the Councilmen had been rather decent about the situation; that a number of resolutions had been brought up about him, but nothing had been done. Also, the Mayor had shown a little courage anyway by not responding to the pressure that had been brought against him concerning McCLANAHAN.

McCLANAHAN spoke of the attacks upon him by the Messenger and the Voice, referring particularly to SAMMY GACH.

WILLIS ALLEN introduced SMITH as the next speaker. SMITH took the same line about the street cars being sabotaged by the Communists and the Jews.

He claimed that there were 5,000 people present in the Shrine, good Christian Americans, while thirty-five per cent to ninety per cent of those at the Olympic were Jews. (McCLANAHAN made the same statement)

SMITH said that the American Legion Americanism Committee and the V.F.W. were not officially represented at the Olympic; that the A.F. of L. was dragged in by force, and that he was so informed by the A.F. of L. people. He praised the Catholic church, saying that their leadership is very understanding; that they were not officially represented at the Olympic, nor were the Fundamentalists. He mentioned that at a press conference the day before, he had informed the press that if HOMER CHAILLAUX and Senator TENNEY endorsed the meeting he would cancel his own meeting at the Shrine. However, he was sure that they could not, although he had not discussed the matter with those gentlemen.

He ranted against the Federal Council of Churches and against FARNHAM, stating that they did not believe in Christ. He spoke sneeringly of the Council

for Civic Unity. He had a copy of the 1945 TENNEY report in front of him, and said that the names of fourteen people listed on the letterhead of the Council for Civic Unity also appeared in the TENNEY report as Communists and that KENNY's name is also included therein.

He made a bid for sympathy by declaring that for the past six weeks his enemies have been trying to inspire some fanatic to shoot him. He said that there are twenty million Christians now in prison in Russia because they have refused to renounce Christ in favor of Communism; that he has proof that KENNY stated: "I propose to fight every organization that is opposed to Communism". He declared that KENNY should be impeached, which statement brought forth enthusiastic applause.

SMITH stated that by that night or in the next day or two he hoped to have 100,000 signatures on the RANKIN petition to investigate the "Babylonian cannaille of Hollywood"; that he is not anti-Semitic, but that the only reason that it is safe for the Jews to live here in America is that this is a Christian nation; that this is the only place where it is safe for them; that he believes in hospitality. However, he indicated that he would deny hospitality to the Jewish refugees. He intimated that many of them were here illegally, stating that they had sneaked in with their millions through Mexico and settled in Beverly Hills, and they can't even speak the American language; that they are not going to run him out of town.

He stated that the Jews had better get over their sensitiveness over the use of the word "Jew". He also stated that if a man comes here from Russia and wants to substitute the Russian constitution for the American constitution, and if he happens to be a Jew, he isn't supposed to mention the word, and if he uses the term "international bankers" he is considered to be criticizing the Jews. Those refugees who prefer the Russian government should be put in a boat and sent back to Russia. The Jews should make friends instead of enemies - instead of putting on a "hate Christ" campaign at the Olympic.

SMITH announced that he is opposed to any more immigration until our soldiers come home and get jobs. That's why they (the Jews) hate him. When the soldiers get back they will find their jobs taken by refugees while they were gone. He stated that he would fight immigration while there is breath left in his body, etc. etc.

He said that years ago G. ALLISON PHELPS (whose name brought forth applause from the audience), had warned about the refugees sneaking in from Mexico and that as a consequence he had been hounded and persecuted for telling the truth so that he cannot even get an ordinary job.

SMITH then announced that he had twenty-five speaking engagements in other large cities of this nation, and was leaving shortly; that this was the last large meeting he would have. However, he would be back in the fall and intends to establish a regional office here. (The news of his return was greeted by enthusiastic applause.)

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Referring again to PHELPS, he said that the latter had written a letter to Congressman RANKIN and that he had asked him to read it at this meeting. He introduced PHELPS, stating that here is a man who has been crucified on the cross by Warner Brothers, the May Company, and the Reds of Hollywood.

PHELPS read his letter to RANKIN, which was a vicious thing. He ranted against Hollywood. He said that a bunch of alien-born perverts controlled a million dollar industry and in making his vicious remarks about the industry, he said he had specific reference to WALTER WINCHELL. The letter stated that CHARLES CHAPLIN had a fund set aside to be used to bring aliens into the United States, and that CHAPLIN was asking for a second front when we were losing the war so badly; that CHAPLIN sponsored STALIN's LION FEUCHTWANGER, a refugee now living in Southern California; that FEUCHTWANGER's name also appears in the TENNEY report; that JOHN HOWARD LAWSON also tendered a dinner to FEUCHTWANGER. He said that the Russian born hadn't forgotten their homeland; that HARRY WARNER was born in Russia. He mentioned PAULETTE GODDARD (whose name he said was LEVY), and ANATOLE LITVAK. He then referred to the "under cover boys" - the attorneys, LEON LEWIS, MENDEL SILBERBORG, and DAVID SOLEMAN, representatives of the Anti-Defamation League of the B'nai B'rith. They have medals, he said, for having exposed so-called subversives, many of whom are fine Americans. He asked RANKIN to make a real investigation of those attorneys. He then listed the following: HARRY WARNER was born in Russia; JOSEPH SCHENCK was born in Russia; NICHOLAS SCHENCK was born in Russia; ANATOLE LITVAK was born in Roumania; SAM KATZ was born in Russia, and "God only knows where HARRY COHN was born"; AL LICHTMAN was born in Hungary; JOSEPH PASTERNAK, ALEXANDER KORDA, GREGORY RATOFF, LOUIS B. MAYER were all foreign born. "These are just a few of the joy boys".

He wound up his letter to RANKIN by urging him to investigate this alien cesspool of Hollywood.

(The audience agreed with PHELPS in every respect.)

SMITH then spoke. He announced that PHELPS would be a guest of the Reverend LOVELL in his church on Sunday night. His subject would be: "The Hypocrisy of Hollywood".

He then began his plea for money, stating that he had spent a great deal of money on the meeting at the Shrine. The rent was $500.00; incidentals, $1,000.00; printing, $400.00; postage, $250.00; all in all, he had spent about $2,250.00. He pleaded that the audience be generous with their contributions. He told them that copies of the letter that PHELPS had just read would be sent to all those who contributed.

He asked those who lived in the 13th District to raise their hands. (There were not very many.) He then asked them to so indicate on their envelopes. He also requested that the people indicate whether they would be willing to circulate cards for future meetings "whether here or at the Hollywood Bowl", suggesting that some take one hundred or thirty or twenty-five, and so on down the line. He spent a great deal of time urging them to contribute generously and prayed while the ushers were collecting the contributions.

The collection having been completed, SMITH announced he would discuss three great issues, the first being the threat of the super-state. He then made his usual speech about the international bankers being out to control the money of the world; that the international bankers gave us our depression; that we had plenty of food, but our people were starving to death; that last time we plowed under our crops, but this time we are going to plow under the international bankers; that the international bankers want to make it possible for foreign countries to tell us when we have to send our boys out to get killed.

He talked about the rubber tire situation, and that there was no necessity to be without tires; that he had gone to HENRY FORD and discussed the matter with the Chief Chemist at the Ford plant, and was told that they could have all the tires that would be needed in this country within six months. However, the rubber business is in the hands of the international bankers, consequently we have no tires. He also consulted with another chemist who told him the same thing; also that in Germany they were making synthetic tires and he was told that the Standard Oil Company owned the patent.

He said we should thank God that HENRY WALLACE is not President of the United States and that he thinks HARRY TRUMAN is a great President.

At the time he was investigating the rubber situation, BERNARD BARUCH had charge of that item. He said that BARUCH was a great international banker and that he refused to make tires.

He then told the audience that the Ford Tire Company was condemned by President ROOSEVELT and sent to Russia; that ROOSEVELT stole the factory from the American citizens.

He referred to the five thousand German girls who were supposed to have been raped by the Sengelose troops - five thousand Christian girls. This was the work of the Russians.

He repeated his story about HENRY WALLACE's speech at Madison Square Garden on the anniversary of the Russian revolution, and said that WALLACE should be sent to Moscow.

He had invited the press to his meeting at the Shrine, but they had not taken advantage of the tables he had prepared for them. He referred again to the Olympic Auditorium and said that the same type of people are there as those who picketed his meeting at the Philharmonic. He stated that if the Communists and left-wing Jews think the Russian system is much better than ours, they should be put on boats and sent to Russia. "These rascals are organized. They are prepared to take over America".

He announced that he would preach at Perkins' Peoples Church at the Friday Morning Club at 11:00 on Sunday, asking the people to give PERKINS a big hand; also that he would speak at 2:00 P.M. on Sunday at the Ham 'n' Eggs hall, and that he would be in the audience at LOVELL's church Sunday night when PHELPS would be the guest speaker.

SMITH was very bitter in speaking about the meeting at the Olympic and especially in referring to the Mayor. The Mayor had told him to leave as soon as possible, but he had sponsored the meeting at the Olympic by sending the "assistant Mayor" there as his representative.

SMITH said there is no such thing as sixty million jobs; that twenty million people can make everything we need with the use of machinery. He said that when he came here to Los Angeles the Ham 'n' Egg group offered him hospitality; that WILLIS ALLEN asked him to sponsor a program that will take us out of the hands of the international bankers; that there will be millions of unemployed turned loose on the streets.

He will return to California early this Fall and he wants WILLIS and LAWRENCE ALLEN to set up some twenty to thirty meetings. Petitions will be circulated to put Ham 'n' Eggs on the ballot.

SMITH remarked that he had sent his representative to the Ambassador to attend a press conference that was being held by the sponsors of the Olympic Auditorium progrm, but they threw him out.

Reverend SWIFT, Dr. BLANKENBURG, and Dr. BAHLI were also on the platform.

While SMITH was still ranting about Russia a number of people started to leave. There was a constant stream of people leaving after that, and finally SMITH asked the people to stand and sing. He kept them standing for the remainder of the program and finally told the people that he would be through shortly, asking them to stand still and pray.

[redacted] furnished this office with the following information:

A meeting was held by the anti-SMITH groups at the Olympic Auditorium, Los Angeles, on Friday night, July 20, 1945. The auditorium, capacity of which is 10,400, was packed and many people were unable to gain admission.

The meeting was opened by SAM BALTER, radio commentator. The audience was asked to stand and sing one verse of the "Star Spangled Banner". Following this, State's Attorney General ROBERT W. KENNY was introduced and spoke for some thirty minutes. After Mr. KENNY's speech, a message was read from Mayor BOWRON by Mr. EDMUND COOK, Assistant Mayor. GREGORY PECK, movie actor, then read a short speech which was composed largely of quotations and comparative statements made by ADOLF HITLER and GERALD L. K. SMITH.

From this point Mr. JOHN B. HUGHES, radio commentator, acted as master of ceremonies. He introduced Dr. E. C. FARNHAM, Executive Secretary of the Church Federation of Los Angeles, who is also Chairman of the Los Angeles Council for Civic Unity, and Dr. FARNHAM gave a short talk. Rabbi EDGAR F. MAGNIN was then introduced and spoke for a few minutes. Among other things he said, "We are fighting for a principle", "There have always been seeds of Fascism here", and "It can happen here but it won't". There was then read a message from Chief Justice GIBSON of the California Supreme Court. Following this, Mrs. ALBERT QUON, a Chinese lady who was named as California State Mother of 1945 and who is also Secretary of the Council for Civic Unity, was introduced and spoke for a few minutes from a prepared speech.

HUGHES then introduced representatives of the two major Labor organizations, and in making his introduction stated that the strongest resistance to Fascism has always been organized labor. He introduced W. J. BASSETT, Secretary-Treasurer of the Central Labor Council of the American Federation of Labor, who said among other things that GERALD L. K. SMITH is the worst enemy of Labor today; that he is even worse than CECIL B. DeMILLE. PHIL CONNELLY, President of the Los Angeles Council of the C.I.O., spoke for a short time, saying, among other statements, that "Hitler is dead but

GERALD L. K. SMITH still spreads HITLER's venom","SMITH is here to mobilize the returning war veterans against organized Labor", "SMITH is financed by reactionary Big Business interests - the same forces are bringing Congressman RANKIN here", and "Those who preach Fascism have no right to free speech".

Messages were read from VIERLING KIERSEY, Superintendent of the Los Angeles City Schools System, and C. C. TRILLINGHAM, Superintendent of the Los Angeles County Schools System.

The meeting was then taken over by State Assemblyman ALBERT DEKKER. He announced that another meeting is to be called and then started solicitation for funds. Women in the uniform of the W.A.D.C. passed through the audience, taking the collection. It was requested that checks be made payable to CAREY McWILLIAMS. Among the larger checks and pledges which were received and announced by Assemblyman DEKKER were the following: Beverly-Westwood Democratic Club, $625.00; ISAAC PACHT, $100.00; Sealey Mattress Company, $250.00; Southland Jewish Organization, $500.00; Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions, $500.00; Acme Hardware Company, $100.00; Simon Lazarus, $100.00; Pacific Sound Equipment Company, $100.00; Composite Lodge #639, A.F. & A.M., $100.00; Junction Drug Company, $100.00; Newsboys Union, $100.00; National Youth Congress, $500.00; Campus Shop, $100.00; MARTIN YOUNG, $100.00; also $25.00 each from City Councilmen HARBY, DAVENPORT, and TIMBERLAKE. In addition, there were many checks of $25.00, $10.00, and $5.00, and a considerable collection of cash.

Following the collection there was a talk by BURGESS MEREDITH, movie actor, who devoted most of his time to vilifying Congressman RANKIN and ended up by saying: "We'll get RANKIN". Various state assemblymen were introduced by DEKKER, although not all seemed to be present. Among these were THOMAS J. DOYLE, JACK MAY, VERNON KILPATRICK, ERNEST W. DEBBS, AUGUSTUS F. HAWKINS, JOHN C. LYONS, EVERETT BURKHALTER, PHILIP DAVIS, WILLIAM ROSENTHAL, and RALPH DILLS. Messages were read from County Supervisor ROGER JESSUP, Councilmen GEORGE P. CRONK, HARRY CHRISTIANSEN, and J. WIN AUSTIN, also from Judge GEORGIA BULLOCK. A telegram from U. S. Senator SHERIDAN DOWNEY was read. Various other individuals were then introduced, among whom were ALVIN WILDER, who was named as a veteran of the "Battle of KFI"; Mrs. SUMNER SPAULDING; BEN SCHENBERG of the American Legion; H. CLAUDE HUDSON, Vice-President of the N.A.A.C.P.; Mrs. RALPH E. VANDERVOOR, President of the Los Angeles League of Women Voters; ROLAND McNITT, Chairman of the Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee. A letter from JOHN BARTON was read, he being Chairman of the Los Angeles County Republican Central Committee. Postmaster MICHAEL FANNING was introduced from the floor, as was CAREY McWILLIAMS. A talk by ORSON WELLES followed, and the meeting closed at 11:30 p.m., with repetition of the pledge of allegiance to the American flag led by Assemblyman DEKKER.

Of the entire audience the largest percentage appeared to be people of the Jewish race, with a sprinkling of Negroes. There were only a very few military uniforms noted.

The following article appeared in the Los Angeles Herald and Express on July 21, 1945:

"Twelve thousand men and women attended an overflow meeting of "An American City in Action" at the Olympic Auditorium last night, the first of a planned series designed to fight anti-democratic forces and intolerance.

"More than 100 civic, patriotic, labor and veterans' organizations sponsored the meeting.

"Chief speaker was Attorney General ROBERT W. KENNY, who warned against class and racial discrimination in California.

"'Joblessness, insecurity and violence were breeding grounds of the now deceased Mussolini and the mysteriously vanished HITLER,' he said. 'Dispensers of disunity and demogogy have invaded California because our state's economy is in a state of transition due to the dislocations of war and V-E Day.

"'In the task of maintaining social peace and economic health and eyes of America are upon us. We represent the decent citizens, the healthy citizens who have joined forces to demonstrate that the vultures are going to starve in California.'

"Mayor FLETCHER BOWRON, en route to Philadelphia for the launching of the U. S. S. Los Angeles tomorrow, sent this telegram to the Olympic meeting: 'Rabble-rousers will never find a haven in Los Angeles.'

"Among other speakers with KENNY were Dr. E. C. FARNHAM of the Council for Civic Unity and the Church Federation; Rabbi EDGAR F. MAGNIN, ORSON WELLES, BURGESS MEREDITH, Assemblyman ALBERT DEKKER, W. J. BASSETT of the A.F.L., PHILIP M. CONNOLLY of the C.I.O. and representatives from the Y.W.C.A., veterans and minority groups.

"Communism in Hollywood was denounced last night by GERALD L. K. SMITH, America First leader, in a speech at the Shrine Auditorium.

"He upheld Rep. JOHN RANKIN's recently declared intention to investigate subversive activities in the film colony and charged that Hollywood 'is the center of Communism in America where plans are being made to overthrow our government after the war.'

"In his speech before a crowd of several thousand, SMITH also criticized lend-lease and 'the international bankers who control American money.'"

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On July 21, 1945, [redacted], Military Order of the Purple Heart, 2406 West 7th Street, Los Angeles, California, telephonically advised that in connection with SMITH's meeting on July 20, 1945, he, together with five other men, decided that their organization should know about SMITH's activities first-hand so they attended his meeting as observers. They had received complaints from a number of Purple Heart men.

When they arrived at the auditorium, they found outside possibly one hundred people trying to get in but no one was admitted without a card. There was no disturbance whatever. After the meeting they found perhaps forty people outside and still no disturbance. They talked to the manager of the auditorium and found that it holds sixty-eight hundred people and according to his estimate there were perhaps twenty-five hundred to three thousand people in the auditorium. Most of them were men and women.

Two young men in uniform came onto the stage first and deposited briefcases on the table and then SMITH entered the platform preceded by three young men and followed by three young men. During his remarks, he said people claim that he is accompanied by storm stoopers. He said it is true that he is accompanied by storm troopers and he introduced these six young men, saying that they were his storm troopers; they are men he is training for the ministry; that his life has been threatened and that if he is killed, these six young men and two thousand more like them will rise over his grave and carry on his crusade.

During his talk, SMITH defied anyone to say that the FBI has anything on him. He said he would continue, as long as he has blood in his veins and the strength to speak, to fight against kike-Jews, Communists and others. He made an attack on the Standard Oil Company and other big businesses, as well as against different manual groups.

b7c, b7D [redacted] said that his group took no particular offense against any of SMITH's statements during the evening, with the exception of the statement

quoted below which they copied verbatim; that just prior to the collection of the donations, SMITH said that after the donations he would give them the dynamite; that following the donations SMITH said "Now I will give you the inside information. The President was a sick man and everyone knew it; however, he died quicker than we expected because he did not have the nerve to tell the American people the inside of the deal that he made with STALIN at Yalta". [redacted] stated that his group objected seriously to this statement, particularly in view of the fact that approximately one hundred servicemen were in the audience. He said if this is not a subversive statement undermining the Commander in Chief of the United States, he does not know what subversiveness is.

According to [redacted] SMITH glorified Congressman RANKIN and said that everyone should support him and uphold his honor. [redacted] pointed to the fact that SMITH definitely can sway individuals; that he and his group personally were greatly moved by SMITH's oration and [redacted] said that had they not known who SMITH is, and the nature of the man, they could easily have been led to follow everything that he said. For example, in connection with the RANKIN matter, SMITH asked all those in favor of supporting RANKIN in his investigation of the Jews in Hollywood to say "eye". [redacted] said there was a general chorus of "eyes" in the audience. SMITH said "are you really in support of RANKIN - say 'eye' again", whereupon there was a very loud chorus of "eyes", considerable shouting and yelling in the audience. Then SMITH said "I really want to find out how many of you will support RANKIN - all in favor of him stand up". [redacted] stated that his group did not stand up but that practically everyone else in the audience did; however, there were six sailors directly in front of [redacted] who did not stand up. After the crowd sat down, SMITH said, "all those not in favor of RANKIN now stand up", whereupon approximately thirty people stood up, including these six sailors. SMITH then said, "well, I know there are thirty or forty Communists in this group tonight, therefore I won't count them and I shall report that this group is unanimous in the support of RANKIN".

SMITH in his remarks attributed the poor attendance at his meeting to a Jewish conspiracy with the Los Angeles Railway. He said the Jews got together and crowded all the street cars so much that no one else could get on the street cars to come towards the Shrine Auditorium and those who wanted to get there would have to walk twenty blocks in view of this conspiracy. [redacted] said that the allegation was so ridiculous that the people in the audience believed it.

[redacted] stated that his group does not want to fight against the rights of free speech but that they do feel that SMITH is dangerous. He definitely can sway people to do and think as he does; therefore, at the next meeting of

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the Order of the Purple Heart on August 2, 1945, a resolution may be passed requesting an investigation of SMITH in view of the one sentence quoted above with respect to the dying of the President.

SMITH said he was leaving in a few days on his tour to make twenty speeches, starting in Salt Lake City, Denver, etc.

The following newspaper article appeared in the Los Angeles Herald and Express, July 23, 1945:

"Attorney JOHN B. WHEELER in a letter today to GERALD L. K. SMITH advised him that he had no right to make public appearances under the America First Committee label.

"'As you are undoubtedly aware', WHEELER wrote, 'General ROBERT E. WOOD, chairman of the national committee of the America First Committee, publicly advised you that you were not authorized to use the name of the committee or to appear to act under the sponsorship of the many outstanding leaders of this country who were members of this committee.

"'You may not be familiar with the fact that the America First Committee in California is a non-profit corporation and that such corporation is still in existence. That corporation has the exclusive right to the use of the name in the state of California, and you are therefore not authorized to use the name in any way'".

A letter was received from the San Francisco Field Division dated July 26, 1945, stating that on July 23, 1945, [redacted] personally advised the San Francisco Field Division that [redacted] was a member of the organization of GERALD L. K. SMITH.

[redacted] said that [redacted] was a friend of his son, whom he had seen at his home on very many occasions while he was a growing boy. [redacted] now age 19, had been in the Navy until he received a medical discharge. [redacted] is now a resident of the Hollywood area, being a writer for the movies. He is reported to have been employed at MGM, Fox, and Republic Studios. His address in that area was given phonetically as the Peyton Arms, Beverly Hills.

[redacted] claimed that the organization would take over the Government after the post-war unemployment gave them a chance to stir things up with the

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masses. They were to agitate anti-Negro and anti-Semitic riots, and then supply the whites with weapons to put down the strife. [redacted] asserted that there was a factory in Mexico which was going to turn out weapons for the organization.

[redacted] b7c

[redacted] was contacted on July 25, 1945, and it was ascertained that GERALD L. K. SMITH was presently residing at the Normandie Hotel, 605 South Normandie Avenue, Los Angeles, California. [redacted] that SMITH makes his headquarters at the hotel, where he resides with his wife and secretary. None of SMITH's activities or plans were known to [redacted] However, informant stated if any information was received as to SMITH's plans for leaving Los Angeles, the reporting agent would be notified. b7D

[redacted] telephonically contacted the reporting agent on July 27, 1945, and advised that SMITH checked out of the Normandie Hotel at 10:45 A.M. on that date. He stated SMITH left his forwarding address as c/o Blackstone Hotel, Detroit, Michigan.

On July 28, 1945, the writer telephonically contacted [redacted] Ham and Eggs Hall, 1204 South Hill Street, under pretext, and was advised that SMITH left Los Angeles on July 27, 1945 and was en route to Detroit, Michigan and that he planned to stop over in Chicago, Illinois for one day. He stated that SMITH's address in Detroit is post office box 451, Detroit 31, Michigan. [redacted] further advised that SMITH plans to return to Los Angeles in approximately six weeks when he will make a lecture tour of approximately twenty California cities. [redacted] further stated that SMITH made arrangements for the Ham and Eggs Hall to handle any of his local business for him while he was in Detroit. b7c b7D

[redacted] was contacted on August 4, 1945 and it was ascertained that SMITH left California from Pasadena aboard the Santa Fe Chief on July 27, 1945. [redacted] that SMITH was going directly to Detroit, Michigan, and all meetings previously arranged in the Western cities had been canceled. [redacted] that according to SMITH's present plans, he intends to return to Los Angeles about the middle of September. b7c

CONF. INF [redacted]

It has been reliably reported that subject, who has been in the Los Angeles area since May 27, 1945, departed Los Angeles at 12:01 P.M., July 27, 1945, on the Chief for Chicago, accompanied by his wife and secretary. His forwarding address is reported to be the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, Illinois.

During recent mass meetings conducted by subject in Los Angeles, he stated he intended to return to Los Angeles in the Fall to assist the Ham and Eggs group in their campaign to place their plan on the ballot; that he was not setting up national headquarters for the America First Committee in Los Angeles, but they would remain in Detroit.

SMITH's activities in the Los Angeles area have caused violent reaction among leftist elements in this area, culminating in an anti-SMITH mass meeting of 12,000 persons, held July 20, 1945 at the Olympic Auditorium, under the sponsorship of numerous organizations, many of which have been identified as Communist front groups.

The following individuals were active in the anti-SMITH meetings in Los Angeles and have been identified as being Communist Party members or sympathizers thereof, or individuals who are known to follow the party line:

[redacted]

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- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

At Lancaster, California

*Will conduct discreet investigation through informants and other sources of information regarding the background, history, and activities of [redacted] which will consolidate with subject's America First Party. b7c

At Los Angeles, California

Will maintain contact with informants and report SMITH's activities upon his return to Los Angeles in the near future.

One copy of instant report is being designated for the San Francisco Field Division and one copy for the San Diego Field Division for information purposes inasmuch as it is believed subject may include these Field Divisions in his speaking tour in the near future.

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted]

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The above individuals request anonymity.

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62-43818

Assistant Attorney General T. L. Caudle
Criminal Division
John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, was
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - R
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

September 26, 1

8531

Enclosed for your further information in the captioned matter is a copy of the investigative report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] dated August 30, 1945, at Los Angeles, California.

Enclosure

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/14/82 BY

DE
DA 10/28/57
4

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 47

PAGES REVIEWED: 89

PAGES RELEASED: 75

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
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[redacted]

b7c

59314

Gerald Smith, Heavily Laden With Plans, Visits Capital

Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit, leader of the Isolationist America First group, came to town yesterday.

The former organizer for Huey Long's "Every Man a King" movement, whose America First literature and organization figured in testimony at the famous sedition trials came heavily laden. He had a bundle under his arm, a load on his mind and a dream lurking beneath his shaggy eyebrows.

The bundle: a 150-foot petition signed by Californians urging Representative John M. Rankin (D. Miss.) to launch an immediate congressional investigation of communistic exploitation of the movie industry.

Father Coughlin Backer

The load: plans for an ocean-to-ocean speaking tour on which he would (1) promote the force and fortunes of America First as well as those of the Nationalist Party headed by Former Senator Robert R. Reynolds, and 68 other nationalists groups; (2) push a movement to bring Father Coughlin back to radio broadcasting; and (3), fight the growing influence of reds, communists, fascists, reactionaries, labor radicals, Wall Street, Orson Welles, and racists including "racketeering Jews who are exploiting their own race."

The dream: to consolidate all nationalists groups into a force strong enough to elect a solid ticket to Congress in 1946 and to control the balance of power in the presidential elections of 1948.

What He Approves

59314

In passing, Smith told reporters at a Statler Hotel press conference that he approved: President Harry Truman ("although we don't know what he'll do next week"); current trends within the Democratic Party; the returning veteran; Representative John Rankin; Jews who believe in being Americans first and Jews second; cancellation of lend-lease to the British and other Allies; his own plan for "constitutional money," and a $1000 cash bonus for each discharged service man and woman.

He opposed: Feeding hungry men copies of the Constitution or on the American flag dipped in cream and sugar; "Hitler-happy" newspapers; a hush-up of any part of Pearl Harbor; the Henry Wallace plan for 60 million jobs, and the candidacy of Richard Frankensteen, vice president of UAW, for mayor of Detroit.

Highlights: "Truman is a biological nationalist," Smith said. "He's from Missouri and raised on our kind of milk. He has the hand of Esau and the voice of Jacob. We don't know what he'll do next week but we're for Harry Truman today . . . the nationalist movement will become so strang that the old political parties will bid for its support . . . some Jewish racketeers would drop dead if anything happened to me . . . I'm not anti-Semitic but they make a living saying I am."

MMK

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62-43818-784

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WASHINGTON POST

[illegible]
KEEP ENVELOPE ATTACHED

Dear Sirs:

How does it happen that the America First Party is still going on in America?

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RECORDED 62-43818-785

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EX-18

EX-18

5 OCT 9 - 1945

FOLK LEDGER-DISPA

DAY AFTERNOON, SEPT. 29, 1945 16

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-CRS/SLK

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INJURED MAN CARRIED AWAY BY PROTESTING FRIENDS—One of two men injured when 500 pickets clashed with police before Northern High School in Detroit, Mich., is carried away by two friends who protest vigorously to policeman at right. Pickets protested meeting of America First Party. — (AP Wirephoto).

Braden and Acheson Huddle On Argentine Situation

Washington, Sept. 29 (AP) — Ambassador Spruille Braden went into conference with Acting Secretary of State Acheson today on the Argentine situation.

There was some indication that the purpose was to determine the extent to which Argentina has fulfilled or failed to fulfill—her obligation of stamping out Fascism ... democratic ...

by the Senate he remains ambassador to Argentina.

With him in the meeting with Acheson were Leo Pasvolsky, the department's ranking expert on commitments made by the American nations at the Mexico City conference, and Ellis O. Briggs, a veteran of Latin America diplomacy, who is expected to become

Deal Offered Big-5 Snarl

London, Sept. 29 (AP)—The United States was reliably reported today to have presented a compromise proposal in an effort to break the deadlock of the Foreign Ministers Council over who should write the Balkan peace treaties.

Members of several delegatio
said the Balkan policy dec
would have to be made th
end and expressed h
sion would en
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M'Arthur End Censorship By Japanese

Attempt To Keep F People News of Hir Visit Irks Command

Tokyo, Sept. 29. (AP)—Ge
MacArthur commanded the
nese government to keep its
off Japan's press and radio t
ceasing all censorship, suppr
or control—after the Home
istry tried to ban Emperor
hito's interviews and stori
pictures of the Hirohito
MacArthur.

The ministry had su
Tokyo and Osaka newsp
an effort to keep the
the Japanese people.

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while reported to the
mand that 1,833,634, o
of all Japanese sold
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which she said are a better community zether civic-minded ite and colored, to n common prob- ation of this or- membership open o women on an an opportunity n community here of good nd coopera-

secretary, last meet- n, chair- mmittee, n mem- d Mrs. police letter ed to nter- in of n- s- o

Air Line to Link Cincinnati With Norfolk Is Urged

Among 15 new Southeastern air routes recommended by the Civil Aeronautic Board's public counsel in Washington late Friday was one affecting Norfolk. The counsel, V. R. Grundman, recommended that State Airlines, Inc., be granted permission to operate a route between Cincinnati, O., and Roanoke, Va., with the line extending from Roanoke to Norfolk.

William S. Harney, manager of the Norfolk Association of Commerce, said today that the company, headed by H. K. Gilbert, Jr., president, operates out of Charlotte, N. C., and that the association has been keeping in close touch with the firm since negotiations were first opened for the line into Norfolk.

Mr. Harney stated that he attended a hearing on the application held by the CAB in Greensboro, N. C., and that the association submitted briefs at that time. The organization, he explained, does not favor any one airline over another, but states the advantages to Norfolk of various kinds of air service. He said that as yet he had no information as to when the new route will be opened.

PCA which has been operating between Norfolk and Washington throughout the war was represented in the list of new routes recommended. It was proposed that PCA be allowed to extend Route 51 from Knoxville, Tenn., to a new terminal at Memphis and add Charlotte and Winston-Salem, N. C., to its stops. PCA will also extend Route 55 from the Bidmingham terminal to a new terminal at Mobile, Ala.

Two Automobile Thefts Reported To Police Here

Two auto thefts have been reported at police headquarters, one today and one Friday.

R. S. Bendell, of the Norfolk Radiator Works, of 733 Monticello Avenue, told police that a black coach valued at $300 was taken from the garage at the Monticello Avenue address by someone who apparently broke the glass of a side window, entered the place, and drove out through a rear door some time Thursday night.

Thomas Morris, of 1469 Dundee Street, told police that a 1940 Sedan valued at $900 and belonging to Ethel Whitehurst, of 1451 Chapel Street, was stolen from East Princess Anne Road and Chicazola Street between 9:30 and 10 p. m. Friday.

Detectives P. W. Adams and T. L. Mayo are investigating both cases.

In addition to the car thefts listed headquarters, Nellie Lapping, of 0 Church Street, reported to po- that a tire tube and wheel taken from an unlocked auto while the car was parked at Street some time

COMMODORE MERLIN O'NEILL

Two-Day Session Opened Here By Guard Auxiliary

With Commodore Merlin O'Neill, USCG, district Coast Guard officer, as host, visiting members of the district board of the Fifth Naval District Coast Guard Auxiliary opened a two-day session today at the Little Creek Lifeboat Station. Commodore O'Neill was the first director of the auxiliary and laid the foundation for the present expansion of the non-military organization.

Among visiting officials was Capt. Chester Jones, USCG, now chief director of the auxiliary, who flew to Norfolk from Washington to lead a discussion of new and elaborate plans for auxiliary participation in post-war Coast Guard activities.

A simulated Air-Sea Rescue will be staged late today at Little Creek with airplanes and surface craft from the Norfolk Task Unit participating. Lieut. J. V. Valliant, USCGR, director of the district auxiliary, is training and boat officer for the task unit.

The district board is made up of commanding and executive officers of the six divisions in the district, headed by Commodore Gordon B. Ambler, former mayor of Richmond. Other members attending the meetings were E. E. Warren and George J. Flentje, Jr., Baltimore, Md.; Frank L. Teuton, Washington, D. C.; Grancille J. LeCompte, Jr., Cambridge, Md.; Charles R. Law, Berlin, Md.; Fred L. Savage, Chincoteague, Va.; Henry D. Lowry, Richmond; Richard D. Elliott, Jr., Morehead City, and Roy P. Mayo, of Washington, N. C.

Tomorrow's program includes the election of new commanding and executive officers.

Throughout the war the auxiliarists, most of whom were in the Temporary Reserve, served without pay on a part-time volunteer basis. Commodore O'Neill announced today that as a mark of appreciation for their work

Electric Power From Windmills Seen by Engineer

Electrical power from the wind, the dream for years of engineers, already is a reality, according to Percy H. Thomas, senior engineer of the Federal Power Commission in Washington, who spoke last night at the Pythian Castle to a combined gathering of the Engineers Club of Hampton Roads and the Virginia Section of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

Thomas described in detail his idea for such a unit, which would include giant twin windmills 200 feet in diameter, mounted on 475-foot towers, and delivering 6,500 to 7,000 KWs of power from a 20-mile-an-hour wind. This power would be distributed over a wide area and would be connected by a system of steam and water generators, he said.

A 1,000 KW outfit of this same general type already is in operation in Vermont, Mr. Thomas told the group.

The engineer already has constructed a scale model of the tower and turbine and has drawn complete plans for such installations.

Because of variation in wind, he explained, it would be necessary to generate direct current, using a synchronous converter to change it into ordinary 60-cycle alternating current.

J. A. Rawls was named last night as chairman of the Virginia Chapter of the A. I. E. E.

Sergeant Cooper Passes Physical For Police Force

Former Police Sergeant A. D. Cooper has been found physically fit for reinstatement to the Norfolk Police Division, Chief of Police John Fulton Woods, announced today.

Chief Woods added that the actual time of Cooper's return to the force depended upon the former sergeant. He explained that Cooper will return to duty with the rank of sergeant.

In July of this year Cooper resigned to run against City Sergeant Lee F. Lawler. He was defeated in the August Democratic primary.

Considerable controversy arose over Cooper's return to the division, the Greater Norfolk Citizens Forum issuing a statement that its membership had been informed that Cooped was denied a chance to reinstate himself. This brought a prompt denial by the Chief of Police who said that Cooper had refused to stand a physical examination as required by civil service rules. Cooper admitted that he had said he would not stand the examination, but several day ago changed his mind and went bef examining physicians and the tests given him

THEODORE

Sergear Gets Sil Wife Li

Staff Sgt. Company G, ? Mrs. H. Hayn and husband win Smith, of has been awa Medal for gal Butgenbach, B ber 21.

The former has been in months and h nearly a year. many.

His citation r lows: "When a rior foe launch tack, Sergeant vate first class) artillery, canno barrage, fearles exposed vantag rately informed disposition of en elements. He moved across pe hostile armored with a well-pla successfully ret lines."

ETTC To Western C On Octob

Announcement by the Langley lations Office Technical Tr which Langl absorb the ber 16.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGAT.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Miss Gandy

This Case Originated at DETROIT, MICHIGAN			DETROIT File No. 62-1126
Report Made At	Date Made	Period Made	Report Made By
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	10/12/45	7/19-21,23, 24;8/1-3,8, 15,20-22,30, 31;9/3-6,10, 11/45	b7c [redacted]
Title			Character of Case
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; AMERICA FIRST PARTY			INTERNAL SECURITY - G; SEDITION

~~STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

Synopsis:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/14/82 BY SRP

DECLASSIFIED BY 608/LEDC ON 8/11/77

SMITH arrived in Detroit August 1, 1945, from his tour of the west coast. He held a meeting of his Detroit followers on August 10, 1945, attended by approximately five hundred constituents, at which time he gave a resume of his west coast activities. On August 19, 1945, he held a small meeting at the Barlum Hotel in Detroit composed of the participants of the "Monetary Congress" which was held in Detroit August 17 to 19, 1945, and was composed of numerous nationalist sympathizers. On August 30, 1945, SMITH sponsored KENNETH GOFF in a rally of two hundred at Hotel Webster Hall in Detroit, having as its purpose the indoctrination of veterans into the nationalist movement. SMITH's publications continue to follow the anti-Communist and anti-Jewish line. He plans to hold meetings in Buffalo, New York; Cleveland, Ohio, and Celina, Ohio, on September 16, 18 and 23, 1945, respectively, and expects to leave for Los Angeles approximately September 30, 1945.

ENCL BEHIND FILE

declassified 8/11/77

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INDEXED IN PUBLICATION FILES

Appr'vd & Frwd'd R. A. Guerin SAC

Do Not Write in These Spaces

62-43818-726

RECORDED & INDEXED

EX 73 58

F B I

25 OCT 15 1945

Copies
5 - Bureau (Enc.)
2 - Buffalo
2 - Cleveland
2 - Los Angeles
1 - Chicago (info)
3 - Detroit

COPY IN ADD

(De 62-1126)

REFERENCE: (61-7055; 62-43818) Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated July 23, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan.

b7

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated August 30, 1945, at Los Angeles, California.

DETAILS: [redacted]

b7D

According to an article published in the Detroit Free Press, August 6, 1945, SMITH stated that he is planning a "mass expansion" of AMERICA FIRST activity as soon as the war is over, with operations centered in Detroit and Los Angeles. SMITH described these two cities as the "two most critical cities in America." [redacted]

b7D

An article in the Jewish Voice of July 13, 1945, was reprinted by Subject SMITH and sent out under cover letter to his various followers. The article in substance ridiculed SMITH and criticized him for his various anti-semitic speeches. SMITH by the cover letter advised his various constituents that this was an example of what the various Communists in and about the west coast area were doing to deprive him of the right of free speech. He further stated in the letter that the Communists were using hysterical and left-wing Jews in an attempt to incite riot.

It is to be noted that this article in the Jewish Voice was written just prior to his July 20 meeting which was held at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles and was reported in the reference report of Special Agent [redacted] One copy of the printed article as distributed by SMITH is being forwarded to the Bureau as an enclosure to this report and another is being retained in the Detroit Field Division file.

b7C

According to [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, and [redacted]

b7D

[redacted] b7D

On August 10, 1945, SMITH held a meeting of his followers in the Jade Room of the Detroit Leland Hotel. Prior to the actual meeting, SMITH had considerable difficulty in obtaining the room, inasmuch as after it had been reserved by a member of his office, the management of the hotel found out that SMITH was going to talk and subsequently canceled the reservation.

After the cancellation, according to [redacted] SMITH contacted ROGER BALDWIN at Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts, seeking advice as to his rights against the hotel. He was advised that inasmuch as he had obtained the reservation and had a contract for the hotel, that he could seek an injunction against the management compelling them to allow him to use the hall. However, subsequently, the management of the hotel contacted SMITH and advised him if he would pay the one hundred dollars for the room he could have the reservation as it had previously been made. In preparation for the meeting, SMITH contacted RALPH BAERMAN, the editor of the Washington Newsletter, which is published in Washington, D. C. b7D

[redacted] b7D

[redacted]

[redacted]

(De 62-1126)

On August 17, 18 and 19, 1945, Mrs. BLANCHE WINTERS, head of the various mothers' organizations in the Detroit area, held a meeting of the "Monetary Congress" at her home, 8127 East Jefferson Street, Detroit, Michigan. Those in attendance at this meeting were various nationalist leaders throughout the United States and various "money cliques." The exact details concerning this meeting will be reported in the case of [redacted] et al; SECURITY MATTER - G," Bureau file [redacted] b7

[redacted] b7D

Although SMITH did not attend the Congress, on August 19, 1945, at approximately 5:00 p.m. he held a meeting in the Barlum Hotel in Detroit, Michigan, at which time he invited the various participants of the Monetary Congress to attend. At this time he praised Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, leader of the various mothers' groups in Cleveland, Ohio, and likewise acknowledged Mrs. LYRL VAN HYNING of "We, the Mothers Mobilized for America" of Chicago, Illinois.

[redacted] was also in attendance at this meeting, as well as other well known nacionalist leaders. [redacted] b7D

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] b7D

On August 30, 1945, SMITH sponsored KENNETH GOFF, head of the "Christian Youth for America." There were approximately two hundred in attendance at this meeting composed, according to informant, of people approximately fifty years of age and over. Informant further advised that GOFF merely gave a resume of his life, which included the story of his conversion from Communism to the nationalist point of view. GOFF thoroughly denounced Communism and especially named CLAUD WILLIAMS, Director of the Peoples Institute of Applied Religion, an alleged Communist front organization in Detroit.

According to Informant [redacted] WILLIAMS has published a book entitled "A Faith to Free People," in which book WILLIAMS gives a review of his life and his connections with the CP. According to informant, SMITH's name is mentioned in the book in several places in a derogatory manner and SMITH is planning to use this book in furtherance of his nationalist policy, pointing out the obscene nature of the book as well as various other defects in it.

[redacted]

A copy of the "Bulletin" distributed by SMITH prior to the meeting conducted by GOFF is being forwarded to the Bureau as an enclosure to this report.

HARRY FAINARU, writer for "The Worker," Communist publication, for the week of August 12, 1945, wrote an article in which CLAUD WILLIAMS is quoted as saying that the Youth for Christ Movement is connected with SMITH and is "Aimed at converting children to racial hatred and prejudice. It is anti-semitic and anti-union. It is another HITLER youth movement."

[redacted]

In these letters SMITH generally follows an anti-Communist, anti-Jewish attitude wherein he is constantly chiding the Communists for their unpatriotic attitude and warning the American people against the "Red Menace."

In the July 11, 1945, issue SMITH states that the Russian Army is occupying the eastern half of Germany and the Communists are systematically murdering in cold blood the entire middle class people just as they did in Russia and have done in any country they have taken over.

ALL b7D

The July 25, 1945, issue contains a statement to the effect that EARL BROWDER is being "ditched" as head of the CP and WILLIAM Z. FOSTER will take the lead. He further states that the CP is organizing its underground cells in every county, township and precinct in order to be ready for revolution if the postwar chaos begins to develop.

SMITH in his publications continues to oppose the FEPC and the United States as far as her international connections are concerned. He is generous in his praise for CHARLES A. LINDBERGH, CARL H. MOTE and Senator VANDENBERG of Michigan, whom he describes as "nationalist leaders."

After the surrender of Japan he stated in his August 22, 1945, issue that Russia knew of Japan's early plan to surrender and got in "just before the kill" to get Korea. SMITH throughout his literature praises President TRUMAN in his dealings with Russia and STALIN. He states, however, that now that hostilities have ceased TRUMAN's great task will be in saying no to the "Red Czar."

Copies of SMITH's monthly letter for July and August, 1945, and the July issue of his monthly publication, "The Cross and the Flag," are also being forwarded to the Bureau as enclosures to this report.

[redacted]

ALL b7D

ENCLOSURES

To the Bureau:

One copy of reprint of the "Jewish Voice" for July 13, 1945.
One-page publication captioned "AMERICA FIRST PARTY," dated August 6, 1945.
One copy of a four-page publication captioned "Christian Veterans, Awake!"

Enclosures to Bureau (Cont.)	Mimeographed "Bulletin" advertising meeting of August 30, 1945. Copies of "The Letter" from July 4, 1945, through August 29, 1945. One copy of the monthly letter for July 19, 1945, captioned "The Battle of Babylon." One copy of the monthly letter for August, 1945, captioned "Kill Him! Kill Him! Kill Him!" One copy of July, 1945, issue of "The Cross and the Flag."
To the Chicago Field Division:	One copy of a four-page publication captioned "Christian Veterans Awake!"

- P E N D I N G -

(De 62-1126)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE BUFFALO FIELD DIVISION

At Buffalo, New York:

Will, by appropriate informant coverage, cover the meeting at Kleinhaus Music Hall on September 16, 1945 (this lead was previously set out by letter to the Bureau dated September 7, 1945.)

THE CLEVELAND FIELD DIVISION

At Cleveland, Ohio:

Will, by appropriate informant coverage, cover the meeting at the municipal auditorium to be held September 18, 1945. (This lead was previously set out by letter to the Bureau dated September 7, 1945.)

At Celina, Ohio:

Will endeavor to cover the meeting at the fair grounds by proper informants. (This lead was previously set out by letter to the Bureau dated September 11, 1945.)

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

* At Lancaster, California:

Will conduct discreet investigation through informants and other sources of information regarding the background, history, and activities of [redacted] which will consolidate with Subject's America First Party.

b7c

* At Los Angeles, California:

Will maintain contact with informants and report SMITH's activities upon his return to Los Angeles in the near future.

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At Detroit, Michigan:

Will continue to follow Subject's activities and upon receipt of information relative to SMITH's trip to the west coast, advise the appropriate offices so that his meetings may be properly covered.

(De 62-1126)

One copy of this report is being furnished to the Chicago Field Division for their information because of the close relationship between [redacted] and HOMER MAERTZ with Subject SMITH.

In accordance with Bureau instructions, investigative reports submitted in this particular case are not to be distributed to other governmental agencies.

- P E N D I N G -

4-750 (2-7-79)

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GERALD L. K. SMITH

WILL SPEAK AT

NORTHERN HIGH SCHOOL

9026 Woodward at Clairmount, Detroit, Michigan

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/14/92 BY SP2 8070/mlc

Thursday, Sept. 27, 1945 : 8 P. M.

Other Speakers will include Wesley A. Swift, West Coast Leader of LosAngeles, Californ

GERALD L. K. SMITH

Subject of Mr. Smith's Address:

The Postwar Crisis: Can it be Solv the American Way?

Among the Topics which Mr. Smith will discuss will be:

- The Problem of Unemployment
- The Threat of World Communism
- A Square Deal for the Veterans
- The Future of Nationalism
- The Mystery of Pearl Harbor
- Is Harry Truman a Nationalist?
- Will Sidney Hillman and the Co munists help Henry Wallace organi a new Party?

For the first time in Detroit Mr. Smit will outline the program of the PRC (Po War Recovery Commission) which, unde the direction of 15,000 key men, is organi ing the Nation, seeking to embrace the be in monetary reform, the Townsend Plan, Father Coughlin's Union for Social Jus tice, the GI Bill of Rights, and other sen tional reforms, based on the slogan "Drive the money changers out."

RECORDED & INDEXED
EX-88 31 OCT 9 1945
62-42912-788
F B I

This will be one of the most sensational meetings ever held in Detroit.
Mr. Smith is just embarking on an ocean-to-ocean nationwide speaking and conference tour. This will be his last meeting in Detroit before December.
Mr. Swift's subject will be: Christian Nationalism, America's Hope.

(PUT THIS CIRCULAR IN A PUBLIC PLACE)

53 OCT 25 1945

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-7744

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	10-18-45	9-28,30; 10-3, 5,10,12-45	[redacted] b7c

TITLE

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY

CHARACTER OF CASE

INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Subject staged two meetings at Chicago 9-30-45, LaSalle Hotel. Approximate attendance, 300 at each session. Afternoon session confined to repetitious address and made promises and threats against the Communists and Jews. Threatened to expose TYLER KENT case in evening session. Reiterated his San Francisco events and berated Marshall Field and "Chicago Sun" newspaper. Most of his achievements with National Congressmen and Catholic Clergymen. Evening session devoted to his conferences with TYLER KENT's mother and claimed she had photostatic copies of reports from British State Department revealing all facts of the TYLER KENT case and the Roosevelt-Churchill negotiations. Promised an expose of the KENT case when documents came into his possession. Introduced a new economic system for the American people, whereby an annual income of $5,000 would be assured for each family with $50 per week minimum. Promised to present this bill to Congress personally. Unable to determine amount of collection. However, liberal supply of bills were placed in envelopes distributed as the crowd entered the meeting hall. MAXIMILIAN ST. GEORGE, Chicago Attorney, on the platform and introduced to the audience which incorporated a liberal sprinkling of Germans.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-9B2/mk
ON 10/4/82

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 21, 1945, at Chicago, Illinois; b7c

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: H. R. McGuire, SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE R.P.G.

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62-43818-789

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Chicago file No. 100-7744

Letter from Detroit to the Bureau, dated 9-26-45.

DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 100-7463

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CLEVELAND, OHIO	10/16/45	9/18,20,23/45	[redacted] mh

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Mass rally held in Cleveland Public Auditorium Ballroom on September 18, 1945 by GERALD L. K. SMITH. Approximately seven hundred people attended. Speakers were GERALD L. K. SMITH; Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, head of the United Mothers in Cleveland; and Rev. WESLEY A. SWIFT of California. SMITH devoted his speech to berating EUGENE SEGAL, reporter with the "Cleveland Press", and WALTER WINCHELL; demanded return of TYLER KENT from England; called for a complete investigation of the Pearl Harbor affair; berated Communist activity; and outlined his Post-War Recovery Commission Plan. Mrs. STANLEY berated the number of Jewish people in the government, and Rev. SWIFT told of West Coast meetings held by SMITH. Closed meeting held on September 20, 1945 at the Hollenden Hotel in Cleveland. Admittance was by card only. Approximately two hundred persons attended. SMITH spoke and covered the same subjects as in the mass rally. On September 23, 1945, mass rally was held at the Mercer County Fairgrounds in Celina, Ohio. Approximately four thousand people attended. Speakers were SMITH; FREDERICK KISTER of Chicago, Illinois, National Chairman of the Christian Veterans; CARL H. MOTE, Indiana utilities' owner and President, National Farmers' Guild; KENNETH GOFF of Lansing, Michigan; HARRY A. KROMER, Saint Henry, Ohio, America First vice presidential candidate in 1944. The rally was held to aid in the organization of the Christian Veterans organization and to outline the Post-War Recovery Com-

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: N. J. O'Connor SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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CV. F. O.
100-7463

mission Plan.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Bureau File No. 62-43818.

Detroit letters to the Bureau dated September 7 and September 11, 1945.

DETAILS: [redacted]

b7d

[redacted] advised that the following transpired at the meeting:

At 8:00 p.m., GERALD L. K. SMITH opened the meeting by the singing of "America". Following this song, Reverend WESLEY A. SWIFT led the meeting in a group prayer. SMITH went on to speak, outlining generally his nation-wide tour. He advised that they were to hold a closed meeting on September 20, 1945 in Cleveland and on September 23, 1945, they were to have a mass rally at the Mercer County Fairgrounds, Celina, Ohio. SMITH went on to berate EUGENE SEGAL, a reporter for the "Cleveland Press", for his attacking SMITH, The America First Party, Christian Veterans, and other nationalistic organizations. SMITH pointed out that SEGAL never attacked any Jews in his column. He pointed out that SEGAL's reason for writing such articles was to obtain good money for his writing. SMITH also berated FRIEDA SIEGWORTH, another reporter for the "Cleveland Press", for her articles on the United Mothers. SMITH also berated WALTER WINCHELL, the New York columnist, for his articles. SMITH stated that the nationalistic motto should be "WINCHELL in the gutter and LINDBERGH on top." He pointed out to the assembled people that the war is now over and free speech had returned; that they should no longer worry as to what they said, and should feel free to say what they thought.

SMITH stated that they were circulating ten thousand petitions in the United States to have Father COUGHLIN return to the radio. SMITH stated that now that the war is over, he expects a great mass expansion of the nationalistic movement to begin. They will soon be having big mass rallies all over. They have spent the past three-four years suffering persecution, and the leaders have barely missed being sent to prison. He now wants the Christian Veterans to organize and carry the torch. He hopes that the time will come when he can step down and the Veterans' organization can carry on.

SMITH then called on Mrs. DAVID STANLEY of Cleveland, Ohio, who is the local leader of the United Mothers, and pointed her out as one of his very

faithful aids. He stated that the type of people of Mrs. STANLEY's character have made him able to continue his work. He reiterated that he had nothing of a financial nature of his own, and in the event he should die, his wife would have but a modest insurance policy. He then introduced Mrs. DAVID STANLEY.

Mrs. STANLEY decried the advances which Communism was making in this country and in the whole world. She pointed out that World War III was in the making. She then went on to list the names of many Jewish people who are presently in the government service. She made no further comment, beyond giving their name and their position. Following that, she pointed out that the nationalists would have to put pressure on Washington because the Communists have put pressure on Washington and TRUMAN has veered to the left. She read a letter which she was sending to Senators LANGER and WALSH, who are on the Pearl Harbor Investigating Committee. She called for the return of TYLER KENT to this country and an investigation of Pearl Harbor.

Following Mrs. STANLEY, Rev. WESLEY A. SWIFT of California spoke. SWIFT decried a Communist influence in California and especially in the motion picture industry. He pointed out that the issue of racism had been injected not by the nationalists, but rather by the left-wing Jews and Communists in California. SWIFT went on to give an account of the meeting at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles, California.

At 9:15 p.m., GERALD L. K. SMITH again took the floor. He pointed out that he had been in San Francisco during the San Francisco Conference and while there, he had represented twenty-one nationalistic organizations at the conference. While there, they had established a California headquarters at 1204 South Hill Street in Los Angeles. He then went on to explain some of the disturbances which he had created at the conference, and especially at the hotels where the Russian and British delegates had stayed. He had attempted to have rallies at these hotels during the conference; however, the hotels had turned him down, but he had held meetings right in the lobby of the hotels regardless. He described being followed by Russian Secret Police, British Secret Police, FBI Agents, Military Policy, Military Intelligence, and Naval Intelligence, and as a result of being followed by so many people, he added that he had been the best-protected man at the conference. He stated that the whole San Francisco Conference was a phony, but that he thought there were some victories won. He went on to berate the Russian Communist and Jewish Communist influence in California, and particularly in the motion picture industry. He pointed out that we had won the war and got rid of Italy, but presented the victory on a silver platter to JOSEPH STALIN. He berated the fact that JOSEPH STALIN wants a loan of $6,000,000,000 and that the government appears to be in agreement on this point; but when he advocates giving each serviceman $1,000 in lieu of loaning Russia money, the people call him a demagog. He then went on to expound some of his economic theories whereby money was to be given to returning soldiers and very liberal payments to be

made to the aged and otherwise disabled workers, which money was not to be obtained by taxation, but rather through "a matching of payments with the productive capacity of this country". At this point, SMITH interrupted the meeting to take a collection for the benefit of his organization. Various pieces of literature were distributed at the same time.

Following the collection, SMITH stated he had been in Washington for the following reasons:

The first one was to present an American plan for post-war recovery. He pointed out that you cannot beat the Communists with words, and you must have a plan. There are three ways out of the post-war period, either the way of the "big shots", of the Communists, or the American way, which is against both Wall Street and the Communists. He pointed out that action must be taken or within one year there will be twenty million people without jobs. A sixty-million-job slogan is a hoax.

The Federal Reserve Bank and International Bank must be done away with. Money must be put into the hands of the people. His plan, known as the "Post-War Recovery Plan" has taken the best portions of the Townsend Plan, the Huey Long Plan, and the Father Coughlin Plan.

The second reason for going to Washington was to circulate petitions and present petitions for the investigation of Communist activities in the film industry.

His third reason to be in Washington was to register a request that there be no whitewash of the Pearl Harbor incident. He stated he wants the whole "lowdown" on the matter brought to light, and that FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT and his wife expected the attack on Pearl Harbor hours before it came, but that they refused to let the high command know. SMITH stated, "I'm not saying that Pearl Harbor was not a sneak attack. It was. But ROOSEVELT needed an attack." He pointed out that he had recently received information that long before Pearl Harbor, ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL had had a number of meetings, and following one of these, Lloyds of London had cancelled all insurance on Pearl Harbor. SMITH called for a return of TYLER KENT from London and called for KENT's testimony at the Pearl Harbor investigation.

SMITH then went on to elaborate on his Post-War Recovery Plan. He said that he wanted to take the control of money out of the Federal Reserve Banks and put it back in the hands of Congress and the hands of the people. He outlined the salient points of the Post-War Recovery Commission's Plan and the economy involved. He wanted all members present to take copies of the plan and organize small neighborhood groups to discuss it. These groups should be small so that they could always meet in homes and consist of no more than three or four families. The hope is to organize thousands of such small societies and after thoroughly

organized, they want to hold a national convention. The plan will take much discussing and organizing, but it will be an answer to the Communists.

He then invited the assembled people to attend the Thursday night's meeting, which was to be held in downtown Cleveland, although he refused to state the place, adding that the place was marked on the tickets. All persons desiring to attend this meeting had to call at the front of the hall and obtain tickets from one of the persons seated on the stage.

Reverend SWIFT closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

[redacted] b2

[redacted] advised that he attended a mass rally held at the Mercer County Fairgrounds at Celina, Ohio on September 23, 1945. This rally was held under the auspices of the Farmers' Guild. At this rally, speakers were, besides SMITH, FREDERICK KISTER of Chicago, Illinois, National Chairman of the Christian Veterans; CARL H. MOTE of Indiana, Indiana utilities' owner and President, National Farmers' Guild; KENNETH GOFF of Lansing, Michigan; and HARRY ROMER of Saint Henry, Ohio, America First Party vice presidential candidate in 1944. [redacted] stated that the rally devoted itself primarily to aid the organization of the nationalist Christian Veterans organization and SMITH's outline of the plan of the Post-War Recovery Commission. b2

The "Daily Standard" of Celina, Ohio, dated September 24, 1945, contained an article concerning the mass rally, from which the following information was obtained:

GERALD L. K. SMITH declared that America faced the immediate threat of being overrun by Communists, and urged the organization of the Christian Veterans and the Christian Youth for America. He also spoke on his Post-War Recovery Commission. Approximately four thousand persons attended the America First Party anniversary rally. SMITH proposed a $2,500 payment to all veterans. He called the labor-sponsored full employment bill now in Congress "slavery", and denounced its sponsors as Communists. SMITH planned for the uniting of the Townsend Clubs, Coughlinites, and HUEY LONG followers. A part of their plan will be a campaign against the payment of any interest on the national debt. SMITH called Pearl Harbor and the TYLER KENT affair the greatest scandals in the nation's history.

CV. F. O.
100-7463

HARRY ROMER of Saint Henry, Ohio presided at the opening of the meeting and defied the enemies to put him on the spot. CARL MOTE, Indianapolis telephone company operator and President, Farmers' Guild, received a loud handclap when he expressed joy at the death of President ROOSEVELT and praised President TRUMAN. Throughout the meeting, speakers attacked the Jewish people.

ENCLOSURES: TO THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION —

1. Two tickets to the closed meeting at the Hollenden Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio on September 20, 1945. *

2. One post card announcing the meeting at the Cleveland Public Auditorium Ballroom on Tuesday, September 18, 1945 at 8:00 p.m.

3. Mimeographed circular with envelope entitled "The Curtain Rises" consisting of four pages and dated September, 1945 at Detroit, Michigan.

4. Two-page circular entitled "The Letter" dated September 6, 1945.

5. Printed sheet entitled "Reds Open New U. S. Drive; Hollywood 'Citadel'". *

6. Flyer announcing a meeting at the Cleveland Public Auditorium Ballroom on September 18, 1945.

7. Folder entitled "Christian Veterans Awake!" *

8. Blank petition for getting Father COUGHLIN back on the radio. *

9. Sheet containing four pictures of GERALD L. K. SMITH. *

10. One copy of the magazine "The Cross and the Flag" dated August, 1945. *

11. Two copies of the magazine "The Cross and the Flag" dated September, 1945. *

[redacted] Items marked with an asterisk were obtained at the rally at the Cleveland Public Auditorium.)

570

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

CV. F. O.
100-7463

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

b7c b7D

59302

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

ST. P FILE NO. 100-4156

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA	10/18/45	10/1,2/45	[redacted] b7c RS

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was, et al CONFIDENTIAL	INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Information obtained that SMITH spoke at Truth & Liberty Temple, Minneapolis, Minnesota, on October 1 and 2, 1945, and that both meetings were well attended with approximately 750 in attendance at each meeting. Meetings were picketed by CIO, AFL, as well as AYD, CP and the SWP, but no evidence of violence. Meeting sponsored by Rev. C. O. STADSKLEV, pastor of Truth & Liberty Temple, Minneapolis, Minnesota, and allegedly editor Truth & Liberty magazine.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND ADVISED OF SLIP(S) OF DATE

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Letter from Detroit to Bureau dated September 26, 1945.

DETAILS: Attached

b7D

[redacted]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: M. A. Rhodes SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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Tuesday night, October 2, and noted a number of members of the SWP in the attended the meeting on

CONFIDENTIAL

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St. P 100-4156

picket line in front of the Liberty and Truth Temple at 26th and Second Avenue South. A number of known Stalinites were also noted in the picket line and in addition GEORGE PHILLIPS of the AFL and BOB WISHART of the CIO were observed carrying banners. Three pamphlets were being distributed at the meeting one by Friends of Democracy Inc., entitled "A Report on Minneapolis", which detailed the activities of four Minneapolis clergymen, W. D. HERRSTROM, a fundamentalist minister who is editor of the Bible News Flashes; C. O. STADSKLEV, a fundamentalist minister who is editor of Ruth & Liberty Magazine; W. B. RILEY, founder of the World's Christian Fundamentals Association, and LUKE RADER, pastor of the River Lake Gospel Tabernacle and publisher of the Sunshine News. A copy of this pamphlet is being transmitted to the Bureau with this report.

Likewise a pamphlet was issued by GEORGE PHILLIPS, WISHART, COVEY, JOHN KYKYRI, Editor of MINNESOTA Labor, a known Communist, JAMES MARKHAM, Editor of Hennepin County Review, MRS. MARIAN LeMUEUR, County Chairman of the Democratic Farmer-Labor Party, whose daughter MERIDEL is one of the more prominent Communists, DR. W. J. LUYTEN, Professor, University of Minnesota, and Alderman OSCAR CLEVE.

The SWP pamphlet was entitled "Labor is Opposed to Smith" and called upon the workers to rally to the SWP cause and build a labor party. In effect, the pamphlet was an advertisement for the SWP group.

It was likewise noted that MINNESOTA LABOR, Communist dominated CIO paper for the State of Minnesota, had a newspaper photographer present who took a number of photographs of the picketers, which later appeared in MINNESOTA LABOR for October 5, 1945. In addition to those previously mentioned, Sergeant GEORGE MACKO, a veteran of the United States Army who was wounded in Germany, paraded with his sister in behalf of the AYD.

[redacted] e b1

ENCLOSURE TO BUREAU: Pamphlet entitled "A Report on Minneapolis".

---REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE---

OR ORIGIN

CONFIDENTIAL

59305

St. P 100-4156

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SOURCE OF INFORMATION

[redacted]

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FBI/DOJ

General Bureau of Investig.

United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
October 1, 1945

Director, FBI

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED REPORTING SLIP(S) OF 4/4/53 DATE

DECLASSIFIED BY SP8B TJ/mlr
ON 10/14/82

Dear Sir:

There is set forth below information obtained from [redacted] and [redacted] whose identities are known to the Bureau, for the period from September 1, 1945 through September 28, 1945. b7D

It was ascertained that Subject SMITH planned to have 12,500 copies of his monthly "Letter" published for the month of September. It is further noted that this is a decrease of 1,000 copies from the previous month.

After SMITH's return from the west coast, he held several small meetings in Detroit, Michigan, and immediately began to plan another trip to Los Angeles, California. In the meantime he was in contact with Dr. HARVEY SPRINGER of Cleveland, Ohio, at which time there was a discussion concerning the book of CLAUDE WILLIAMS, Director of the Peoples Institute of Applied Religion, an alleged Communist front organization. The book, the title of which is "A Faith to Free the People" was published by DRYDEN PRESS and could be procured from any CIO Book Store. At the same time, SPRINGER told SMITH that the Jews had organized to such an extent that they had at their disposal several million dollars to wipe SMITH and others (Nationalists) off the map.

~~INDEXED & RECORDED~~

SMITH was also in contact with EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago, Illinois, a well-known Nationalist follower, at which time SMITH discussed the case of TYLER KENT. SMITH advised SOUTHARD that three lawyers, namely: [redacted] and [redacted] were in Washington at the present time working on the KENT case. SMITH told SOUTHARD that KENT is now in the custody of the London Police, who are doing nothing for him. b7C

On September 9, 1945, SMITH contacted FRED KISTER, a leader of the Nationalist Youth Movement in Chicago, Illinois, at which time they had a discussion concerning SMITH's proposed trip to the west coast. At this time SMITH told KISTER that on his way to the coast he would plan to give a talk in Chicago, Illinois on September 30, 1945. SMITH was also in contact with RALPH

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS

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162-4578-193
F B I
2 OCT 29 1945

Director, FBI
October 1, 1945

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

BAERMAN, his representative in Washington, D. C. SMITH told BAERMAN that he would speak in Buffalo, New York on September 16, 1945; in Cleveland, Ohio on September 18, 1945; in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on September 19, 1945, and also told BAERMAN that he was going to Los Angeles, California where he planned to conduct a series of approximately twenty meetings.

SMITH has recently been in contact with several of the "Mothers' Groups" and especially has been in touch with Mrs. DAVID STANLEY of Cleveland, Ohio, who was arranging to rent a hall for SMITH, when he appeared in Cleveland. Mrs. STANLEY is a well-known leader of mothers' organizations in Cleveland, Ohio.

On September 27, 1945, SMITH planned to hold a meeting at the Northern High School in Detroit, Michigan. He succeeded in renting the hall for the meeting from the Board of Education and after this was made public, protests began to pour into the Board of Education from the Communist Party at Detroit, Michigan, and from other anti-SMITH organizations. However, after SMITH obtained knowledge of the proposed plans to picket his meeting, he immediately sent a postcard to all the people on his mailing list, pointing out that the Communists and their "ilk" would try to break up their meeting and urged each and everyone of them to attend. He stated that he would have plenty of police protection and that he would make a sensational announcement.

SMITH endeavored to have the Detroit newspapers print publicity concerning CLAUDE WILLIAMS, above described, but was not successful in obtaining any paper to publish what SMITH wanted.

In view of the above information, it is suggested that the services of instant Informants be continued.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. Guerin
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted] meg
62-1126

b7c

COM-4

Recd 2:15 AM [redacted] c 70 actions please

b1

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

F.B.I. TELETYPE

[redacted] c b1

FBI DETROIT [redacted] c 8-35 PM EST WEA
DIRECTOR URGENT
ZERO

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[redacted] b7c

GERALD L. K. SMITH, IS-G. [redacted] b7D
[redacted] DISCONTINUED 4-30 P.M. INSTANT DATE. LETTER OF EXPLANATION FOLLOWS.

HAND DELIVERED BY

GUERIN

8-34 PM OK FBI WA DC SK
RECEIVED [redacted] c 9-08 P.M. EST MMK

b1

CLASS. BY SP-3BTJ/mlm
DATE OF REVIEW BARR 10/14/92

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED PER ROUTING SLIP(S) OF
DATE

cc - Mr. Donaghey

RECORDED & INDEXED
30
EX-11

62-43818-71

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

3 [redacted] c b1

[redacted] b1

[redacted] c b1

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr Tolson
Mr E A Tamm
Mr Clegg
Mr Coffey
Mr Glavin
Mr Ladd
Mr Nichols
Mr Bosen
Mr Tracy
Mr Carson
Mr Egan
Mr Gurnee
Mr Mendon
Mr Pennington
Mr Quinn Tamm
Mr Nease

TELETYPE

OCT 24 1945

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FBI SAN FRANCISCO 10-24-45 3-25 PM CMS

DIRECTOR AND SAC DETROIT DEFERRED

ADO. GERALD L. K. SMITH, AMERICA FIRST PARTY, I. S., SEDITION. RE DETROIT LETTER OCTOBER SIXTEEN LAST REQUESTING COVERAGE OF SUBJECTS MEETINGS IN THIS FIELD DIVISION. ALSO RE BULET OCTOBER ELEVEN LAST STATING NO ACTIVE INVESTIGATION DESIRED. UNLESS ADVISED TO CONTRARY NO COVERAGE WILL BE MAINTAINED OF SUBJECTS MEETINGS.

RECORDED

VINCENT

EX-23 162-43818-995

32 OCT 25 1945

ACK IN ORDER

WASH 625 PM OK FBI WASH DC DLR

DE OK FBI DE DJS

DISC PLSMM

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/14/82 BY SP-9 BJ/MC

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: October 25, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION
(Bureau File 62-43818)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/14/82 BY SP8BTJ/MC

Reference is made to your memorandum dated October 11, 1945, advising that in view of the Criminal Division's opinion an active investigation of the Subject should not be continued. However, a request is made that any information relative to his activities should be forwarded to the Bureau.

This office, by letter dated August 31, 1945, asked that the pay of [redacted] be increased from thirty-five dollars to fifty dollars per month. By a memorandum dated September 24, 1945, the Bureau advised that consideration would be given to the increase after a decision had been rendered by the Criminal Division of the Department. b7D

It is requested that the Bureau advise as to what extent SMITH should be investigated and whether the services of [redacted] should be continued as an informant in this case. If informant coverage is desired, consideration should also be given to the increase in pay for [redacted]

It is believed that SMITH's activities could be adequately covered by [redacted] and that the services of this Informant would warrant the recommended increase. b7D

In giving consideration to the above matter, it is to be noted that the services of [redacted] were discontinued on October 19, 1945. In connection with the discontinuance of these Informants, please refer to the letter from the Detroit Field Division dated October 19, 1945.

[redacted] b7C
62-1126

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EX-50

62-43818-796
F B I

25 OCT 29

[redacted]

JDD:JAR

62-43818 — 796

SAC, Detroit ~~STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~ November 7, 1945

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF dellen DATE 4/4/83

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

RECORDED

GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
EX-5 INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION
Your file 62-1126

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-8BTJ/mk
ON 10/14/82

Reference is made to your letter dated October 25, 1945, requesting advice from the Bureau concerning the extent to which Smith should be investigated and whether the services of [redacted] should be continued. It was also stated in referenced letter that if informant coverage were desired consideration should also be given to the increase in pay for [redacted] b7D

As you were advised in Bureau memorandum of October 11, 1945, an active investigation of the subject is not desired. The Department desires, however, any information concerning Smith's activities which may come to the Bureau's attention. It is evident, therefore, that no active investigation is desired in this matter by the Criminal Division. The services of paid informants, accordingly, do not appear necessary and under separate communication you are being advised concerning the discontinuance of [redacted] b7D

[redacted]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICTIONS SECTION
NOV 7 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

By a previous communication dated October 22, 1945, you were informed that the services of [redacted] should be discontinued.

DEC 7 1945

[redacted]

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JJK:l

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: October 12, 1945

FROM : J. C. Strickland

SUBJECT: AMERICA FIRST PARTY, et al
SPECIAL INQUIRY
STATE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lado
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Evans
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

Reference is made to the attached copy of a State Department interoffice memorandum from [redacted] to [redacted] containing a request that the Bureau supply for the use of the State Department information on the above named and ten other organizations.

b7c

A review of the Bureau's files reflects no pertinent information regarding the American National Patriotic Society. Blind summary memoranda have been prepared for transmittal to the State Department by our Liaison Section regarding the other organizations which are described as follows:

America First Party - Summary
American Defense Society, Inc. - Summary
National Civic Federation - Summary
112 Park Avenue, New York, New York
National Security League - Summary
45 W. 45th Street, New York, New York
Mothers of Sons Forum, Cincinnati, Ohio - Summary
Regular Veterans Association - Summary
1115 15th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.
We, the Mothers Mobilize for America - Summary
United Mothers of America - Summary
Allied Patriotic Societies, Inc. - Summary
Order of the Founders and Patriots of America - Summary

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DATE 10/14/82 BY SP-1 STL/ML

Attachment

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-43818-797

OCT 24 1945

EX-1

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/14/82 BY SP-8BTS/ac

WE, THE MOTHERS, MOBILIZE FOR AMERICA, INC.

According to available information, Mrs. Barbara Winthrop, Evanston, Illinois, met with a group of women at the La Salle Hotel in Chicago on February 16, 1941, for the purpose of organizing a coordinated movement of all mothers groups. The records of the Secretary of the State of Illinois reflect that Certificate #10945, Articles of Incorporation, was issued to "We, the Mothers, Mobilize for America, Inc." at Springfield on March 27, 1941.

Shortly after its organization, this mothers group maintained an office at 37 West Van Buren Street, Room 335, Chicago, and operated under the leadership of the following officers:

Mrs. Lyrl Clark Van Hyning, 6210 Greenwood Avenue, Chicago - President
Mrs. Lucy Palermo, 10406 South Leavitt Street, Chicago - Vice-President
Mrs. Grace Keefe, 6209 South Laflin Avenue, Chicago - Secretary
Mrs. Helene Johnson, 2324 West 111th Street, Chicago - Chairman of the Committee for Patriotic Action

In the early part of 1942, information was received to the effect that this organization claimed a membership of 35,000 persons throughout the United States of which 10,000 reportedly resided in Chicago, Illinois. It was stated, however, that 1,000 women members in Chicago was more nearly correct. Reportedly five or six volunteer workers were engaged in distributing literature from the organization's headquarters at 37 West Van Buren Street, Chicago, Illinois.

An election of officers was held on April 12, ~~1945, at which time~~ Mrs. Van Hyning was retained as President. According to available information, Mrs. Van Hyning, Mrs. Grace Keefe, Mrs. Elizabeth Dilling and Mrs. Barbara Winthrop, representing the subject organization in the middle of July, 1941, made a trip to Washington, D. C., for the purpose of protesting against the Administration's measures regarding foreign affairs. Reportedly, Mrs. Dilling, who was later indicted in the District of Columbia for conspiracy to violate the Sedition statutes, and members of the subject organization were active in picketing the White House while in Washington. In addition, members of this organization reportedly, on May 15, 1941, picketed a hotel in Chicago where Lord Halifax was staying. This picketing allegedly was in protest of the Administration's policy of all out aid to England.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mease
Miss Gandy

62-43818-771

ENCLOSURE

Following the entrance of the United States into the war, this organization held weekly meetings usually in the homes of various members of the group. Reportedly, at a meeting held on February 24, 1942, in the basement of the Masonic Temple at 7832 South Union Avenue, Mrs. Agnes Waters of Washington, D. C., was the principal speaker. Mrs. Waters allegedly stated that a Secret Service man had told her in June, 1941, that there was to be a massacre at Pearl Harbor. According to Mrs. Waters, she tried to visit all the Congressmen and warn them of Pearl Harbor but no one would do anything about it. She also reportedly stated in her talk that inasmuch as the United States was at war, former President Roosevelt, as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, could be court-martialed for the crime of stripping our country of its defenses to assist foreign nations.

On March 20, 1942, Mrs. Van Hyning and Mrs. Keefe reportedly addressed the group making remarks against the purchase of defense bonds, indicating that the continued purchase of bonds would prolong the war. They also reportedly opposed sugar rationing and drew up a resolution protesting such rationing.

The subject organization during March and April of 1944 reportedly held meetings every two weeks with attendance ranging from 23 to 125 persons. The speeches at these meetings generally urged a negotiated peace and were extremely anti-British and anti-Administration in nature. During the succeeding months, the meetings of the organization were attended by from 20 to 25 persons. Available information indicates that the same type of program was still being used. Mrs. Van Hyning spoke at each of the meetings. Her remarks usually touched on local politics and condemned the National Administration for its foreign policy. A negotiated peace reportedly was still advocated by the group. In the fall of 1944, weekly meetings of the organization brought out an attendance of approximately 20 persons. Allegedly, the meetings were directed primarily at getting out the vote for the Republicans in order to defeat the Democratic Administration which Mrs. Van Hyning accused of planning to destroy America. In the early part of 1945, similar meetings of the organization were continued. However, it was reported that the membership of the organization had fallen off due to adverse publicity given the organization by newspapers and magazines.

The organization held a Peace Convention in Chicago, Illinois, on June 12 and 13, 1944. Reportedly, there were in attendance approximately 150 women from forty states. Available information indicates that a number of speeches were given in favor of a negotiated peace and that the following resolutions were drawn up:

1. Impeach the President now

2. Pass legislation to prevent measures whereby the returning soldiers will have to pay taxes to support the United Nations Rehabilitation Association program.

3. Demand of Congress what our war aims are

4. Demand of the President and Congress why Germany is at fault in the present war

In the early part of April, 1945, information was received to the effect that Mrs. Van Hyning intended to be present at the San Francisco Conference. Mrs. Van Hyning along with leaders of several other similar mothers organizations were reportedly attending the San Francisco Conference so that the beliefs of their respective organizations could be made known. It was reported that the organization was interested in the following points:

1. They desired to register their objection to the war aims and causes of the war.

2. To object to the un-American concessions made by former President Roosevelt.

3. To object to secret commitments made by former President Roosevelt.

4. To present a resolution that persons eighteen years of age and over be allowed to vote and that only those who advocate and sponsor war be drafted for service.

The organization reportedly began issuing a paper called the "Women's Voice" in August, 1942. This paper has been published monthly since that time. The first issue of the paper contained four pages and reportedly 1,000 copies were printed. In succeeding months, the paper is stated to have grown in size, on some occasions containing as many as eight pages. In February, 1943, it was reported that 22,500 copies of the paper had been printed and in September, 1943, 15,000 copies were printed. Usually, however, around 2,000 copies were printed each month. According to available information, the paper is dedicated to "wholesome political administration, just and early peace, betterment for our boys in service, and continuation of Government as a Republic on democratic principles". The paper is reported to have consistently maintained a strong anti-Administration policy and opposed an international police system as well as international bankers.

ESB:cg
10/12/45

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AMERICA FIRST PARTY

During the year of 1938 in Detroit, Gerald L. K. Smith founded an organization known as the "Committee of One Million". In this connection he distributed a considerable amount of literature designating the purposes of "The Committee of One Million" as follows:

1. To rebuild the spirit of America

2. To wipe out the last vestiges of Communism, Nazism and Fascism in all forms

3. The redefinition of the American National character

4. The installation of a new spirit in American youth, dedicated to the maintenance of American institutions

5. To issue a call to farmers and laborers to resist what is now known as an international plot to involve them in a world revolution

6. To rededicate the citizenry of America to the family altar and to the spirit of the church

7. To secure the maintenance of a well defined standard of American living

Other literature of "The Committee of One Million" sought particularly to stress the activities of this organization in combating Communist influences.

With the coming of the European war in 1939, Smith shifted the policy of "The Committee of One Million" to that of promoting the cause of isolationism. In various pieces of literature distributed during 1939, 1940 and 1941, he was reportedly especially critical of the Government's policy of rendering assistance to the Allied Governments.

Since the involvement of the United States in the war, Smith reportedly again shifted his policy as well as that of "The Committee of One Million" to the direction of criticism against the Government's efforts in prosecuting the war. He has not questioned the necessity of winning the war, but on the other hand, in various of his publications, as well as his public utterances, has been careful to lay stress on the necessity of the people's aiding and assisting in every way in defeating America's foes.

However, he has advanced contentions that the Government is using the war as an excuse for depriving the public of its just liberties.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

62-43818-797

ENCLOSURE

He has also freely voiced criticism against what he has been disposed to characterize as the Government's efforts to reduce the United States to a mere entity in a great international state dominated by Great Britain.

During the summer of 1942, Smith sought the Republican nomination for the position of United States Senator from the State of Michigan. He made a number of speeches and conducted quite an active campaign and in the primary election received approximately 120,000 votes. Although this was not sufficient for nomination, political observers were reportedly of the opinion that Smith had made an unusually good showing. Even after this defeat, Smith continued his candidacy in the general election in November, 1942, when he projected himself as a write-in candidate. He was badly defeated in the general election, his following being less than that in the primary campaign.

Late in 1942, Smith publicly announced the intention of forming a third political party on a national scale. The proposed platform for this party, as announced, was said to be somewhat similar to that advanced by Smith in connection with "The Committee of One Million" and it has further been reported that Smith was hoping to gain support for his new party from members of a former group, the "America First Committee".

In recent months, Smith has been touring the country making public addresses on behalf of this party which he calls the "America First Party". In connection with his public appearances, Smith always reportedly professes loyalty in connection with the war effort but frequently condemns the methods being employed by the Government in prosecuting the war and asserts that the Government is not representing "true American interests" in that it is allegedly seeking to set up some sort of world state dominated by Great Britain. Smith also continues to publish his magazine "The Cross and the Flag" which is reported to be devoted primarily to promoting the "America First Party".

BCB:bm

October 12, 1945

THE AMERICAN DEFENSE SOCIETY, INCORPORATED

This organization was incorporated under the Membership Laws of the State of New York on August 5, 1915. Its office is located at 255 Fifth Avenue in New York City. Its officers include Robert Appleton, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Leslie J. Tompkins, Vice-Chairman, Clarence M. Penfield, Executive Secretary.

PURPOSE

The Society operates as a non-profit national patriotic organization, having for its purpose the education of the citizens of the United States in the need and importance of National Defense. It also conducts special studies concerning Immigration and Naturalization. Throughout the years it has strongly opposed Communism. It is non-political and non-sectarian. There are no stipulated dues, and contributions are entirely voluntary although associate memberships may be purchased for $100 yearly, sustaining memberships for $50, and active memberships for $25.

ACTIVITIES

The Society has published and distributed a number of pamphlets in the interest of "Americanism". Among these are "The Reds in America", by R. M. Whitney; "National Defense", by General John J. Pershing; "The Constitution of the United States of America".

In 1927 a number of pamphlets were published on the subject of Communist activities in the United States. Among these were: "Is There a Moscow Myth?", which outlined Communist activities throughout the world; "Is the Complexion of Pacifism Red?", which named organizations opposed to preparedness; "Idioms of Revolution", which was a glossary of words and phrases commonly used by Communist organizations; and "What is Treason?", which dealt with the curbing of disloyal propagandists.

In 1928 the organization advocated immigration restrictions in the United States, and adopted resolutions favoring registration of all aliens, and deportation of those illegally in the country. A strong Navy was also advocated.

In 1932 the "National Action Committee" was consolidated with the American Defense Society. The National Action Committee was organized by Richard Washburn Child, a former Ambassador to Italy, and had for its purpose the submission to industrial and other organizations

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Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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DATE 10/11/82 BY SC/SDS/pk

ENCLOSURE

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of return post cards containing lists of questions pertaining to the safety of American institutions and policies. The cards were purchased and distributed by the organizations, and permitted their recipients to express their opinions on public issues.

A pamphlet published by the American Defense Society in 1945 advocates the following postwar military policy for the United States:

1. Universal military training of our youth.

2. A highly trained regular Army with every branch of a field Army represented.

3. Organization of outstanding scientists and military strategists into an independent continuing body to conduct research and investigation of all forms of offense and defense.

4. Maintenance of strong piles of military materials ready for any contingency.

5. Retention and fortification of all bases necessary to National Defense.

6. Preservation of America's present superiority on the sea under the plan announced by the Secretary of the Navy.

7. Maintenance of an effective and up-to-date air army in the Army and Navy, assuring at all times that we are abreast of all new developments.

Mr. Tolson
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Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mease
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BC.BROWN:LVO

October 12, 1945

NATIONAL SECURITY LEAGUE, INC.

ORIGIN AND OFFICERS

The National Security League was organized in 1914 by S. Stanwood Menken, a New York City lawyer, who served as its president for more than ten years without compensation. In 1923 C. M. Penfield was executive secretary. J. W. Tiedemann served as executive secretary for many years and in 1941 stated that he and General Robert Lee Bullard, president of the organization, were the salaried officers, he receiving $65 per week and General Bullard $80 per week. The first headquarters was at 45 West 45th Street, New York City, and other headquarters occupied by the organization have been located at 19 West 44th Street, 17 East 49th Street, and 25 West 43rd Street.

PURPOSE

The National Security League, according to its own statement, was formed as a preparedness organization and began advocating preparedness for war in October, 1914. Following World War I its efforts were directed toward patriotic and educational purposes and toward the suppression of the radical movement.

ACTIVITIES

Following its organization in 1914 the League became a National organization, with branches throughout the United States. It claimed to have marched one million men in one day in a parade advocating preparedness. After the war the League advocated the adoption of the Constitution as a compulsory study in the schools of the United States. Programs of education were prepared for use in several states and the organization claimed to have been successful in having its program of compulsory teaching of the Constitution adopted in 43 states.

Numerous pamphlets were published and widely distributed pointing out the aims and dangers of "Socialism, Bolshevism, and Communism, and advocating an American America and permanent justice, order, peace and prosperity."

The League claimed a membership of between 150,000 and 160,000 with an additional membership of 300,000 in a women's affiliate organization immediately following World War I. In 1930 it claimed a paid membership of between 15,000 and 20,000.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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Mr. Quinn Tamm
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Miss Gandy

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ENCLOSURE

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During the 1930's the League became more or less inactive. In 1938 it was listed as one of the organizations cooperating with the Dies Committee in its investigation of subversive activities. In 1940 some interest is shown in the revival of the League in an effort to make it operate as "a gigantic propaganda agency which would restrict its activities entirely to appropriate publicity campaigns, in an effort to bring about a desirable public sentiment and opinion concerning National Defense and preparedness measures."

On June 17, 1945, the National Security League sponsored a talk in Milwaukee by Mrs. Agnes Waters of Washington, D. C. in which, according to newspaper announcements, Mrs. Waters referred to an alleged conspiracy "to bleed the United States white and make Soviet Russia a dominant nation."

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

BCB:aop

October 12, 1945

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/17/82 BY SP-8BTJ/pk

RE: NATIONAL CIVIC FEDERATION

Origin

The National Civic Federation was organized in 1900 by Ralph Montgomery Easley, who became Chairman of the Executive Council of the organization and continued to guide its activities until his death in 1939. It was the outgrowth of the Civic Federation of Chicago which was organized in 1893 by Easley for the purpose of bringing about municipal reform in Chicago.

The presidents of the organization were successively Senator Marcus A. Hanna, August Belmont, Seth Low, V. Everit Macy, Alton B. Parker, and Acting President Matthew Woll. Elihu Root was the honorary president from 1922 until 1927. Samuel Gompers became the vice president at the inception of the organization.

Upon the death of Easley in 1939, Mack W. Beeks, brother of Mrs. Easley's widow, became the Chairman of the Executive Council. Mrs. Easley became Secretary of the Executive Council.

Headquarters of the organization for several years were maintained on the thirty-third floor of the Metropolitan Tower in New York City. Headquarters was subsequently moved to 35 East 44th Street and later to 332 Madison Avenue. Since 1942, the office of the Federation has been at 112 Park Avenue, a combination living room and bedroom used as living quarters by Mrs. Easley.

Purpose

The announced purpose of the organization is to "seek the solution of some of the great problems related to political, social and industrial progress. It provides especially for discussion of questions of national importance and aids in the crystalization of enlightened public opinion and promotes legislation when desirable. It was the pioneer in bringing together in one educational movement representatives of the three great forces of capital, labor and the general public. It combats all forms of radicalism - Pacifism, Socialism, Communism, Bolshevism, Nazism and Anarchism; and advocates evolutionary rathertban revolutionary procedure."

Activities

During the later 20's and early 30's the organization strenuously fought against American recognition of Soviet Russia, and not only demanded laws to outlaw Communists in this country but proposed a national economic conference to establish a world boycott on Soviet Russia. It supported conferences on trusts, the foreign policy of the United States, immigration,

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Mr. Rosen
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Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mease
Miss Jandt

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uniform state legislation, workmen's compensation, social insurance, taxation, industrial conciliation and public utilities ownership.

In 1940 the "Religious Recovery Division" was created within the Federation with the announced purpose of encouraging church attendance, using the slogan "The preservation of the church means the preservation of civilization." In 1941 the "Industrial Advisory Service" was announced by the Federation for the purpose of surveying industrial plants for security reasons and "to aid in eliminating revolutionary and subversive elements from organized labor." Since 1942 the efforts of the organization have been directed to the field of patriotic education.

The organization has depended upon voluntary contributions for its financial support, and there are indications that support has been meager since 1939.

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Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Mendenhall
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mease
Miss Gandy

HWC:rol
10/15/45

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/14/82 BY

THE REGULAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

The Regular Veterans Association is reported to have originated in 1932, at which time it was known as the Regular and Disabled Service Association with headquarters in the Victor Building, Washington, D. C. At that time, Captain H. B. Raines, Ocean City, New Jersey, was allegedly the Commander-in-Chief. Benjamin Johnson of Whitley, Kentucky, was the Senior Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief. Harry Dewitt of Washington, D. C. was reported to be Adjutant General and J. B. McAndrew, 724 Ninth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. was the official representative to the Veterans Administration.

In October, 1934, reorganization of this association was undertaken by one Walter Johnson, 418 Chestnut Street, Clarendon, Virginia, who had been National Commander. The organization then had approximately ninety members and was apparently a sole creation of Walter Johnson. Because it was not national in scope and Johnson could not show a definite need for its cooperation in presenting claims and in assisting in adjudicating veterans' claims, recognition was denied it by the Veterans Administration in January, 1935, as well as in October, 1936.

Around March, 1935, the Regular and Disabled Service Organization was changed to the Regular Veterans Association, its present name, and by April, 1935, it claimed 212 paid-up members. By November 11, 1936, the organization claimed membership of 1,400 with a wide-spread geological membership approaching national scope. The Regular Veterans Association was granted temporary recognition by the Veterans Administration on November 14, 1936, with G. Frederick Tucker, East Falls Church, Virginia, as representative.

This organization was formally and permanently recognized on August 10, 1938, by the Veterans Administration under the provisions of Section 200, Public 844 of the Seventy-fourth Congress approved June 29, 1936. At the time it filed formal application on August 3, 1938, it claimed to have membership of 6,856 members.

This organization was incorporated on March 26, 1935, apparently in the District of Columbia. In 1940, the National Commander was reported to be Karl Gardner, No. 11 Park Place, New York City, and the recognized representative to the Veterans Administration was said to be J. Carl West of Washington, D. C., the National Quartermaster and Service Officer of the organization. Ray B. Hopgood, 5182 Fulton Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. was formerly National Commander having been elected in July, 1937.

The purpose of the organization apparently is to represent and assist veterans of the Regular Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, who have served at least one year in any of these services. The purpose is also to secure legislation and to give other assistance to place this group of regular service personnel in a position at least as favorable as that given to war veterans.

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Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

A Pamphlet given to Congressman Lyle Thomas
[redacted]
Armed Forces Press
D.C. 11/5/52 YSA

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ENCLOSURE

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Croop

October 12, 1945

MOTHERS OF SONS FORUM

HISTORY AND PURPOSE

The Mothers of Sons Forum, which is also known as the "Mothers of Sons Forum of Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky," was reportedly founded in October, 1939, by women with sons of military age. Reportedly it has been engaged in isolationist activities and is known to have been active in Cincinnati, Ohio, since June, 1940. At first it appeared to be a bona fide isolationist organization but later activities allegedly were directed toward severe criticism of the Administration, the publication of vigorous anti-British propaganda, and in November, 1941, it was alleged that the group had dwindled down to a small number of anti-Semetic women who were anxious for England to lose the war at any cost. Certain of its members have participated in trips to Washington, D. C., in conjunction with such organizations as "Women United" and the "America First Committee."

At a meeting of this organization in November, 1941, various members are reported to have been critical of the President of the United States, various Senators, and Wendell Wilkie alleging a tie-up between these individuals and the Jews. The members are reported to have disapproved of sending troops outside the boundaries of the United States and in pursuance of this policy they allegedly consistently opposed the draft bill as well as the extension of the Selective Service Act and the Lend-Lease bill.

ORGANIZATION

In October, 1940, the officers of the Mothers of Sons Forum were said to be the following:

Mrs. Fred Droege, Jr., President
Mrs. Josephine Mahler, Vice President and Recording Secretary
Mrs. E. J. Johannigman, Treasurer
Mrs. R. C. Nelson, Corresponding Secretary
Mrs. Frank Mahler
Mrs. J. W. Ruwe } Board of Directors
Mrs. R. J. Lavell

In February, 1941, the officers of this organization were said to be the following:

Mr. Nelson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
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Mrs. Ethel Groen, President
Mrs. Burnetta Gausepohl, Registrar
Mrs. Josephine Mahler, Vice President
Mrs. E. J. Jonnahingman, Treasurer
Mrs. A. H. Shearman, Recording Secretary
Mrs. Robert H. Lavell, Corresponding Secretary

In 1943 the officers and members most active were said to be the following:

Mrs. Stewart (Lucinda K. Benge, President
Mrs. Sadie Berry, Vice President
Miss Farris, Corresponding Secretary
Mrs. Louise Bruser, Recording Secretary
Mrs. Anna M. Luken, Treasurer
Mrs. A. G. Meijtan, Chairman, Ways and Means Committee

Active members include Mrs. Ethel Groen, North College Hill, Ohio; Mrs. Josephine Mahler, Mrs. Arbogast of Fort Thomas, Kentucky, Mrs. Wagner, Mrs. Josephine Mueller, and Miss Laura Benge, daughter of the President.

In 1943 the address of this organization was that of its president, 111 West St. Clair Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

ACTIVITIES AND MEMBERSHIP

The total number of members is unknown but it is probably relatively small. From attendance at meetings the membership may be estimated at between 50 and 100. The size of the organization necessarily limits the scope and variety of its operations, which may be divided conveniently into four categories:

1. Membership meetings. Regular meetings are held in the Gibson Hotel, Cincinnati, Ohio, twice a month. The average attendance is between 40 and 50. Outsiders are observed at these meetings, although attendance is suppose to be limited to members. Each meeting is opened by the singing of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," since the officers of this organization consider that the National Anthem which was formerly used has been changed and expurgated to suit foreign interests and is no longer "truly American."

2. Lobbying. Political lobbying is a speciality of this organization and is conducted either by letter or in person. Picketing allegedly was resorted to in November, 1941, when a group demonstrated before the headquarters

of Bundles for Britain in Cincinnati, Ohio, reportedly shouting, "Churchill is a Jew. Roosevelt is a Jew, and this is a war of Jewish capitalist."

3. Public Meetings. The organization has been active in the past in supporting either by attendance at or actually sponsoring various public gatherings, usually lectures by well-known individuals whose views are in relative harmony with its own.

4. Publications. This is one of the most important functions of this organization. Besides miscellaneous material like "throwaways" and posters, reportedly having decided bias, this organization is alleged to have issued in 1941 a bulletin entitled "P - S." This publication is said to have adopted a defeatist attitude. The "Bulletin," however, of the Mothers of Sons Forum is the official publication of that organization. This "Bulletin" is claimed to be the result of the combined efforts of any members of the organization who chose to contribute to it. It is issued every 10 or 12 days and is composed of three to five pages of capticus and some times caustic criticism and appears in mimeograph form. It would appear that the distribution of the "Bulletin" is limited to a relatively few copies. There is evidence, however, that the "Bulletin" does find readers outside the membership and outside Cincinnati, Ohio, proper. It has been reported in Middletown, Ohio, and has gone as far afield as Des Moines, Iowa, and Seattle, Washington.

BCB:hm

October 12, 1945

ALLIED PATRIOTIC SOCIETIES, INCORPORATED

This organization had its inception at a patriotic meeting in Cooper Union, New York City, on February 22, 1920, under the auspices of the Tammany Society and other organizations. In October, 1922, thirty patriotic societies with a combined membership of six million throughout the country were incorporated under the laws of New York as "The Allied Patriotic Societies, Incorporated", the announced purpose being to oppose radicalism and revolutionary doctrines, and to develop a comprehensive system for the dissemination of knowledge of American principles and institutions. Among the incorporators were John R. Voorhis, President of the Board of Elections and Grand Sachem of the Tammany Society; Anson C. Baker, Secretary of the Bowery Mission; Colonel William A. Simpson, United States Army retired; Major Edward Underwood of the Salvation Army; and Dwight Braman of 55 Broadway, New York City, Chairman of the organization. Headquarters of the organization was maintained at 55 Broadway in New York City.

MEMBERSHIP

Among the societies included in the new corporation were the following: Colonial Dames of America, Patriotic New Yorkers, The American Legion, Bowery Mission, Bronx County Republican Committee, Chinese-American Citizens Alliance, Daughters of the American Revolution, Daughters of the Cincinnati, Daughters of Holland Dames, Huguenot Society, Law and Order Union of New York State, League of Foreign Born Citizens, Mayflower Descendants, New York Historical Society, Salvation Army, Sons of the American Revolution, and Tammany Society.

In 1923 the organization claimed it represented 57 societies with seven million members.

ACTIVITIES

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The original program of the organization was designed to cover a period of ten years, and included plans to suppress seditious advertising in foreign languages, the sponsoring of a measure to require foreign language newspapers in this country to print certain parts of the publication in English, the home teaching of the English language in foreign born families, aiding the naturalization courts in impressing on the minds of aliens the importance of becoming American citizens, and the advocation of the maintenance of an Army and Navy of "sufficient size to protect the nation against any possible uprising of elements in the United States which would destroy the Union and at the same time insure the respect of foreign governments".

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Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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Monthly meetings were held by the organization, before which speakers of national importance discussed matters of interest to the group. In 1925 the organization advocated legislation restricting immigration and requiring all aliens to register, in order to aid immigration officials to deport those illegally in the country, as well as to protect those here legally.

In 1928 Dwight Brennan, who had served continuously as President of the organization, claimed to represent twenty-eight million members and at that time stated the organization had lead a campaign against Soviet propaganda for ten years.

Beginning about 1937 the allegation was made that the Allied Patriotic Societies, Incorporated was anti-Semitic and somewhat Fascist in nature. In 1939 it was allegedly affiliated with the American Coalition Society, reportedly anti-Jewish and anti-New Deal. On March 30, 1945, one member of the board of directors of the Allied Patriotic Societies, Incorporated stated that he felt sure that there had been some Nazi infiltration in the Society, but that the Society had been dormant since the beginning of 1942. He stated, "We have at last awakened to a peril which as I see it will be quickly removed should it appear again when the Society resumes its activities, if it does resume."

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Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mease
Miss Gandy

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J. J. Kelly:LP

October 12, 1945

Re: ORDER OF THE FOUNDERS AND
PATRIOTS OF AMERICA

The above-named organization is said to be a patriotic group with chapters in various scattered states. Its membership is limited to American citizens whose lineage can be traced to American colonists prior to May 13, 1657 or to a patriot who served the country during the period from 1775 to 1783.

In May of 1941, a patriotic meeting was held in the Chapel of Princeton University in New Jersey under the joint auspices of the patriotic societies in New Jersey. The following named organizations, with others, were among those who participated:

New Jersey Society Daughters of the American Revolution
Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New Jersey
New Jersey Society Sons of the American Revolution
The New Jersey Society of the Colonial Dames of America
The Huguenot Society of New Jersey
Society of Colonial Wars in the State of New Jersey
Sons of the Revolution, New Jersey Society
Order of the Founders and Patriots of America

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October 12, 1945

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DATE 10/14/82 BY SP8B Jlm

RE: UNITED MOTHERS OF AMERICA

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

The captioned organization, also known as the "United Mothers", was founded in the early part of 1940, by Mrs. David K. Stanley and several other women residents of Cleveland, Ohio. Initially the group was known as "The Daughters of Uncle Sam." Mrs. Stanley was elected President of the organization and was assisted in her duties by Mrs. Phillip Monreal as Vice President.

PURPOSE

According to the announcements of the organization, its general purpose was said to be that of "preserving our Constitution and the American form of Government and defending it whenever and wherever exposed to attack from within our border." The group, according to its constitution, was nonsectarian, nonpolitical, and dependent financially upon voluntary support. Its active members were mothers or other women who subscribed to the objectives of the organization. Associate members consisted of husbands, fathers, brothers, and friends of active members who likewise subscribed to its general purposes and objectives.

ACTIVITIES

The first program of any consequence participated in by the members was that of interposing very strenuous objections to the Selective Training and Service Act. The group distributed considerable literature attacking the theory of conscription, and a number of the members of the organization participated in a "march on Washington" at the time the Selective Training and Service Act was being considered by Congress. These members, together with other women, reportedly participated in a "mothers' vigil" at the Senate during the time the Selective Training and Service Act was being considered by that branch of Congress. 62-42

Shortly after America's involvement in the war the group altered its program and directed its criticism to the practice of stationing American soldiers in Great Britain and other points not directly in the war zones. In the Spring of 1942, the membership of the group also directed considerable criticism toward America's program of sending large quantities of supplies and equipment to its Allies.

The organization as a whole was considered a strong supporter of Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit, Michigan, and sponsored several rallies at

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Mr. Gurnea
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Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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which Smith was the principal speaker. In 1943 the group was opposed to any world cooperation on the part of the United States, favored isolationism, opposed President Roosevelt's Fourth Term, New Deal Administration, and was said to be highly anti-Semitic and anti-Communistic. The organization maintained offices at the Arcade Building in Cleveland, Ohio, and for the most part sought to carry out its program and policies through the distribution of literature and through the medium of holding meetings at various intervals. The literature printed by the group was distributed through the mails to various Governmental officials and to approximately 1,000 persons whose names were on its mailing list. The public meetings reportedly never assumed any considerable size and were generally attended by the membership. Reportedly many of the programs of the group and much of its literature were based on the writings and statements of Reverend Charles Coughlin. In addition to its own literature the organization at its meetings distributed "The Cross and the Flag" published by Gerald L. K. Smith; "Fact-O-Gram", reported to be the organ of the Constitutional Educational League of Joseph Kamp; and the publications of Elmer J. Garner of Wichita, Kansas, who was one of the individuals under indictment in the sedition conspiracy case of U. S. vs. Joseph E. McWilliams. A newspaper expose of this organization pointed out that the organization distributed the leaflet "Roosevelt's Jewish Ancestry" by Robert Edmonson of New York, who was also a defendant in the above described case of U. S. vs. Joseph E. McWilliams.

In June of 1945, the organization as such was reliably reported to be inactive. However, at that time information was received that its members were absorbed in a new organization called "The Intelligent American Voters League."

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum · UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

RRR:ems

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: 10/2/45

FROM : Mr. E. G. Fitch

SUBJECT: AMERICA FIRST PARTY, et al
SPECIAL INQUIRY
STATE DEPARTMENT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/11/82 BY SP.8 BTJ/mlm

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Beahm
Miss Gandy

There is attached a copy of a State Department interoffice memorandum from [redacted] to [redacted] containing a request that the Bureau supply for the use of the State Department information in brief summary form on the listed organizations.

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If you concur, it is suggested that this memorandum be referred to the Internal Security Section so that the desires of the State Department may be complied with. It is suggested that separate memoranda be prepared on each of the organizations for personal delivery to the State Department by the Liaison Section.

Attachment

NOV 5 1945

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : FC - [redacted]

DATE: September 26, 1945

FROM : PL - [redacted]

SUBJECT: Information on Organizations

We are compiling information on various organizations which will be useful to the Department of State from the public opinion standpoint. If the Department of Justice has information in regard to the membership, and views or activities of the following organizations as they touch on international relations, we shall be very glad if they will give us a brief summary of any such information that might be useful:

[redacted] America First Party 62-43818 100 ref
[redacted] American Defense Society, Inc. 6/10/43 62-4711 25 ref
R American National Patriotic Society, Pittsfield, Illinois
[redacted] National Civic Federation 62-997 20 ref
112 Park Avenue, New York, New York
[redacted] National Security League 62-53709 N.Y. 62-9782 25 ref
45 W. 45th Street, New York, New York
[redacted] Mothers of Sons Forum, Cincinnati, Ohio 100-46294 20 ref
[redacted] Regular Veterans Association 94-4 sub 4458 10 ref
1115 15th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.
[redacted] We, the Mothers Mobilize for America 100-94121 Ill 125 ref
United Mothers of America 100-1370 D.C. 60 ref
Allied Patriotic Societies, Inc. 62-2960 15 ref
[redacted] Order of the Founders and Patriots of America 94-1-22959 D.C.
94-1-22295 N.Y.

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PL:CWS:dk

62-43818-798

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

SU FILE NO. 14-66

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH	10/24/45	10/9,12,15,23/45	[redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject addressed a group of approximately 70 people at Temple Square Hotel, Salt Lake City, the night of 10/13/45. In his talk Subject was jubilant over the strength of his movement stating that 108 publications now regularly accept his articles received by only 3 two years ago and that plans were under way for organization of 15,000 fireside groups. Subject charged former President FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT with hoping, expecting, and desiring an attack on Pearl Harbor which would relieve him of his promise not to send American Servicemen abroad unless attacked. He also stated that ROOSEVELT deliberately withheld knowledge of the impending attack from those in charge of the defense of Pearl Harbor. Subject stated he was leaving Salt Lake City 10/14/45 for Los Angeles, California. Left forwarding address of 1204 South Hill Street, Los Angeles, California.

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/11/93 BY

REFERENCE: Detroit letter to Bureau dated 9/26/45

DETAILS: AT SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Referenced letter advised that Subject planned to be in Salt Lake City, Utah, October 13, 1945, where he would give an address at the Temple Square Hotel. Arrangements were made by Special Agent in Charge JAY C. NEWMAN

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: Jay C. Newman SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

COPY IN FILE 62-44381-799

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3 - Salt Lake City

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through [redacted] to have an informant attend the above meeting. b7D

Gerald L. Smith

The "Salt Lake Tribune" as of October 14, 1945, carried an article entitled, "GERALD SMITH Raps FDR in S. L. Talk". This article stated as follows:

"A complete and impartial investigation of facts surrounding the Pearl Harbor disaster would destroy completely the place of FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT in history, GERALD L. K. SMITH, leader of a renascent "America First" movement, one-time Louisiana evangelist and compatriot of Huey Long, told a 'family circle' meeting of adherents Saturday night at the Temple Square Hotel.

"He was introduced by Jeremiah Storkes, Salt Lake attorney.

"Jubilant about the resurgent strength of the movement to which he has devoted himself, SMITH asserted that 108 publications in the United States now regularly accepted his articles, received by only 3 two years ago, and that plans were under way for the organization of 15,000 'fireside' groups in all parts of the country.

"ROOSEVELT, SMITH charged, 'hoped, expected and desired' an attack on Pearl Harbor which would relieve him of his promise not to send American servicemen abroad unless the U. S. was attacked. Further, he said, ROOSEVELT deliberately withheld knowledge of the impending attack from those in charge of the defense of Pearl Harbor."

[redacted] b7C

[redacted]

[redacted]

b7c

[redacted]

The "People's Daily World" as of October 13, 1945, carried an article entitled "Protest Can Halt Smith Meetings". This article stated that public protest can prevent GERALD L. K. SMITH from speaking at the Los Angeles Poly Technic High School the following Wednesday night. According to this article, SMITH was scheduled to speak in Pamona the following Tuesday, Redlands on Thursday, Pasadena Lincoln School Friday and Masonic Auditorium, Long Beach on Saturday.

SU: 14-66

A check of the registers at the Hotel Utah, Temple Square Hotel and the Newhouse Hotel, all Salt Lake City, Utah, were made in an effort to determine where Subject resided during his stay in Salt Lake City with negative results.

[redacted] advised that on October 16, 1945, a telegram had been received from Los Angeles, California from the Subject requesting that all mail be sent to him at 1204 South Hill Street, Los Angeles, California. In accordance with this telegram, one letter and one telegram were forwarded to him on this same date. b7D

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

SU: 14-66

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

_____

_____

☐ For your information: _____

_____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-43818-800 + 801

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FBI/DOJ

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Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
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Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
October 19, 1945

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION
(62-43814)

DECLASSIFIED BY 62601 ED
ON 8-1-82

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the teletype from the Detroit Field Division to the Bureau dated October 18, 1945, discontinuing use of [redacted] and [redacted] b7D

On October 18, 1945, I conferred with [redacted] of Detroit, Michigan, [redacted] for the [redacted] concerning services rendered by [redacted] in cooperation with Bureau work.

[redacted] who has been extremely cooperative with this office in the past, has expressed some concern over the services presently being maintained on Gerald L. K. Smith, particularly in view of the background and explosive nature of this individual. It was his thought that a possibility existed whereby there would be repercussions of a serious nature should anything ever be disclosed concerning this specific arrangement. b7D b7D

In view of [redacted] agreement to furnish us with all of the other services now presently in effect, I agreed with him to discontinue the set-up in connection with Gerald L. K. Smith. As a result, [redacted] were discontinued at 4:30 p.m. October 18, 1945. b7D

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Very truly yours,

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted] 62-1125

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62-43814-80
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OCT 25 1945

NOV 6 1945

November 5, 1945

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Chief, F.B.I.
Washington, D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/14/82 BY SP-8075/mh

Dear Sir:

A plague has struck the State of California, recently Los Angeles; Gerald L.K. Smith.

Our Board of Education permits him to rabble in our school buildings. To the numerous protests they pass the buck, saying the State Law compels them to do this. Even one of our alleged City Councilmen, Meade McClanahan, introduced Smith at one of his meetings.

Students in large numbers have protested, but Lawrence L. Larrabee, President of the Board of Education, loftily scores students and parents who protest.

Smith, as is well known, is the stooge of Burton K. Wheeler, the alleged U.S. Senator, and others in Congress, along with "Bertie" McCormick, who is leading a Hitler movement to "seize the Government", quoting him. Is this not subversive? Knowing the efficiency of the F.B.I., I am asking what is wrong that will permit subversive activity, under the often abused name of free speech.

It would be greatly appreciated if we, the people, better understood this matter. Certainly one of the most important matters now is to win the battle of peace, and these renegades are trying to lose it.

Yours very truly,

[redacted]

[redacted]

RECORDED & INDEXED
30 NOV 5 1945

[redacted]

November 16, 1945

62-43818-803

EX-65

[redacted]

b7c

Dear [redacted]

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated November 3, 1945.

I wanted you to know that I appreciate your interest in communicating with me as you did.

In the event you have information in the future which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, I want you to feel free to communicate directly with the Special Agent in Charge of our Los Angeles Field Division which is located at 900 Security Building, Los Angeles, California.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/14/82 BY SP8 BJS/mc

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 8
NOV 13 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ESB:mr
62-43818-803

NOV 21 1945

Jch
DG Watt
ESB

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT: DETROIT

FILE NO. 100-3598

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
KANSAS CITY	11/5/45	10/7/45	[redacted] b7c mjd

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

GERALD L. K. SMITH made two speeches at East Side Baptist Church, Topeka, Kansas, 10/7/45. During afternoon session spoke principally of Communist activities in Europe and extent of infiltration into the United States. During evening session prefaced remarks by challenging Jews in the audience to take notes and get together afterwards to criticize him. Followed his official remarks with tirade against Communism, stating that it would destroy religion by killing the heads of churches, by forcing people to take up Communism or by throwing individuals into prison.

- RUC -

REFERENCE: Letter from Director to Detroit dated 9/26/45

DETAILS:

[redacted] reported on the two speeches made by GERALD L. K. SMITH at the East Side Baptist Church in Topeka, Kansas, on 10/7/45, as follows: b7D

"STALIN has control of all of Europe and is now reaching out for America. He advocated sending all refugees back to their original countries to make homes for the returning soldiers and stated that all women should quit their jobs and go back to raising children. He related all of the money is going to foreign countries, as well as our natural resources and we are not receiving any pay for this. As a result the people are being heavily taxed. He criticized industrial banking in Wall Street and indicated they were the cause of our money going to foreign countries.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: Dwight Brantley

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COPY IN FILE 62-43818-804

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25 NOV 7 1945

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DATE 10/14/82 BY

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 7—2084

He stated that the Russian soldiers were not "tin gods" as they raped women from 16 to 61 and anyone who believed in Russian policies should go to Russia and live there.

He remarked that in the past the FBI has dug up quantities of Communistic material which had been paid to be published by CHARLES CHAPLIN of Hollywood and that CHAPLIN is not a citizen of this country, has never become one, and when questioned about it, stated "It's not for me." He stated he believes in sending this kind of people back where they came from.

He stated the people should go home and thank God that HENRY WALLACE is not President of the United States as there would be bureaucracy in the Government. He stated he could not say anything for or against President TRUMAN but is observing him. He claimed to hate the swastika and stated "The red flag of Russia and the swastika are 'snakes cradled in the same den.'"

He stated at this afternoon speech that it was more or less a preliminary for his speech which was to be given that evening and he remarked during his afternoon speech that he would give the people an insight on pre-Pearl Harbor activities.

During his evening address he is reported to have been very cautious and slightly nervous. He at no time mentioned anything about pre-Pearl Harbor activities. He prefaced his address by stating that he knew there were Jews seated in the audience as he could spot them and he stated they could take their notes down and get together afterwards and criticize him. He stated the Jews were fortunate to be in this country, but if they liked Palestine better, they should go back there. He remarked that the majority of refugees in this country were Jews and that they should be sent back so our soldiers could have jobs. He finished up by stati he wanted the audience to understand he was not against the Jews.

He then spoke on Communism, saying that Communism would destroy our religions by killing the heads of our churches, by forcing the people to take up Communism or by throwing them into prison. He stated that Russia controls all of Europe now, also all of Asia and is reaching out for the United States and claimed that if we loaned STALIN the money that he is attempting to borrow that money could well be used for returning servicemen. He remarked there were Communists on the Government payroll until TRUMAN got into office. In addition thereto, he is reported to have stated that Russia has Communist agents operating in this country in every precinct, war and county, as well as the Army, and they are trying to undermine our people and are now getting into our schools and churches. He added that this country is doomed because of Communism.

He stated that when that time comes CHRIST will appear, as no one man will rule the world. This he stated is shown by HITLER's fall, ROOSEVELT's death, and he now understands that STALIN has liver trouble and can only live 90 days.

He advocated that the money be taken from money-mongers on Wall Street and be put into the hands of Congress so that it could be used for veterans and unemployed in this country.

During the course of the evening address he is reported to have taken about 15 minutes for an open forum. During this time he was asked why HARRY BRIDGES was not deported and his answer was in substance that ROOSEVELT needed him in backing his, ROOSEVELT's, elections. When asked about HENRY WALLACE, he replied that WALLACE was a stooge and a front for Communism and that SIDNEY HILLMAN and WALLACE were working together for the development of the Political Action Committee.

When asked if DREW PEARSON was a Communist, he stated that PEARSON was not, but he would print anything to attract attention.

SMITH was asked if he had ever been indicted and he replied he had never been indicted for anything and the reason people might have thought so was because he was with the America First Party and people thought he was a Nazi. He stated that if he had anything to do with Nazis or Communists, the FBI would arrest him.

He was also asked if WALTER WINCHELL was a Communist. He replied that WINCHELL was not, but that he was Jewish and that he got his stories by being a keyhold snooper. In this connection he stated he could not see why the people glorify WINCHELL and yet talk down someone like LINDBERGH.

He ended his speech by imploring the people to get together in groups and seriously discuss means of defeating Communism.

The crowd who attended are reported to have been members of the East Side Baptist Church.

Distributed at this meeting were copies of "The Cross and the Flag," also photographs of GERALD L. K. SMITH and his wife and a pamphlet entitled "The Plan." Also distributed were envelopes entitled "America First Crusade." He stated they were entitled "America First Crusade," but he was passing them out so that the people could send in money for subscriptions for "The Cross and the Flag."

There are being enclosed to the office of origin advertisements appearing in the Topeka State Journal dated 10/4/45 concerning SMITH's speech at the East Side Baptist Church, as well as a newspaper item appearing in the Topeka Daily Capitol on Monday 10/8/45.

There are likewise being enclosed to the office of origin a copy of "The Cross and the Flag" and photographs of GERALD L. K. SMITH and his wife and a pamphlet entitled "The Plan." A copy of the America First Crusade is likewise being furnished to Detroit.

ENCLOSURES: To Detroit, copies of above listed pamphlets and clippings.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FBI/DOJ

To: Walter W.

From:

Date: October 18, 1945

Subject:

To Hoover

If you want to vomit, read the attached.

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DATE 10/14/82 BY SP-8B73/mlm

RECORDED & INDEXED
45 EX-80 29

Rec'd from A.H. 10/29/45

Fin [redacted]

b7c

45 EX-80

7 CNOV 15 1945

POSTWAR RECOVERY COMMISSION

(GERALD L. K. SMITH'S LATEST OUTFIT)

(Excerpts from a report on a meeting of the Postwar Recovery Commission held Sunday evening, September 30, 1945, at the Century Room, LaSalle Hotel, Chicago, Illinois.)

"Perhaps the most interesting and significant part of the evening session of Gerald L. K. Smith's Postwar Recovery Commission was the question period. The remarks concerning our President were the most violent and vile I have ever heard. The first question given to Smith was why wasn't the President's casket opened?

"Smith answered that perhaps this was in accordance with the wishes of the family who were generally consulted in such cases. However, he added with his tongue in his cheek, that he had heard various stories, 'perhaps he had committed suicide or his body was in a state of decomposition for many reasons' or for various other reasons. There have been rumors that he committed suicide.

"A [redacted], who is in the investment business and has offices at [redacted] popped up and cracked: 'Mr. Smith, the real reason why they wouldn't open the casket was that they were afraid he would jump out and run again!' This brought down the house.

"It was at this point that [redacted] gave me some of the toilet paper with pictures of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt printed on each sheet with the captions ?DEAD? and LIVING. He made the comment that 'you should hear the one I know' but he did not elaborate on these remarks. [redacted] passed this paper out in great sheets at the close of the entire meeting."

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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8B3 JMB

62-43818-805

ALL b7c

59239

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CONFIDENTIAL

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE NO. 100-6083

REPORT MADE BY	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Saint Louis, Missouri	11-7-45	10-1,2,3,4,5,9,10,15-45	[redacted]

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases. AMERICA FIRST PARTY.	INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND DATE

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: GERALD L. K. SMITH held an AMERICA FIRST PARTY mass meeting on 10-4-45 at Kiel Auditorium, Saint Louis, with 702 persons attending. SMITH talked re Communists, the San Francisco Conference, Tyler Kent Case, and urged all refugees be returned to Europe. Group of soldiers, veterans and Communists distributed handbills outside meeting hall. Closed meeting held by SMITH at DeSoto Hotel, Saint Louis, 10-5-45 with 350 persons present. SMITH repeated previous stories and talked regarding the Pearl Harbor disaster.

-RUC- SL-8675/MC

REFERENCE: Bureau File #62-43818.
Letter from Detroit to Bureau dated 9-26-45.

DETAILS: On October 1, 1945, the Manager's Office of the Municipal Auditorium in Saint Louis, was contacted, where it was learned that GERALD L. K. SMITH had rented Assembly Hall No. 2, for the night of October 4, 1945. An examination of the rental agreement disclosed that the hall was rented in the name of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY and was signed by Miss RUTH LOHBECK, 3824 Juniata Avenue, Saint Louis, Missouri. Informants report that RUTH LOHBECK is actually Mrs. DON LOHBECK, the wife of one of SMITH's principal supporters in Saint Louis. The rental agreement called for the payment of $60.00 with an additional $10.00 charge for the services of a public address system operator. The agreement contained a statement, "It is understood there will be no admission charge and no literature sold." This rental agreement was dated September 17, 1945.

EX-45

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: S. B. Morris, Special Agent in Charge

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b7D

On this same date, [redacted] of the DeSoto Hotel, 11th and Locust Streets, Saint Louis, Missouri, was contacted and after examining the hotel records, advised that Miss RUTH LOHBECK had rented the sixteenth floor of the hotel for October 5, 1945 and stated that the meeting would start at 8 P.M. on that date. The rental was in the name of the Postwar Recovery Commission. Miss LOHBECK paid $45.00 down at the time the hall was rented and the total charges were to be $85.00. Miss LOHBECK advised the hotel management that she expected about 400 persons to attend the meeting. Prior to the actual holding of the meeting information was received by the Saint Louis office, indicating that the Communist Party in Saint Louis, intended to organize some resistance to the meeting.

[redacted]

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[redacted]

b1

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[redacted]

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CONFIDENTIAL

62-43818-866

b1

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted] b1

The Saint Louis Police Department was advised because of the possibility of trouble. The Saint Louis Office of Military Intelligence was also advised as they had previously expressed the desire to have Military Police officers present in any demonstration involving soldiers.

At about 7:15 P.M., on October 4, 1945 the writer personally saw [redacted] and [redacted] assembled with a small group of soldiers and discharged veterans near the entrance to Assembly Hall No. 2 in the Kiel Auditorium. [redacted] did not pass out any of the handbills but stood off to one side, apparently in an effort to keep out of the picture. [redacted] was very active in handing out the leaflets which purported to be an open letter to the people of Saint Louis from a group of American war veterans. One copy of the leaflet distributed is being furnished to the Bureau as an enclosure with this report and one copy is also being furnished to the Detroit office. b7c

Local newspaper photographer took photographs of persons approaching the entrance to the meeting hall and several of the photographs printed in the Post Dispatch and Star Times newspapers the following day are being retained in the Saint Louis file.

No disturbance was evident between the pickets and the persons wishing to attend the meeting. As is the custom the auditorium management placed an usher at the door to the assembly hall and by mechanical counter it was determined that 702 persons attended this meeting.

[redacted] b7D

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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62-43818 - 806 pgs 4-6

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[redacted] b7D

The Saint Louis Star-Times newspaper on October 5, 1945 reported SMITH's talk on the previous night. The newspaper article, a copy of which is being retained in the Saint Louis file, reported that SMITH orated for more than two hours and that he didn't stop until his followers had finished taking a collection in paper shopping bags. The newspaper reported the "Six foot, slightly paunchy, rabble rouser admitted he was a good speaker, and, as the shopping bags were being passed, told his listeners that they had gotten their money's worth." SMITH told them, according to the newspaper, that they would have to pay $1.65 to hear ELEANOR ROOSEVELT and that he, SMITH, was twice as good a speaker as Mrs. ROOSEVELT. In taking the collection, the newspaper reported, SMITH told the audience not to give "chicken feed", that if they could give only a nickel or something like that, that they should not give it, but should come up front and he would give them a nickel. The newspaper account also reported the distribution of the circulars but the newspapers apparently were not aware of the fact that the circulars were being distributed by Communists.

The Star-Times reported that as SMITH entered the Auditorium that evening, Private First Class, ED B. BROWN of San Francisco, a member of the Eighth Infantry Division, handed SMITH a circular and said, "Mr. SMITH, read this. Here is what we veterans think of you."

The Star-Times also reported that SMITH had interspersed his talk with a tax on the Star-Times. They reported that he denounced "This mangy Star-Times, this left-winger, this stooge of Stalin, this cur of journalism." The Star-Times also quoted SMITH as saying that what he had to tell on the next night in the closed meeting at the DeSoto Hotel would be so hot that it would burn up the carpet under his feet.

[redacted]

[redacted] b7D

CONFIDENTIAL

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On October 5, 1945, [redacted] of the DeSoto Hotel, advised the Saint Louis office that FRED/EMIG, a leader of the Veterans of Foreign Wards, had put considerable pressure on [redacted] in an effort to get him to cancel the contract with subject SMITH for the use of the sixteenth floor of that hotel. [redacted] advised that he consulted his attorneys and was told that there were no legal grounds upon which he could cancel the contract without incurring a definite liability for breach of contract.

[redacted]

ENCLOSURE TO THE BUREAU: One copy of a leaflet entitled, "An open letter to the People of Saint Louis."
One copy of an 8 page pamphlet entitled "The Plan".

ENCLOSURE TO DETROIT: One copy of a leaflet entitled "An open letter to the People of Saint Louis."

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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62-43818 - 806 Enclosure

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FBI/DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 48

PAGES REVIEWED: 66

PAGES RELEASED: 60

NOTES: _____

NO DUPLICATION FOR THIS PAGE

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FILE NO. 14-7 DB

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
BUFFALO, NEW YORK	9-24-45	9/14,18/45	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, was.; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - C SEDITION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. DB
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Clayton
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Miss Gandy

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

On 9/16/45 at Mary Seaton Room, Kleinhans Music Hall, Buffalo, N.Y., SMITH addressed meeting of approximately 500, sponsored by Buffalo Economics League. Petition was circulated urging Father COUGHLIN's return to the radio. SMITH addressed "intimate" meeting at Statler Hotel, Buffalo, evening of same date. Essence of SMITH's remarks at both meetings set out.

Charles E.

-RUC-

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/18/82 BY SP8CTJ/MLG

REFERENCE: Bureau Files 61-7055 and 62-43818.
Letter from Detroit Field Division to Director, dated September 7, 1945.

DETAILS: AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK

b7c, b7d

[redacted] cover the meetings

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: J. B. Wilcox SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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62-43818-808

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3 Detroit (Encl.)
2 Buffalo

1 cc - Chief Div. E.B. 11-19-47

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EX-47

25 SEP 25 1945

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which SMITH was scheduled to address on Sunday, September 16, 1945 at Buffalo, New York. [redacted] stated that in keeping with the policy of the paper in the past, the Courier Express did not wish to give any but nominal publicity to SMITH's appearance in Buffalo and that he, [redacted] personally wished to be cooperative with this office in furnishing detailed information and would make a copy of the reporter's notes available to this office.

[redacted] subsequently advised that [redacted] covered the meetings and made available his notes. [redacted] pointed out that [redacted] had not set forth repetitious matter which had been the subject of SMITH's talks on previous occasions but had confined the material made available to this office, for the most part, to such matter not previously discussed by SMITH at meetings in Buffalo.

The report of [redacted] reflects that SMITH spoke at two meetings during the date, Sunday, September 16, 1945, both of which were sponsored by the Buffalo Economics League, presided over by JOSEPH H. STOFFEL, President. The first meeting took place in the Mary Seaton Room at Kleinhans Music Hall at 2:30 P.M. SMITH was introduced by STOFFEL as the "Number One American of America" and then SMITH informed the audience of approximately 500 persons that he would address a more "intimate" meeting later in the evening at the Hotel Statler. [redacted] report is set out below:

> He said he was never ashamed of being an America Firster. Switching into his theme for the day, SMITH said the proposed forgiveness of war debts which, he said, totaled 41 billion but would mean 82 billion, would result in the virtual donation $3,000 by each American family to foreign countries.
>
> SMITH said he talked with a soldier who was totally disabled, and had been receiving $115 a month, but that it was being reduced to $60 a month because of some "technicality." SMITH didn't say what the technicality was. He did, however, recall to the audience that it was he who had suggested at the start of the war that soldiers should be given a $1,000 bonus upon discharge from the service.
>
> "They said I was a crackpot, but I say we owe it to our soldiers," SMITH said.
>
> SMITH congratulated President TRUMAN for abolishing Lend-Lease, saying that "if he will function that way in other directions, he will be the kind of President we need in this country."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

SMITH said that as long as we have the Federal Reserve System, depressions will keep occurring in this country. The only way they can be avoided, he said, is to have constitutional money, coined by Congress, and tax-free and interest free.

"Let's plow under the international bankers instead of the pigs and cows," he declared.

Then he said, "I am going to tell you things you will never be able to read in the Buffalo Courier-Express." Then he rehashed over the story in the C-X about his meeting two years ago in Eagles Hall when he supposedly stepped on the American Flag.

"I'm asked many times why I don't sue," he said. "But it entails too many things, and all I would be doing is hiring lawyers. But I am suing Radio Outlet for $100,000 for WALTER WINCHELL's allegation that I stepped and spit on the American Flag. The trial is coming up in December."

SMITH said he wasn't so much worried about himself, but about his son in the Army. He said that at the time of WINCHELL's radio broadcast, his son was a candidate for Officer's Commission, and that "I have reason to believe that the statement cost him his admission to officer's rank."

"I don't care how soon he (son) gets back here, but that he knocks h--- out of WALTER WINCHELL," SMITH said.

"The Reds have a groundwork laid to take over the USA. We knocked h--- out of Hitler and we beat Japan, and now we are turning it over to Stalin."

"Russia would not permit a committee of Congress to enter Russia." SMITH said he was quoting a member of Congress as saying that reports from Europe indicate that every German woman between the ages of 14 and 67 under Russian rule were being raped. He added that 20 million Christians in Russia are being crucified. When we recognized the puppet Lublin government in Poland, he said, "we sacrificed in vain the lives of our boys."

Right after the Labor Party victory in England, said SMITH, members of the party with HAROLD LASKI, the Communist, walked in the Parliament singing the Internationale, the Red Song.

"Communism is sweeping the world. If we quit occupying Japan, as has been suggested by some military leaders, within a year, Stalin will communize it. It would be better to leave 100,000 troops there as occupation forces."

SMITH predicted defeat for [illegible] elections. He quoted a Detroiter as saying that [illegible] French ever had any trouble with Russia, the Communists could paralyze the entire city of Detroit.

SMITH said the most powerful man at the San Francisco Conference was Senator VANDENBURG of Michigan. SMITH said he served notice on the Senator there that if he underwrote Russia, it would mean the end of his career in the Senate, because SMITH would see to it that all the America Firsters in Michigan did not vote for him when he is up for re-election soon.

The veto power of the Charter, said SMITH, makes it worthless. The important question for the U.S. is: How much authority will our delegate have?

At this point, he related some of his experiences at San Francisco, his difficulty in obtaining hotel accommodations, and the trouble in obtaining halls for his speeches. He said he gave an impromptu speech in the lobby of the Mark Hopkins Hotel, and boasted he held an America First meeting next door to where Molotoff gave a cocktail party.

SMITH, during the meeting circulated petitions, urging the return to radio of Father Coughlin. He said that during his latest trip to Washington, he had requested authorities not to whitewash the Pearl Harbor investigations.

He told about TYLER KENT, an American code clerk who was allegedly imprisoned because he had copies of all the cables between ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL. He demanded that KENT be returned to this country for trial in an American court.

During the meeting, MORTON LEVY, Chairman of the New York State Americanism Committee of the Jewish War Veterans, asked

SMITH whether it was true that GEORGE VOSE, who heads SMITH's Nationalist Veterans of World War ii was convicted in May, 1943, of selling Army goods and passes to soldiers.

SMITH replied that the same allegations were made by ARCHIE GREENBERG, national commander of the Jewish War Veterans, and printed in the Jewish Sentinel in Chicago, and that VOSE had sued the paper for $100,000. "The outcome of the trial will be your answer," SMITH said.

SMITH said that VOSE's discharge papers say "conduct excellent." He advocated abolishment of immigration until all American soldiers have returned home, and given jobs. He said the 60 million jobs idea is a fake.

[redacted] report stated that SMITH's evening meeting at the Statler Hotel was limited to those who were given cards at the afternoon meeting. [redacted] report on this meeting is as follows:

b7C, b7D

SMITH said that ROOSEVELT's passing "liberated many people."

SMITH told his listeners to watch the Pearl Harbor investigations. He said that JOHN T. FLYNN has evidence to prove that P. H. was likely to happen.

He said that when the truth of Pearl Harbor was given out, "it may blow his (ROOSEVELT) name right out of history."

"The truth is so deadly that no Congressmen dared to oppose the investigations."

"Some terrific things are coming out about Pearl Harbor."

"Pearl Harbor was not a sneak attack." The Roberts report is strictly whitewash, and designed to make KIMMEL and SHORT the goats for the affair."

SMITH said he had received a long distance telephone call from Washington, but more than that, right from the Capitol, and had received information to the effect that the day after ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL met for their Atlantic Charter meeting (August, 1941), Lloyds of London cancelled all its insurance on the Hawaiian Islands.

SMITH said that Chang Kai Shek wanted peace a few years ago, but was persuaded to go on by ROOSEVELT who lent him 100 million dollars to stay in the war.

Going back to TYLER KENT, SMITH said that WILLIAM JENNING BRYAN's grandson was in possession of similar information, and that several years he returned to the U. S., and one day shortly after his arrival, was found dead in his hotel room.

He said that many American soldiers who followed the America First Committee were being returned to Europe and other fronts with the special assignment of digging up the dead bodies of their countrymen.

[redacted] made available to the office a copy of "The Plan", a pamphlet prepared by the Post War Recovery Commission, P.O. Box 697, Detroit 31, Michigan, which, he stated, was obtained by [redacted] at the Mary Seaton Room where the literature was distributed at SMITH's meeting. b7C, b7D

ENCLOSURE: To Detroit - Copy of "The Plan" prepared by the Post War Recovery Commission, P.O. Box 697, Detroit 31, Michigan.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

808

62-43818-808

Assistant Attorney General T. L. Caudle
Criminal Division

November 19, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director - Federal Bureau of Investigation

EX-47

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
AMERICA FIRST PARTY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/18/82 BY SP8 [illegible]

Reference is made to our previous correspondence regarding the above captioned matter.

For your further information there are attached copies of the following investigative reports:

Report of Special Age[redacted] dated September 24, 1945, at Buffalo, New York, entitled, "Gerald L. K. Smith, was.; The America First Party; Internal Security - G, Sedition;"

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 12, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan, entitled, "Gerald L. K. Smith, with aliases; America First Party; Internal Security - G, Sedition;"

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 16, 1945, at Cleveland, Ohio, entitled, "Gerald L. K. Smith, with aliases; The America First Party; Internal Security - G, Security Matter - Sedition;"

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 18, 1945, at Chicago, Illinois, entitled, "Gerald L. K. Smith, with aliases; America First Party; Internal Security - G, Sedition;"

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 18, 1945, at St. Paul, Minnesota, entitled, "Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, was, et al; Internal Security - Sedition;"

Report of Special Agent [redacted], dated October 24, 1945, at Salt Lake City, Utah, entitled, "Gerlad L. K. Smith; America First Party; Internal Security; Sedition."

ALL
b7c

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Egan
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ESB:mm
62-43818

ESB

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE NO. 100-5778

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
PITTSBURGH, PA.	11/19/45	9/19;11/6/45	[redacted] b2c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases	INTERNAL SECURITY (G) SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, representing the America First Party, spoke at the North Side Carnegie Lecture Hall, Pittsburgh, Pa., 9/19/45. 450 persons attended. SMITH'S lecture included a report on his attendance at the San Francisco Conference, as well as an attack on the policies of FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT, whom he blames for the success of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, a condemnation of the economic Royalists, Communists, and the United States Department of State for its action in the Tyler Kent matter.

-RUC-

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/18/82 BY [illegible]

REFERENCE: Teletype from Detroit, 9/18/45

DETAILS: The following information regarding this meeting was furnished by [redacted] b9D

AT PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH spoke at the North Side Carnegie Lecture Hall, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on the evening of September 19, 1945. Approximately 450 persons attended the lecture. Present on the platform with MR. SMITH were MARIE LOHLE, Chairman of the Defenders of George Washington's Principles, CHARLES A. MADDEN, MRS. SMITH, and an unidentified person who represented the California Pastor's Committee.

SMITH opened his lecture by announcing that he is in the

APPROVED AND FORWARDED James B Porter SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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62-4318-809

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MB

ICC-Candle 12-3-45 ES Pittsburgh

midst of a nation-wide tour which he characterized as the "American First Crusade". He then reported on his visit to San Francieco during the United Nations Conference. He told of how he had been refused lodging in several of the hotels and how he had been expelled from hotel lobbies and accused of "unlawful assembly." He also told of how his meetings in San Francisco and Los Angeles had been extremely successful.

He then discussed the Pearl Harbor attack and said that his Committee holds FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT personally responsible. He said that he intended to do everything in his power to bring about a full and open investigation of the matter.

During the course of his remarks, he denied anti-Semitism and also denied that he was a reactionary. He said that he is referred to as a reactionary by the Communists and referred to as a radical by the "economic Royalists" and "international bankers" who, he said, are attempting to strip this country of its wealth and prosperity. He presented as usual his own economic views and plans for the salvation of America.

At the end of the meeting, MRS. LOHLE made a short speech in which she set forth three resolutions which will be sent to the Congressmen and Senators from this district:

1. The Pearl Harbor investigation should be pursued until the public has been given a complete and honest report on the facts.

2. Tyler Kent, State Department Code Clerk who had been incarcerated in England for disclosing secret correspondence between ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL, should be guaranteed safe passage back to the United States and a fair and open and impartial trial.

3. The United States should engage in no wars of any kind, particularly no war with Russia.

At the conclusion of SMITH'S talk, a collection was taken up.

-REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN-

809

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

[redacted]

b2, b7D

b7D

Assistant Attorney General T. L. Caudle
Criminal Division

December 3, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director - Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was.
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SEDITION

For your further information regarding the above-captioned individual, there is transmitted herewith a copy of the investigative report of Special Agent [redacted] dated November 19, 1945, at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

b7c

Attachment

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DATE 10/18/82 BY SP8B74/MC

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62-43818 - 809

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EXF 28

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Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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DEC 3 - 1945 P.M.
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

52 DEC 4 1945

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FBI/DOJ

[redacted]

Nov. 14, 45

To J. Edgar Hoover
F.B.I.
Washington, D.C.

106238

GERALD L. K. SMITH

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Wasn't this Gerald L. K. Smith who is stirring up so much trouble here, held in a sedation trial ~~two~~ a while back? If so how come he's allowed the use of the schools and police protection? What good did does trials do anyway, if all the suspects are running loose to cause untold damage and trouble to the peace of this country.

Sincerely yours.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

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DATE 10/18/82 BY SP2 [illegible]

Acknl let
Ack 11-29-45

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EX-[illegible]

ALL b7c, b7D

162-43815-81

29 NOV [illegible]

RECORDED
EX-6

62-43818-811

November 29, 1945

106237

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/18/82 BY SP-2 [illegible]

Dear [redacted]

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated November 14, 1945.

I wish to advise that the information contained in the files of this Bureau is confidential in nature, and by a long standing rule of the Attorney General can not be made available except upon the express direction of the Attorney General. I am sure you will appreciate my position in this matter and understand the fact that no inferences should be drawn from the failure to make such information available.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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NOV 29 1945 P.M.
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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62-43818

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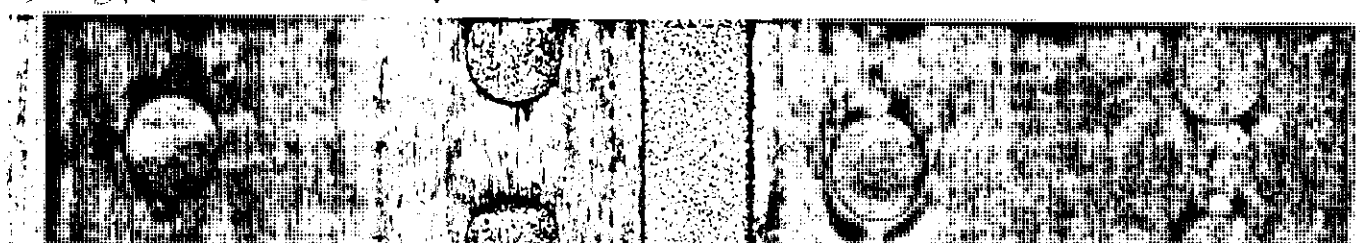

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

FROM : Mr. E. G. Fitch

SUBJECT:

[redacted] b7c

DATE: 11/20/45

SWR:MGC

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Henrich
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

[redacted]

106235

This letter was furnished to Special Agent [redacted] of the Liaison Section by [redacted] b7c

HANDLED BY MR. WALSH

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended this be forwarded to the Internal Security Section for their information.

Attachment

INDEXED 62-43917-42

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29 NOV 26 1945

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62-43818 - 813

Assistant Attorney General T. L. Candle
Criminal Division

November 21, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY;
SEDITION

For your further information in connection with the above-captioned matter, there are enclosed copies of the following investigative reports

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated November 5, 1945, at Kansas City, Missouri

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated November 7, 1945, at St. Louis, Missouri

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated November 8, 1945, at Denver, Colorado.

Attachments

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Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
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Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE NO. 100-3557

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
DENVER, COLORADO	11/8/45	10/2,18,26/45	[redacted] b7C Lc

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases, America First Party	INTERNAL SECURITY - G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject spoke at Woman's Club, Denver, 10/9/45, being introduced by KENNETH GOFF of Christian Youth for America. SMITH talk chiefly anti-Communist. Communist Party, Denver actively opposed subject's appearance Denver and endeavored to cause cancellation of his appearance at Woman's Club. Subject spoke at Prayer Meeting Service, Englewood Baptist Tabernacle, Englewood, Colorado, 10/10/45 attacking the Anti-Defamation League of B'Nai, B'Rith, Communism and Peoples Institute of Applied Religion.

CLASS. BY SP-2BTS/mh

- RUC -

DATE OF REVIEW DERR 10/18/82

REFERENCE: Bureau file No. 62-43818.
Letter from Detroit Field Division dated September 26, 1945.

DETAILS: On the evening of October 9, 1945 subject addressed a public meeting in the auditorium of the Woman's Club, 1437 Glenarm Street, Denver, Colorado. [redacted] furnished a report on this meeting which is being furnished to the Bureau. According to [redacted] there was approximately 700 people present at this meeting. Following is a summary of the proceedings at this meeting as furnished by [redacted] b7D

"SMITH called for the election of Christians only to every office in Federal and State Governments and asked for an amendment to our Constitution acknowledging the power and the supremacy of Christ in America.

"SMITH's speech followed his usual pattern, although he did not seem to hit his normal fiery stride until the last ten

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: R. P. Frauenfelder, Special Agent in Charge

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minutes of his talk. About three hundred and fifty of his audience of seven hundred were quietly hostile and unresponsive to him; he seemed to sense this fact and soft-pedalled his emotional appeals. There were several spontaneous outbursts of applause from the Smith opposition, but he passed over these very rapidly and made no attempt to assess the strength of those for him as opposed to those against him.

"The meeting was opened by Kenneth Goff, of Christian Youth for America. He introduced Dewey McKinley Taft, Englewood printer, who spoke briefly and rather ineffectually concerning his Colorado Committee for Constitutional Rights. As he described it, the Committee has no dues and few duties except to unite those who oppose "alienism" in America. Taft's new paper, "The American Digest" was distributed to all those who attended the meeting.

"Goff then introduced Wesley Swift, introducing him as the leader of the group of one-thousand California pastors supporting Smith. Swift gave a vigorous rapid-fire, vicious talk assailing communism and threatened that his group represented a majority in this country and intended to maintain control and obliterate any opposing minorities.

"Goff, after sketching his background in the usual terms (as a former Communist who used to travel around with "Eleanor" — a crack which fell unusually flat), introduced Smith. Smith opened his talk with sops of praise for the police who were present(about twenty) and for the Woman's Club, who refused to be intimidated into cancelling his rental of their auditorium. He offered to send the Woman's Club a photostat of a letter to him from J. Edgar Hoover, stating that the F.B.I. would support his right to free speech in any city in the country. He complained that Denver and Minneapolis were the only two cities in the country where he was denied use of city auditoriums supported by the taxes of his followers. He described a series of imaginary threats against the Woman's Club and displayed a sheet of paper which he claimed was insurance covering the building and its occupants for that evening. He stated that the company holding a regular policy for the auditorium had that afternoon cancelled its coverage and he had been obliged to pay $100.00 cash for coverage for that evening. He first mentioned coverage of $25,500, then later referred to it as $10,500. (I am informed that five days written notice is required to cancel such a standing policy, that the rate he quoted is five times the normal rate, and that the paper he displayed in no way resembles any insurance document).

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"Ignoring a leaflet opposing him and signed by the Denver Unity Council that had been distributed outside the hall, Smith described all his opposition as stemming from the Communists. He referred to the forces that opposed him in California as "communits financed by the hysterical Jews who control Hollywood".

"Smith claimed that the Nationalists won a victory against Stalin at San Francisco, but did not elaborate. He rapidly passed over a few references to a "super-state" and concentrated against proposed loans to Russia and England. He then hinted at sensational news about Pearl Harbor and offered to send a 30-page expose of the truth about that attack to anyone who sent him a dollar.

"Noticing several negroes in the audience, Smith welcomed them as "friends and fellow-Christians", but several sentences later he was elaborating on how his followers must fight to maintain "a white Christian America".

"Shifting to the theme of 'international bankers', which all good Smith followers recognize as a term synonymous with 'Jews', Smith screamed that America must regain its money from the hands of these 'money changers' and return to 'constitutional money'.

"When this theme drew less than normal enthusiasm, he told the story of his attempted meeting in the lobby of a hotel in San Francisco. He said a sailor came up and shook his hand and told Smith he and all his friends were for him. At this point, a sailor in the balcony arose and yelled 'you G___ D____ Fascist, I'm not for you' and stomped out. There was applause from the Smith opposition and Smith told his followers that this 'misguided Jewish sailor' had been sent there by the Communists to make a fool out of himself and try to break up the meeting.

"From this time on, many of those unfriendly to Smith continued to leave the balcony. The noise of descending footsteps distracted many of the Smith faithful, so that often more people were looking toward the rear of the auditorium than toward Smith. He told 'all the Communists' they could go home now and let others who wanted to to get in have their seats, but the seats remained empty.

"Smith announced he was going to take up a collection, but first asked how many would agree to give one dollar more than they would have given in order to help him pay the extra cost of $100.00 for insurance. Only about fifteen people held up their hands so he quickly passed on and began to instruct the audience on how to fill out their contribution envelopes. Probably not more than $200.00 was collected. People continued to leave, until only about four to five hundred remained in the hall.

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"At this point Smith decided to vote his opposition. all those who believed the truth had been spoken there to raise their hands. Then he asked for a show of hands from those who did not think he was telling the truth. He ignored about one-hundred hands raised in the balcony and quickly announced "There are seventeen who disagree with me, they sould like a lot more, don't they?'

"Returning to his attack against Russia, Smith stated that all the women in the area now occupied by Russia had been repeatedly raped by Red soldiers. The fantastic charge drew laughs from the opposition. Still in the hall and he regained a little of his old fire by asking his followers to yell 'shame' at this ungodly indecency. They did so, but the enthusiasm was short lived. He began to describe his post-war recovery plan but it sounded confused even to his followers.

"Announcing that he was never afraid to face his enemies, Smith offered to speak at Denver City Auditorium and share the platform with ten of his meanest enemies providing he could have half the tickets for the meeting and half their time in which to answer their charges. He described a similar meeting in Los Angeles where he confounded his opposition by asking how many of them believed in the divinity of Jesus Christ and all confessed to being atheists.

"Harvey Springer did not attend the meeting last night, Smith announced that Springer was attending his father-in-law's funeral and that he, Smith, would speak at the prayer meeting of the Englewood Baptist Tabernacle tonight.

"Smith seemed 'off-balance' during most of last night's meeting. It was the weakest and least successful meeting, from his point of view, that he has ever held in Denver."

Copies of various material distributed at the meeting are being furnished to the Bureau.

[redacted]

b1

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[redacted] b1

[redacted] b1

[redacted] also furnished a report of the proceedings at the Englewood Baptist Tabernacle Prayer Meeting on October 10, 1945, at Englewood, Colorado, a suburb of Denver, which meeting was addressed by subject. This is the church of which Rev. HARVEY HOWARD SPRINGER, a close friend of subject, is the pastor. This report is being transmitted to the Bureau. b7D

According to the report furnished by [redacted] subject was introduced at this prayer meeting by FORREST S. SCHICKEDANZ, music director of the Englewood Baptist Tabernacle. Subject's theme for the evening as announced by him in his talk was "the peril of the church, the enemy of the church, what some of the paralyzing forces are doing in order to undermine the church of the living Christ." During the course of his talk he dealt considerably on the efforts which had been made by various forces in Denver to cause a cancellation of his appearance the night before at the Woman's Club in Denver and during these remarks he attacked the Anti-Defamation League in this regard, stating that it was probably the one that worked with the insurance company to get the insurance on the Woman's Club Auditorium cancelled on the preceding night. b7D

He also delivered a short attack upon the Communists along his usual lines during the course of which he stated as follows concerning President ROOSEVELT:

> "Just a little while before Mr. ROOSEVELT died Mr. ROOSEVELT ordered them to commission Communists in the Army as officers. They are in the political life, in the Bureaucracy, in the school systems. They are in Denver University. They are in our state tax supported institutions."

The major portion of his talk was an attack upon the Peoples Institute of Applied Religion and the Rev. CLAUDE WILLIAMS, who subject claimed is

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an ordained Presbyterian minister on the payroll of the Home Missionary Board of the Presbyterian Church and the head of the Peoples Institute of Applied Religion. He claimed that this organization which he stated has headquarters in the Transportation Building in Chicago under the leadership of WILLIAMS is organizing young people, both white and colored all over the United States at great expense. He further claimed that witnesses have been produced who stated that they had seen WILLIAMS' membership card in the Communist Party.

Following subject's talk Rev. WESLEY SWIFT, apparently of California, made a few brief remarks, some of which were allegedly anti-Communist and anti-Semitic. In the course of his remarks he stated:

> "I will tell you what will happen in America. Christians are going to meet and have our elections in every ballot box. We are not going to vote for Jews. You can put that down! -- you can tell your Jewish friends we will definitely occupy until Jesus comes."

The meeting was closed with a brief prayer by KENNETH GOFF. Rev. HARVEY HOWARD SPRINGER was not in attendance at the meeting in view of a death in his family.

ENCLOSURES TO THE BUREAU:

Copy of a report of the address of subject at the Woman's Club Auditorium, Denver on October 9, 1945.

Copy of a small newspaper entitled "American Digest combined with the Colorado Republican," DEWEY M. TAFT, sole owner, issue of October, 1945.

Copy of a pamphlet entitled "The Plan" prepared by the Post-war Recovery Commission.

Copy of a flyer distributed by the Emergency Division, Denver Unity Council heading "Is Gerald L. K. Smith a Native Fascist?"

Copy of a report of the proceedings at the Englewood Baptist Tabernacle, October 10, 1945.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

CONFIDENTIAL

DVR 100-3557

CONFIDENTIAL

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

[redacted]

b7c, b7D

CONFIDENTIAL

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4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT

FILE NO. 105-134

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
SAN DIEGO	12/7/45	10/18;11/2,20 28/45	[redacted] b7c

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - C SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: SMITH made no public appearances or speeches in San Diego Field Division. San Diego Board of Education denied him use of Roosevelt School Auditorium. AL WIRIN, Attorney for AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION, in behalf of PAYROLL GUARANTEE ASSOCIATION, filed petition to force San Diego Board of Education to permit SMITH to speak, with negative results. At Court Hearing audience made up of Communist Party members and "Ham and Eggers".

- EUO -

REFERENCE: Detroit Letter to Bureau dated October 16, 1945.

DETAILS: AT SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Reference letter indicated that GERALD L. K. SMITH was scheduled to speak October 17, 1945, at Riverside, California, October 21, 1945, at San Diego, October 31, 1945, at Riverside, and November 4, 1945, at San Diego, California.

Special Agent [redacted] advised that opposition in Riverside County was strong against GERALD L. K. SMITH and further that through his coverage and contact with the Riverside Police Department and b7c

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: Warmingly SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-54318-815

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2-San Diego

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DEC 18 1945

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 12/1/82 BY 30-8 Brs/mlc

and Riverside Sheriff's Office it was ascertained that subject SMITH made no appearances or speeches in Riverside.

It was ascertained through [redacted] b7D and through surveillance conducted by the writer that GERALD L. K. SMITH made no speeches at Roosevelt Junior High School as scheduled.

8 On November 2, 1945, Attorney A. L. WIRIN of Los Angeles, California, who represented the PAYROLL GUARANTEE ASSOCIATION, appeared before the Honorable Judge TURRENTINE, Department 6, Superior Court, San Diego, California, and filed a petition to force the San Diego Board of Education to permit GERALD L. K. SMITH to speak in Roosevelt Junior High School. Attorneys for the Board of Education filed demurrer, and before same could be answered, the last possible date SMITH could speak in San Diego, namely November 4, 1945, had passed and thus far no further proceedings have been had concerning this matter.

Local newspapers, particularly the SAN DIEGO DAILY JOURNAL, starting in the early part of October 1945, published numerous articles against GERALD L. K. SMITH and brought out that originally SMITH had been granted permission to speak in Roosevelt Junior High School but the permission was rescinded after complaints had been registered by the American Legion, the Communist Party, and local labor unions.

On November 2, 1945, the writer was in Department 6, San Diego Superior Court, where the petition filed by WIRIN of the AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION was heard before Judge TURRENTINE, and the audience was made up primarily of members of the Communist Party and members of "Ham and Eggers". The members of the Communist Party identified by the writer included [redacted] member of the Executive Committee, [redacted] member of Executive Committee and People's World correspondent. Also present was [redacted] representing AMERICAN YOUTH FOR DEMOCRACY and MERCER MAY, President of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. b7C

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OFFICE OF ORIGIN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN CONFIDENTIAL DETROIT FILE NO. 62-1126

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	12/10/45	9/26-28;10/1, [redacted] 4,15,19,24; 11/5-7/45	BMB

TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases: Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt, Gerald L. Smith; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - G; SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

On September 27, 1945, SMITH held a meeting in Detroit which was picketed by various labor groups. After this meeting SMITH left for the West Coast and was reported to be establishing his headquarters at Los Angeles, California, under the sponsorship of the Guarantee Payroll Association (Ham'n Eggs). SMITH is expected to return to Detroit the latter part of November, 1945, after a series of scheduled speeches while on the Coast. According to informants, SMITH's appearance in Los Angeles and other cities was met with opposition, resulting in the picketing of his meetings. SMITH's publications continue along the anti-Communist line. At the present time SMITH has organized a "Post-War Recovery Commission" which he alleges is to fight Communism and to help the United States during their reconversion period.

- C -

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SLIP(S) OF DATE

REFERENCE: Bureau file 62-43818.

Memorandum from the Detroit Field Division to the Bureau dated September 26, 1945.

Classified by SP-8 BTJ/mlc
Declassify on: OADR 5/3/83

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: R. G. Turlin — SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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3 - Detroit

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CONFIDENTIAL

EX-47

FILE

DE 62-1126

Memorandum from the Bureau to the Detroit Office dated October 11, 1945. CONFIDENTIAL

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 12, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan. b7c

Memorandum from the Detroit Field Division to the Bureau dated October 16, 1945.

Memorandum from the Bureau to the Detroit Field Division dated November 7, 1945.

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan:

[redacted] b7D

HARRY FAINARU, Daily Worker correspondent from District 7 of the COMMUNIST PARTY, wrote several articles prior to this meeting at which time he berated SMITH as a Fascist. These articles which appeared in the Daily Worker and the Worker, Communist organs, described SMITH as the most menacing Fascist character ever to have any following in the United States. These articles also criticized the Board of Education of Detroit for permitting SMITH to speak in a public school.

[redacted] b1

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted] b1

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] b7D

[redacted]

It was reported in the "Los Angeles Examiner" for November 3, 1945, that as a result of the picketing at one of SMITH's meetings 55 boys and girls were arrested for picketing which was other than peaceful. The article further went on to point out that according to the California law the Board of Education was compelled to allow the schools to be used by any organization whatsoever. The Board of Education further pointed out that unless the law was changed there would be no way to prohibit men like SMITH from speaking at their public schools.

[redacted] b7D

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted] b7D

Copies of the August, September, and October issues of "The Cross and the Flag" as well as the September issue of the "Monthly Letter" and the September 6, 1945 issue of the "Weekly Letter" are being forwarded to the Bureau as enclosures to this report.

At the present time SMITH is forming or has formed a "Post-War Recovery Commission" which, according to him, is to fight Communism in the United States and to help the United States in its reconversion period. To promote this Commission, SMITH has edited a small pamphlet entitled "The Plan" wherein he has set forth his various ideas towards helping the returning soldier and the unemployed. He advocates a minimum income of $2,500 a year for each American family and points out that there is available an average income of $8,000 and that the remainder over and above the $2,500 would be thrown into the hopper of the American competitive system where initiative, honest competition, and private enterprise would "do its stuff." He also advocates a strong Navy and Army but states that this should not be accomplished by peace-time conscription. He states that it should be done by making the pay of the soldier and other members of the armed forces high enough to induce them to enlist for several years.

SMITH also advocates what he terms constitutional money which, according to his definition, is money issued directly by Congress and not through the Federal Reserve System. He states that constitutional money is guaranteed and underwritten by the productive capacity of the nation and believes that by this method the unemployment problem would be solved. In turn, SMITH advocates from $30 to $50 a week for every unemployed person and every person over sixty years of age.

SMITH claims that his plan can only be worked out by following the Nationalist movement and by refraining from participating in international deals.

Pursuant to referenced letter dated November 7, 1945, this case is being placed in a closed status and no further active investigation will be conducted by the Detroit Field Division.

Also pursuant to this letter, all outstanding leads to other offices are being discontinued.

CONFIDENTIAL

ENCLOSURES: TO THE BUREAU CONFIDENTIAL

Copies of "The Cross and the Flag" for August, September, and October, 1945.

September, 1945, issue of the Monthly Letter captioned "The Curtain Rises."

A copy of the Weekly Letter for September 6, 1945.

- CLOSED -

CONFIDENTIAL

4-750 (2-7-79)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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FBI/DOJ

Assistant Attorney General T. L. Caudle December 20, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SEDITION

For your further information regarding the above-captioned individual, there is transmitted herewith a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, on December 10, 1945.

b7c

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/19/86 BY JP-86TJ/MG

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
DEC 20 1945 P.M.

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Egan
Furnea
Gandon
Harrington
Wim. Tamm
Mease
Mandy

RECORDED ESB:MMJ
62-43818 - 816

INDEXED IN PUBLICATION FILES

156 JAN - 2 1946

First

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/16/82 BY SP-8BTS/MK

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Gerald L. K. Smith

My dear Mr. Hoover,

ASK 12-5-4 RDP

I am a teacher at the Jefferson High School, one of the Los Angeles City High Schools. NMV Our principal, [redacted] says that the Los Angeles Board of Education has a letter from you stating that there is no proof

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-42818-4

EX-47

All BTC

against Gerald L. K. Smith. [redacted]

says the letter may be forged but that, according to your files, nothing can be proved against G. L. K. Smith.

Would you please give me the facts regarding such a letter? Thank you very much for any trouble you may take in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

AL b7c

RECORDED

62-43818-817

December 5, 1945

[redacted] b7c

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of November 20, 1945, has been received and I must advise that this Bureau has no information on the subject of your discussion available for general distribution.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8 STJ/mc

RDD:wma:mk

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
DEC 6 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

57 JAN 4 1946

DEC 5 7 24 PM '45
RECEIVED READING ROOM
F B I
U. S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

LBN:aml

TO : Mr. Tolson

FROM : Mr. Nichols

SUBJECT:

DATE: December 18, 1945

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/18/82 BY SP-8BTZ

Mr. Tolson
Mr. A. H. Belmont
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Miss Gandy

[redacted] of the Anti-Defamation League called and stated that he had been told that Gerald L. K. Smith was making the statement that the Director had written him to the effect that there was nothing subversive about his activities. He also stated that Smith exhibited a letter dated April 26th that the Director wrote to Smith. [redacted] wanted to know if we had ever made the statement that Smith was not subversive. I told him I felt certain that the Director had written no such letter.

I checked the files carefully and find no such letter. I do find the letter of April 26th, which was written as a result of the Detroit matter. Following are the last two paragraphs of this letter:

"You may be assured that the assumptions you set forth in your letter of April 18 are correct; i.e., no representative of this Bureau has at any time attempted to coerce the management of any building to prevent your speaking in Philadelphia or engaged in any activities designed to deny an American citizen his civil liberties.

"I appreciate your bringing this matter to my attention so that you will have no question concerning the policies of the FBI."

We have a transcript of a speech that Smith made in Salt Lake City wherein he refers to the letter. After referring to the letter, he called upon the audience to give the Director a big hand.

[redacted] told me incidentally that Adamson of the Committee on un-American Activities is getting ready to subpoena the records of the "Friends of Democracy," the Leon Birkhead organization which sponsored John Roy Carlson. He stated they were very much fearful that this was an attempt to get to the ADL, which has been referred to as the Jewish gestapo.

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43812-818

EX-47 31 DEC 20 1945

50 JAN 2 1946

ALL 67C

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: December 27, 1945

FROM : SAC, Houston

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/18/82 BY [illegible]

The above-captioned individual arrived in Houston, Texas on December 13, 1945 accompanied by his wife, RENATA [redacted] and [redacted]

SMITH conducted a press conference at the Rice Hotel on the afternoon of December 13, 1945 and from press reports of this conference SMITH stated that he was in Houston to contact key figures who would help spread his gospel of nationalism in Texas. He declined, however, to say who the key figures are he expected to contact in Houston.

Other statements attributed to SMITH during this press conference include the following. In connection with isolationism, he stated: "Isolationists think a nation can live alone and unto itself. Nationalists believe in keeping a nation's sovereignty. Let no nation control the blood or money of the United States - that is what we nationalists fight for."

Soviet Russia was branded as a "nation of savages" and should be dealt with as such. "You can make a deal with savage head hunters, but you don't have to give them a key to your front door", SMITH stated. SMITH said that the United States and Russia already are at war and it will be out in the open in eighteen months to five years.

HANDLED BY [illegible]

He spent considerable time in discussing the Communists in this country and stated that he always finds out how many Communits are in a community when he applies for a permit to hold a mass meeting. In this connection, he stated, "That will bring the Communists into the open, and they will deluge the building superintendent and city authorities with protests, threats and use every other method to harass me or keep me out of the city."

The SMITH party left Houston on Friday, December 14, 1945, stating that he intended to visit Baton Rouge, Louisiana, for the purpose of laying a wreath on the grave of HUEY LONG. He indicated, however, that he intended to return to Houston sometime in the spring for the purpose of holding a series of mass meetings.

No investigative action will be taken in the event SMITH returns to Houston this spring unless requested by the Bureau or the Detroit Field Division.

[redacted] dfh
100-919
cc - Detroit
New Orleans

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62-43816-819
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2 JAN 3 1946

57 JAN 5 1946

EX-33

[redacted]

ANONYMOUS CO
KEEP ENVELOPE ATTACHED

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DATE 10/18/82 BY SP8BJJ/MC

Dear Sir

I am enclosing a clipping which explains itself. The activities of Gerald Smith should be investigated. He is at the bottom of all this labor trouble. His activities in Detroit where he just especial pressure certainly produced results. He has gotten into the Hague and Eggs Improvement here and the people are receiving Government checks contribute to his cam-

RECORDED & INDEXED

F B I

32 JAN 9 1946

50 JAN 11 1946

paigns. He advocates
the overthrow of the
Government and
tells them not to
work it is an old
Jewish custom,
and a lot more
villanous talk.
Certain, downtown
portions of the city
are infested with
the worst class of
people who talk
against religion.
This man should
be apprehended
together with they
labor leaders. Their
leaders deathroned
would make the
people lose con-
fidence in them.

A Citizen

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/18/82 BY SP-3BTJ/MC

Editor's Wife, Son Kidnaped

Police yesterday were investigating the alleged kidnaping of Mrs. James Tarantino and her 21-month-old son, Jimmy, near their home at 1925 North Vermont avenue, late Friday.

Officers said Mrs. Tarantino told them three men forced her and Jimmy into a car at pistol point, then threw them out in the 00 block on Casanova street.

She said the men told her to op her husband, editor of a Hollywood magazine, from writ- articles attacking Gerald L. Smith.

bookkeeping machine operator, Vine.—Adv.

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

62-43818-820

ENCLOSURE

Members of the Board
Lawrence L. Larrabee, President
Mrs. Marie M. Adams
Mrs. Eleanor B. Allen
Roy J. Becker
J. Paul Elliott
Mrs. Gertrude H. Rounsavelle
Maynard J. Toll

Board of Education
of the
City of Los Angeles

Chamber of Commerce Building
Los Angeles 15, California

Office of
Lawrence L. Larrabee
458 South Spring Street
Los Angeles 13, California

December 19, 1945

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/8/82 BY SP8 Bohn

My dear Mr. Hoover:

I am presuming to write you concerning certain circumstances that have surrounded recent action by the Los Angeles City Board of Education, in the thought that you may be able to supply this Board with information that it does not have.

Last October, an organization of Los Angeles citizens applied to our Board for a permit to hold a meeting in the auditorium of one of our high schools. It was stated in the application that Gerald L. K. Smith was to be one of the speakers at the meeting. A permit for the holding of the meeting was issued in due course. As soon as this fact was publicized in the local press the Board was deluged with written and oral protests of citizens of this community, objecting to the granting of a permit for a meeting at which Mr. Smith could appear and speak.

Here in California we have certain provisions of the State Education Code which are commonly referred to as "The Civic Center Act". In substance, this law grants to organizations of citizens the right to hold meetings in public school buildings for the purpose of discussing political, economic, or other subjects which in their judgment pertain to the interests of the citizens of the community. The only exception made by the terms of this law is that of persons or organizations who advocate the overthrow of our government by force or other unlawful means. This law has been repeatedly construed by our California courts as meaning that a board of education has no power of censorship over the character of a meeting proposed to be held by citizens in accordance with the provisions of that Act, with the exception referred to. That is, that it is mandatory upon boards to grant permits for such meetings and that a board cannot legally deny such a permit because of the alleged opinions and beliefs of the members of the organization or of the person chosen by them to be their speaker.

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205 OCT 13 1964

This law makes it equally mandatory upon a board to deny such a permit if it be proved that either the organization or the person chosen by it to be its speaker, advocates the overthrow of government by force or other unlawful means.

162-43818-821
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39 JAN 7 1948
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EX-40

Because of various charges that were made against Mr. Smith, our Board granted two public hearings for the purpose of affording an opportunity to citizens to appear and present any evidence they might have tending to prove that Mr. Smith advocates the overthrow of government by force or other unlawful means.

Both of these protest meetings were attended by large numbers of people appearing as representatives of a considerable number of local organizations. Their common complaint was that Mr. Smith has been charged with having made, in years past, public statements which have had a tendency to stir up racial and religious hatreds and tending to show that he believed in what is popularly referred to as a Fascistic form of government. In support of those complaints it was said, for instance, that both he and his wife have been members of Pelley's Silver Shirt organization, the implication being that the Silver Shirts advocate the overthrow of our government by force or other unlawful means. Practically everything that was said against Mr. Smith boiled down to an expression of bitter dislike for the man personally, and for views that he is accused of having expressed; no evidence whatever was produced to show that he advocates, or has ever advocated, the overthrow of our government by force or violence. The members of the Board, in concurrence with members of the Los Angeles County Counsel's Office who sat with them at these hearings, so found and refused to revoke the permits for these meetings at which Mr. Smith was to speak here in Los Angeles.

Board members are still being importuned by various citizens to go further in their investigation of Mr. Smith's record, it being contended that he preaches doctrines which would have the effect of advocating the overthrow of government by force. The Board has therefore directed me to write to you to ask if you will be good enough to advise us whether or not your office has had occasion to investigate Mr. Smith's activities and, if so, whether you have found evidence that he advocates the overthrow of our government by force. It would be of value to us to know whether your office has or has not found any evidence supporting such a charge against Mr. Smith.

I may state that in connection with the holding of the three meetings last October and November here in Los Angeles, the most vociferous opposition to the holding of the meetings, which took the form of picketing of meetings by mobs estimated to comprise from five to ten thousand persons, appears to have been local Communist groups, principally those Communists who appeared to be of the Jewish race. This has been explained by some by pointing out that Mr. Smith, in his local appearances, has purported to expose certain activities of Communists which, if true, would indicate that any patriotic American citizen should fight against such activities, and certain procedures

which are charged against the Communist Party. The only utterances made by Smith in his local meetings, which could be reasonably labeled as "rabble rousing", have been those in which he has denounced the Communists and their alleged program of activity in this country.

We shall greatly appreciate any information or comments that you may feel free to give us in regard to the matters hereinabove set forth.

Yours very truly,

Lawrence L. Larrabee

LAWRENCE L. LARRABEE
President
Board of Education of the City of
Los Angeles

LLL:LLG

4-750 (2-7-79)

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62-43818-821

RECORDED

EX-40

January 3, 1946

Mr. Lawrence L. Larrabee
President
Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles
Chamber of Commerce Building
Los Angeles 15, California

Dear Mr. Larrabee:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of December 19, 1945.

With regard to your inquiry, I wish to advise that inasmuch as the information you desire involves fundamentally a question of law, I have taken the liberty of referring a copy of your letter to Assistant Attorney General Theron L. Caudle in charge of the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice for interpretation and appropriate consideration.

If at any time in the future you have any information which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, I want you to feel free to communicate with me or with Special Agent R. B. Hood in charge of our Los Angeles Field Division located at 900 Security Building, Los Angeles 13, California.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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DATE 10/18/82 BY SP3 [illegible]

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
JAN 3 1946 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ESB:BM:EW

RECORDED 2-43818-827

Assistant Attorney General T. L. Gandle
Criminal Division

January 3, 1946

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

INQUIRY BY LOS ANGELES BOARD OF EDUCATION
CONCERNING GERALD L. K. SMITH

106233

There is submitted herewith a copy of a letter dated December 19, 1945, directed to me by Mr. Lawrence L. Larrabee, President, Board of Education of the City of Los Angeles, Chamber of Commerce Building, Los Angeles 15, California.

Inasmuch as Mr. Larrabee's inquiry involves fundamentally a question of law, I am referring this letter to you for your interpretation and appropriate consideration. This letter has been acknowledged and Mr. Larrabee has been advised of this reference to you.

Attachment

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/18/82 BY SP SBT/MLG

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ESB:lm

COMMUNICTIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
JAN 3 1946 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F B I
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

59 JAN 23 1946/66

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

File No. 100-7945

Title No. [illegible]
Case originated at DETROIT

Report made at	Date when made	Period for which made	Report made by
LOS ANGELES	2/19/45	10/18,19,26; 11/7,9,16,21,27,29/45	[redacted] kc

Title	Character of case
GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; AMERICA FIRST PARTY	INTERNAL SECURITY - C; SEDITION

106241

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: GERALD L. K. SMITH returned to Los Angeles about October 15, 1945, and had planned to have meetings in a number of cities in the Los Angeles area. Mobilization for Democracy, a new Communist front, is to consolidate all Communist activity. Communists and CIO leaders try unsuccessfully to prevent Board of Education granting use of school building to SMITH. Communist and CIO members and others picket SMITH meeting at Polytechnic High School. PHILIP M. CONNELLY is leader of the pickets. ROBERT W. KENNY, State Attorney General, is director of Mobilization for Democracy activities. Mobilization for Democracy organizes Long Beach to prevent SMITH holding meetings there. Representatives of Communists and CIO succeed in having Masonic Temple cancel engagement of SMITH for use of hall. Many arrests made at Polytechnic High School meeting. Fifty-seven persons face court charges, many of whom are ~~[illegible]~~ high school students.

-RUC-

REFERENCE:

Bureau File No. 62-43818.
Report of Special Agent [redacted] Detroit, October 12, 1945;
Bureau letter dated October 11, 1945;
Report of Special Agent [redacted] Los Angeles, dated August 30, 1945;
Detroit letter dated November 15, 1945.

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 10/28/57

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-5-81 BY SP1 [illegible]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [illegible] Special Agent in Charge

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

62-#3818-8226

B R I

30 JAN 16 1946

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L.A. 100-7945

106242

DETAILS:

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA:

GERALD L. K. SMITH was in Los Angeles in June and July, 1945, and held a series of meetings at which a great amount of disturbance was created by his attacks on Communists and he singled out to a great extent the activities of Communists and Jews in Hollywood. When he left, he stated that he would return in the fall for a series of meetings. He arrived in Southern California on or about October 15, 1945, and was scheduled to speak in the following cities in Los Angeles:

Pomona
Riverside
Pasadena
San Bernardino
Long Beach
San Diego
Modesto
Sacramento
San Jose
San Francisco
Oakland
Fresno
Los Angeles
Pomona
Riverside
Pasadena
San Bernardino
Long Beach
San Diego
Modesto
Sacramento
San Jose
San Francisco
Oakland
Fresno.

When SMITH was in Los Angeles in July, 1945, he made a speech at the Shrine Auditorium on July 20 in which he made the following statements in substance, according to [redacted] b7D

"You can make up your minds when you come to call down the imps of Hollywood, the devils of Hell, and they will spend $50,000 in ten days under the leadership of pro-Communists and Stalinite agents like ORSON WELLES and his trained seals to fight you because

you stand for Christ first in America, that you are doing some good."

"You know, you hear all sorts of talk about GERALD L. K. SMITH and his storm troopers - - The Communists use a circular with a drawing of a Nazi on the cover with a wicked cat-of-nine-tails, titled, 'Must this happen in Los Angeles?' You turn to the inside and it says, 'GERALD L. K. SMITH comes to Los Angeles with his storm troopers.' Yes, I came to this meeting tonight with what they call my 'storm troopers'. The men who escorted me to this meeting tonight were all young ministers of the gospel. We stopped in the dressing room, used by the actresses when they use this auditorium for a theatre, and we knelt down and prayed, that is the kind of storm troopers I had and in case any of my cynical enemies who insist that the Pastors' Committee is a fake and non existent, I want you to know that practically every gentleman on this platform or at least 60% of them are ministers of the gospel."

"I realize that the Communists have used the strategy of racism, which we do not introduce, racism is no part of our campaign, but they have introduced the question of racism in order to alarm the hysterical Jews, in order to arouse the Negroes; but they haven't succeeded in arousing the Negroes thus far; so if you went to the Olympic tonight- - - in fact a member of my committee said that without a doubt at least 85% to 90% of the people at the Olympic tonight are Jews, May I say this to the Jewish community, if you are represented here tonight, be you an agent or to listen in: study the practical strategy of your people in the public relations problem. ... your people will not make the friends you need in this critical hour if you allow your fears to be exploited in this critical hour by the Communist Party."

"All right, ladies and gentlemen, I am willing to wager a hat, shoes and undershirt, there will be no resolution at the Olympic Auditorium tonight against Red Communism. I am willing to wager my shirt the Attorney General of the State of California will make no attack at the Olympic Auditorium tonight against Communism. Why? Because he and others, operating this Communistic program are playing the Communist Party line. Why are they so afraid? Why do they spend these thousands and bring in movie stars and left wing politicians, the Attorney General of the State of California? They had 60 men at the Ambassador and the food cost $10.00 a plate; they paid $600.00 just to set up a press conference to publicize this meeting they are holding; they say for the purpose of stopping GERALD L. K. SMITH. Why that fear? Why so apprehensive concerning

our activities on the coast? It is because when this war is over there will be a million unemployed on the West Coast. . . don't let anyone deceive you, you have have all kinds of interviews with Mr. Kaiser on operating new factories, . . . but a confidential report to the Federal Reserve Bank in this zone reveals these factories now manufacturing war materials are going to be closed and not be reconverted to peace time factories and there will be millions unemployed on the West Coast and the Communists are planning to exploit the hunger, unemployment and chaos in behalf of a revolution under the Red flag. And don't you be deceived, they are getting ready for the explosion. They kicked Earl Browder out of leadership and put at the head WILLIAM Z. FOSTER; they repudiate EARL BROWDER because he was getting along with the Administration and now they are going to restore their plan of class warfare, which means overthrow of the government of the United States by force, and they have moved their strategic headquarters to Hollywood, California, to take over when this war is over, and they know GERALD L. K. SMITH has got their number."

"When the press came out and interviewed me at the hotel, they said to me: 'Mr. SMITH, what about these people being out to destroy GERALD L. K. SMITH and everything he stands for?' I said if you get HOMER CHAILLAUX of the Americanism Committee of the American Legion and get Senator TENNEY, Chairman of the Committee to Investigate un-American Activities in this state to endorse the meeting at the Olympic Auditorium, I will cancel my meeting at the Shrine and invite my people to join you, but may I say this: I am willing to wager that Senator Tenney and Homer Chaillaux are just as conscious of the mechanizations behind this fake outfit as I am or anyone here in this audience tonight."

[redacted] informed that on August 26, 1945, about 1,200 people met at the Los Angeles City College and formed the "Mobilization for Democracy", a new Communist front which, according to the announcement, was to be a committee with power to act as a committee for all the organizations composing it, "but not as a membership organization" but that it was "to screen all suggestions and resolutions, and pass those they approve and reject those they do not approve". b7D

Source further informed that the following parties are to control and direct the activities of the MFD.

ROBERT W. KENNY, Attorney General of California, chairman;
GEORGE STILLER, secretary;
CAREY McWILLIAMS, treasurer, writer and professional sponsor;
PHILIP M. CONNELLY, CIO member and secretary of the LAIUC.

This source further advised that this MFD was first set up as an emergency committee at the Royal Palms Hotel on July 17, 1945. He also informed that the MFD called the great mass meeting at the Olympic Auditorium at which its officers claimed 12,000 citizens were in attendance and that $10,000 in cash was raised to finance its activity, the principal one of which at that particular moment was the activity of GERALD L. K. SMITH.

Later, the MFD issued a list of eighteen things which they must fight to obtain or fight to prevent someone else from obtaining, all of which were in conformity with the present Communist Party line.

About the time that GERALD L. K. SMITH returned to Los Angeles in October, 1945, an announcement appeared in the papers giving his schedule of appointments.

The Los Angeles Daily News for October 12, 1945, stated that GERALD L. K. SMITH yesterday received the O.K. from the Los Angeles School Board to address a mass meeting on school property after a similar request had been denied by the San Diego School Board. The approval was given by the board in reply to a request for the use of the Polytechnic High School Auditorium next Wednesday night for a free public meeting sponsored by the Pay Roll Guarantee Association.

It stated that City School Superintendent VIERLING KERSEY advised the Los Angeles School Board against approving the request, fearing "a bad situation might arise in connection with that person's speaking in the school building".

"There are sharp feelings in the city about SMITH", said KERSEY, "we must be careful of arousing sentiment".

LAWRENCE L. LARRABEE, president of the board, stated: "But we can't deny SMITH if we don't deny Communists, we have no right to anticipate a riot or a disturbance."

"Permission was granted for the use of the auditorium at a charge of $37.00 for a period not to exceed 7:00 to 10:00 P.M. A sign disclaiming the School Board's sponsorship of the meeting will be placed in the auditorium", board members stated.

The Los Angeles Daily News for October 16, 1945, stated that an estimated 100 southland organizations will appear before the Los Angeles City Board of Education today to protest SMITH's scheduled appearance next Wednesday. They want the permit to SMITH cancelled.

The article further stated that if the School Board does not, cancel the permit and if the speech comes off as scheduled in spite of the protest, the spokesman added, plans were underway to have 10,000 pickets at the meeting.

The article stated that the "Mobilization for Democracy" leaders said, "The groups objecting to 'rabble rouser SMITH's appearance had passed the 100 mark and was expected to approximate 200 before the Board of Education meets".

It may be stated that ROBERT W. KENNY, Attorney General of the State of California, CAREY McWILLIAMS, and GEORGE STILLER are the leaders of "Mobilization for Democracy" which is leading the opposition to SMITH.

The Los Angeles Examiner for October 16, 1945, stated: "Despite vociferous protests from a capacity audience that included several Hollywood celebrities, the Board of Education refused to rescind its permit for SMITH to speak at Polytechnic High School".

LAWRENCE L. LARRABEE, President of the Board, explained to more than 300 protestants that under the State Civic Center Act, the Board was powerless to deny a permit to the organization sponsoring SMITH's appearance. He stated: "Among the speakers who asked the board to revoke the permit were Hollywoodites EDDIE CANTOR and DOROTHY PARKER; PHILIP M. CONNELLY, secretary-treaturer of the LAIUC, CAREY McWILLIAMS, and ISAAC PACHT, former judge of the State Superior Court".

A dodger was issued advertising a mass meeting at the new Masonic Temple at Long Beach, California, on October 20, 1945. It was designated as an "American City in Action". The principal speakers were the following:

ORSON WELLES, writer, ROBERT W. KENNY, State Attorney General, Long Beach Mobilization for Democracy, and "more than 100 other community organizations and leaders". It listed JOE MADDEN as chairman and master of ceremonies.

On the back of this dodger was the heading, "It can't Happen Here".

The Daily Peoples World for October 12, 1945, under the heading "Hollywood will picket If Smith Speaks", stated that if GERALD L. K. SMITH, America's No. 1 Fascist, successfully completes his speaking date at Polytechnic High School next Wednesday night, he will be confronted by a giant picket line - Hollywood style.

It stated that this was issued today after 700 citizens enthusiastically cheered the suggestion of PHILIP M. CONNELLY, secretary-treasurer of the LAIUC, at the Olympic auditorium last night.

It stated that indignant citizens will appear at a Board of Education hearing at 5:00 P.M. Monday at the Chamber of Commerce to protest rental of the school to SMITH. It stated that if the board insists on permitting SMITH use of the school then "the picket line will be organized". It stated that CONNELLY spoke at the mass meeting of the Citizens Committee for the motion picture strikers which was called to protest police and goon terror against Hollywood picketers. He noted that SMITH appeared in town when workers are being assaulted in a Fascist manner and questioned whether it is merely coincidental. SMITH and anti labor violence "go hand in hand", CONNELLY pointed out, and they cannot be separated.

The Daily Peoples World for October 17, 1945, under the heading, "300 L.A. Groups to 'Greet' Smith with Picket Line", stated: "Mass indignation of Los Angeles citizens at the American Fascism of GERALD L. K. SMITH will be expressed in a huge picketing demonstration tonight in front of the Polytechnic High School".

"300 organizations which will be represented at the mass picketing include the following: 'Mobilization for Democracy, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, H.I.C.C. of ASP, National Citizens PAC, Hollywood Democratic Committee, CIO Council, American Federation of Teachers-Parents Council, American-Jewish Council, Thirteenth Councilmanic Citizens Committee, Musicians Union No. 47, American Veterans Council, International Workers Order, All Jewish War Veterans posts, B'nai B'Rith, Council of Jewish Women'."

It stated that the Hollywood Strike Strategy Committee has been invited to participate.

[redacted] informed that on October 15, 1945, a hearing was had before the Los Angeles School Board which was called by the Mobilization for Democracy, a recently formed Communist front, to protest the action of the Board of Education in granting the use of Polytechnic High School to GERALD L. K. SMITH. Invitations to this meeting were sent out over the signatures of the following: b7D

ROBERT W. KENNY, State Attorney General;
CAREY McWILLIAMS, writer and professional sponsor;
GEORGE CAMPBELL, secretary, AFL Musicians No. 47;
PAULINE LAUBER, secretary of the Hollywood Writers Mobilization;
FRANK PELLETT, Legislative Chairman of Standard Rule Unions;

PHILIP M. CONNELLY, Secretary-Treasurer, LAIUC;
ELLEANORE ABOWITZ, CIO-PAC Secretary;
Mrs. FRED POLLOCK, Chairman, Women's Division, American Jewish Congress;
LEO GALLIN, Executive Director;
Jewish County Council.

Source informed that PHILIP M. CONNELLY spoke at length and stated that the racial tension and bigotry have reached a danger point all over the United States. He cited instances of race-hate riots among students in the schools, how in Los Angeles recently, the white children came to school armed with chains and other weapons, determined to drive the colored children from the school, how white parents drove through the district threatening the Negro parents if they continued sending their children to that school. CONNELLY said that the situation was such that the people in Los Angeles were so aroused over the appearance of SMITH that their group "would be unable to handle them". He further stated, "The people were going to picket the meeting and the CIO could not be responsible for what might happen".

CONNELLY stated that at the time SMITH appeared in Los Angeles previously, the CIO had been able to keep "law and order" but this time, it would be "utterly impossible for them to do so if the board insisted upon allowing the use of public school property by SMITH". He stated that it is well known that SMITH travels with a "bunch of goons and thugs to protect him" and if the board does not rescind their actions, there was "danger of the reoccurrence of the Detroit incident".

The result of the hearing was that the Board of Education ruled that SMITH had a right to speak in the school buildings.

This same source advised that after the hearing was over, the crowd designating themselves as "Mobilization for Democracy" numbering between 300 and 350, went directly from the Board of Education in the Chamber of Commerce Building to the Royal Palms Hotel. Source stated that there was a meeting already in progress at the Palms Hotel when the CONNELLY crowd arrived; that CONNELLY and a few of his friends gathered in the rear of the room and evidently were making plans to put over the program they wanted.

CONNELLY was overheard to say: "If that dodo tries to run in a sub committee here tonight, we'll have to do something".

At this meeting, the chairman said that CLYDE HALLORAN, West Coast Director of the UAW, would establish the picket line. He said that seventeen organizations will be ready with picket captains. He also stated that fifteen thousand pamphlets would be issued by the regional staff and

that sound trucks would be furnished and all unions and organizations should attend.

Source further stated that a dark complexioned young man with a slight impediment of speech, whose first name was MAURICE, took the floor as a representative of the Joint Anti Fascist Refugee Committee for Local 26 of the ILWU and stated in part that "transportation would be furnished by caravans, shop stewards would be captains, chief stewards would be Lieutenant Generals of the pickets and the committee staff to run the set up with the CIO Council and any other groups wishing to participate".

He added that most of the brothers he worked with were Mexicans and Negroes and they knew what GERALD L. K. SMITH means to do with them, and he would guarantee that they would see to it that when SMITH was run out of Los Angeles, he would be in no shape to return.

Source informed that another man, one who had been talking to CONNELLY in the rear of the room, stood and asked that they make an amendment to a motion making PHILIP M. CONNELLY marshal, which was acted upon at once.

Smith Meeting at Polytechnic High School
October 17, 1945

b7D

[redacted] has informed that this meeting was highly publicized by various groups, such as labor unions, the Daily Peoples World, the MFD, the CIO, the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions, the American Jewish Council, the International Workers Order, and others, including the Socialist Workers Party (Trotskyite), Workers Party (Trotskyite), Pacific Sound Equipment Company, the Towne Avenue Forum operated by WHITEY McLEAN, a well known Communist Party member, and many other organizations.

Source informed that radio stations announced the picketing of the SMITH meeting on the evening of October 17, 1945, at the Polytechnic High School and called for the picketing of the meeting; branding SMITH as a "native Fascist", a "hate breeder", and an "anti labor agitator".

Source further stated that the pickets brought two sound trucks to the meeting and parked them immediately in front of the entrance to the high school. They were furnished by the UAW-CIO and the UMM and SW-CIO.

This source further informed that SYLVAN PASTERNAK, a known Communist, brought a carload of placards to the meeting. The placards bore such slogans such as "stamp out Fascism in America", "No beachhead for Fascism in Los Angeles", "UAW-CIO will fight GERALD L. K. SMITH",

"Our Boys Died for the Democracy Smith would Destroy".

Source further informed that PHILIP M. CONNELLY, secretary of the LAIUC, announced over the loud speaker that "all longshoremen were to be the picket captains and asked them to go to the opposite side of the street and meet a BILL LAWRENCE and get their instructions and keep the picket line moving and keep it peaceful".

Source informed that approximately thirty-five Negroes, members of the Ship Scalers Union, arrived and took their place in the picket line. The crowd was shouting, "Down with Smith", "Down with Fascism", "we will run him out of town", and other similar statements.

One of the speakers read over the loud speaker an excerpt from the United States War Department instruction sheet issued to Army orientation officers dated March 24, 1945, reading as follows: "How to Recognize an American Fascist".

Source further informed that PHILIP M. CONNELLY appeared to be in full charge of the picket line. He gave instructions over the loud speaker. Also, he walked along the picket line shouting instructions to the pickets.

This source further stated that ABRAHAM MINKUS, a well known member of the Communist Party and a member of the Federation of Teachers, AFL, made a talk over the loud speaker in which he stated that there were numerous school teachers in the picket line. When MINKUS had finished, the announcer stated, "this is the man who is fighting Fascism in the schools. He is teaching your children and mine the real dangers of Fascism."

Source further stated that CHARLOTTA BASS, editor of the California Eagle, made a fiery speech in which she denounced the Los Angeles Police Department, stating: "These are the same men who are gassing and clubbing the strikers in the Hollywood motion picture strike".

This source further informed that by about 7:45 P.M., the lower floor of the auditorium was filled to capacity. In the balcony, there was a group of about "twenty-five juvenile hoodlums" who undoubtedly were sent into the auditorium by someone to cause trouble. These juveniles were members of the Young Socialist Club. They made loud noises with their shoes, spoke loudly, and one member was seen to stamp his feet on the floor and was heard to say, "These are the same shoes I made so much noise with at the 'YOUTH FOR CHRIST' meeting".

Source further informed that at about 7:40 P.M., SMITH entered the auditorium through the rear entrance and was met by several of his followers who were shaking his hand and asking questions.

Source stated that SMITH took the rostrum and immediately received a tremendous ovation from his followers and boos, cat-calls, and hissing from his opponents who were in the audience. He quoted SMITH as saying, "If you people here this evening have observed the type of people who are outside the auditorium attempting to prevent this meeting from being held, I want to tell you that these groups are encouraged by Hollywood motion picture magnates and EDDIE CANTOR and the 'red rats' of Hollywood".

Source informed that there was loud applause by the audience and SMITH then said: "If you believe that, let's give it a hand", at which time loud applause was given to SMITH.

Informant stated that SMITH at that time stated that his son had fought to uphold the constitution of the United States, freedom of speech, and assemblage and that he, SMITH, felt that he would be a poor father if he didn't do his part in defending the rights of freedom of speech and assemblage in the United States and "God willing, I am going to do that".

Informant stated that SMITH at this time explained that MEADE McCLANAHAN was not present for the reason that he had on that date buried his two year old grandson. This statement was loudly booed by the opposition. SMITH then stated that if these "red rats" thought they could prevent anyone from attending this meeting, he said, "they have not stopped us and I will hold another meeting in this city within two or three weeks". SMITH further stated that "they had also taken credit for running him out of town the last time I was here" but he stated that "he had not been run out of town by 'your Communist State Attorney General Robert W. Kenny' or by anyone of these 'red rats'". SMITH stated he had travelled several thousand miles and had held meetings in numerous large cities in which he had addressed large crowds. At this time, a private in the United States Army stepped to the aisle and asked those in the audience to go with him and take SMITH off the platform. He was applauded by a small group of people scattered in the audience and he was immediately escorted from the hall.

This informant stated that at another point during Mr. SMITH's speech, a colored soldier in uniform stood up and openly denounced the speaker and immediately left the auditorium.

Source informed that SMITH later in his speech stated that the Soviet Union is now trying to float a loan of six billion dollars and that this amount "would be enough to pay each returned soldier a good bonus".

Source stated that SMITH then stated, "What's wrong with doing something for the Americans?"

Source informed that ALBERT SLADE, representative of Attorney General Robert W. Kenny's Office, was observed talking to PHILIP M. CONNELLY

outside the auditorium and again he observed him in the auditorium where he remained until approximately 9:40 P.M. This source estimated that there were approximately 5,000 people present at the height of the demonstration outside the Polytechnic High School.

[redacted] advised that the Mobilization for Democracy met at the YWCA at Long Beach on October 13, 1945, and held a meeting and set up an executive committee, selected temporary officers and raised $300 for the purpose of organizing and planning to keep GERALD L. K. SMITH from speaking in Long Beach on October 20, 1945, as the same action had been taken with respect to SMITH by the MFD at Los Angeles. b7D

This source further advised that it was learned that SMITH's organization had rented a hall in the Masonic Temple for October 20, 1945, and also that the MFD was wanting to rent a hall in the same building on the same date and hour, that is, in the evening. Source stated that they sensed at once that there was trouble brewing. Source stated that contact was made with [redacted] of the Masonic Temple, and it was learned that the SMITH organization had made a twenty dollar deposit on the hall for October 20 and November 3, 1945. It was also learned that the MFD group had made arrangements to rent the hall from the manager of the building, but the MFD group had not made a deposit. The hall for SMITH had been rented in the name of the Pay Roll Guarantee Association. b7C

Source stated that many phone calls were received by [redacted] demanding that she return the deposit made by the SMITH group and refuse SMITH the use of the hall. [redacted] became alarmed and returned the deposit made by the SMITH group and apprised them that the hall would not be available for them.

The twenty dollars was returned to [redacted] with a letter stating that they would sue her for damages. Soon thereafter, [redacted] received a letter signed by attorneys and businessmen of Long Beach. Among the signatures on the letter were those of [redacted] an attorney, [redacted] and [redacted]. This letter advised [redacted] that she was within her rights in refusing the use of the hall to SMITH and upon their recommendation, she again returned the check to the SMITH organization.

[redacted] informed that on October 18, the MFD, being successful in having [redacted] of the Masonic Temple at Long Beach, cancel the reservation made by the SMITH group, then made arrangements to secure the Masonic Hall for Saturday, October 20, 1945. Source informed that invitations were sent to many substantial citizens of Long Beach, including the Chief of Police ALVIN F. SLAIGHT, and Inspector R. M. ANDERSON of the police department to attend this meeting. b7C b7D

This source further reported that the main speakers at this meeting were the following:

ALBEE SLADE, representing Attorney General Robert W. Kenny;

ALBERT MALTZ, author and writer for Warner Brothers Studios;

R. C. PARKER, who was the chairman of the meeting.

Source informed that during the evening, there were other speakers who expressed their views regarding SMITH and the Pay Roll Guarantee Association, known as "HAM 'N EGGS", which had sponsored the SMITH meeting.

[redacted] that a motion was made from the floor which provided that the group which was present at this meeting should be considered as charter members of the MFD in Long Beach. The motion carried and the chairman instructed the group to do their utmost to get as many in attendance at the October 20, 1945, meeting as possible.

GEORGE SHIBLEY, an attorney at Long Beach, announced that he had tenatively engaged ORSON WELLES as the main speaker for that meeting, which was to be made the main talking point for attendance.

[redacted] that SMITH and his sponsors had made arrangements to hold a meeting at the Masonic Temple in Long Beach on October 20, 1945, and had paid the rental in advance, but source informed that some of the gang from the MFD in Los Angeles came to Long Beach and held a meeting, several of whom source recognized as Communists.

Source stated that it was announced at this meeting that ORSON WELLES could not be present and explained that HERBERT BIBERMAN had come to fill his place on the program.

Source stated that BIBERMAN devoted much time to World War III and stated that SMITH and the Fascists were planning to bring it on. He explained that "some of us woke up" and tried to tell them what was coming before we got into World War II but he stated that there were thousands of young men who were too young to understand. BIBERMAN further stated, "Because more people did not wake up, we lost those fine young men." BIBERMAN charged that SMITH and his like were trying to start it all over again.

Source further stated that BIBERMAN stated, "nothing is going to stop this committee from keeping SMITH from spoiling a world so many have died to save".

Source further informed that several others spoke, each one depicting "what a calamity it would be to permit SMITH to speak in Long Beach". By way of explanation here, it may be stated that HERBERT BIBERMAN is the party who was picketing the White House on June 22, 1941, when HITLER launched his campaign against Russia. It may also be stated that BIBERMAN was the East Coast director of the American Peace Mobilization, afterwards the American Peoples Mobilization.

[redacted] that a meeting of the MFD was held at the Masonic Temple, Long Beach, California, on October 20, 1945. This source stated that the plans for this organization were carried out according to plans laid down by the organization leaders at the meeting at the Los Angeles City College August 26, 1945. b7D

This source stated that a small number of persons who are promoting the formation of a Mobilization for Democracy local at Long Beach announced a dinner meeting to be held at a prominent hotel, and invited prominent businessmen, city officials, and others of good standing to meet with them to discuss matters of mutual interest. The promoters have one or more prominent speakers to outline their program which is made to appear very attractive. The real purpose of the meeting is not revealed but they endeavor to get the persons present to commit themselves to support the program and join with them in their undertaking. The result is that no one demands to know what they propose to do and there is a sort of "silence gives consent" to support their program. The promoters then put notices in the newspapers about the meeting and give the names of the officials and other prominent persons who attended the first meeting and make the bold statement that the persons named "are members of the Mobilization For Democracy". In the same announcement in the newspaper, the promoters always announce a mass meeting within two or three days after the dinner meeting. Everything is rushed through and no one is given opportunity to withdraw from the commitment.

At the dinner, the promoters announce that some prominent Hollywood star has been engaged to appear at the mass meeting and this fact is used in their leaflets, which are distributed all over the city and outlying districts in order to draw a large crowd. When thecrowd is gathered at the mass meeting, they call out the names of prominent men and city officials, whether they are there or not, and request them to come to the platform. Enough will come forward to make a large group on the platform, who appear to be in favor of the program.

Source stated that a motion is then made to the mass meeting to form a permanent organization with a special action committee and a plan to appeal to the City Council and County Supervisors to make this committee a part of the local government. The proposal is that the committee

is to be "composed of appointees" but not elected. Said committee is to be furnished "with city funds to use as they see fit".

This source further reported that it will be noted that the same people who are leaders of the Mobilization for Democracy are also in such organizations as the JOINT ANTI FASCIST REFUGEE COMMITTEE, THE CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR POLITICAL ACTION, THE HOLLYWOOD DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE, and other organizations of this nature.

The Los Angeles News for November 5, 1945, carried a picture of a picket line, picketing the GERALD L. K. SMITH meeting at the Polytechnic High School. The article states that fifty-seven demonstrators face court for picketing the SMITH rally; that fifty-seven men, women and minor-age boys and girls were scheduled to appear in Lincoln Heights Municipal Court on charges of disturbing a rally staged by GERALD L. K. SMITH. It further stated that the law "hauled them away from the meeting". Adults were booked on "charges of interrupting a public meeting in a public school"; juveniles were charged with violating a state law having to do with "parental supervision".

The article stated that an estimated 8,000 persons picketed the meeting outside the school.

The article further stated that "several hundred in the audience had come not to cheer SMITH", however, "police, spaced a few feet apart in every aisle in the auditorium, pounced on all disruptors and promptly led them away. Some objectors stood up, shouted their dissent to utterances of SMITH, and then walked out voluntarily. There was no trouble outside where the thousands of pickets marched, carrying placards, denouncing SMITH and Fascism".

"Helmeted police roped off traffic and stood side by side to form a lane along which SMITH's sympathizers could walk through the picket line and enter the school. The police carried clubs and gas masks."

"Inside the auditorium three rows of the audience, which were filled mostly with soldiers, ostentatiously read newspapers to show their disregard for SMITH when he went through his platform routines."

"There were a number of scuffles with police. One boy received a minor leg injury. At one point, SMITH paused in his speech and said to police, 'Take 'em out horizontally as far as I am concerned'".

"The picketing was sponsored by the Mobilization for Democracy recently begun by State Attorney General Robert W. Kenny, labor union leaders, and various citizens groups. After the SMITH meeting, the pickets adjourned for a meeting of their own in the Olympic Auditorium."

The Los Angeles News for November 6, 1945, stated in part: "picketing and a rally meeting at Olympic Auditorium were sponsored by the Mobilization for Democracy organization headed by Attorney General Robert W. Kenny and by labor union leaders and other groups. Among the pickets arrested were several youths who were arrested last Friday in students' picketing of the Board of Education protesting SMITH's use of the school for his meeting".

The Daily Peoples World for November 5, 1945, under the heading, "Rankin Red Baiters Called Fascist Threat", stated that "immediate dissolution of the house committee on un-American activities was asked today in a petition to President Truman from the HOLLYWOOD INDEPENDENT CITIZENS COMMITTEE OF THE ARTS SCIENCES, AND PROFESSIONS. The statement declared that the house committee headed by representative JOHN RANKIN through its drive against the freedom of the radio and film industry and its threat against newspaper columnists is aiming to establish Fascism in America".

The Peoples World for November 6, 1945, under the heading, "L.A. Cops Act as Smith's Goons" stated in part, "Some fifty citizens arrested at GERALD L. K. SMITH's harangue Saturday night for allegedly disturbing a meeting in a public school. All defendants appeared in court today, ready to plea not guilty through their attorney, JOHN T. McTERNAN, but Judge BEN ROSENTHAL delayed the proceedings because no written complaints were ready". It further stated, "Veteran of World War II and the Spanish War was jailed when he protested the clubbing of another citizen".

A copy of this report is being furnished to the San Francisco Field Division and San Diego Field Division as it is believed this report contains information which will be of interest to those offices.

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These sources are being maintained confidential for security reasons.

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